United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2009 No. 93

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable EDWARD E. KAUFMAN, a Senator from the State of Delaware.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, Lord of all, give us the things that will enable us to make life worthwhile. Give to the Members of this body a sense of proportion to seek the things that matter. Help them to appreciate the long view that they may refuse to sell what is precious for temporary short-term gain. Lord, remind them that laudable goals often require perseverance. Impart to our Senators a teachable spirit that is willing to learn and a humble spirit that accepts advice and will not resent rebuke. Give them also a diligence that whatever their hands find to do, they may do it with all their might. We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable EDWARD E. KAUFMAN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 19, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable EDWARD E. KAUFMAN, a Senator from the State of Delaware, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KAUFMAN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. There will be no rollcall votes today.

Senators DORGAN and MARTINEZ, the managers of the travel bill that is before the Senate, have indicated they are ready to move forward on amendments being laid down. We will have a series of votes Monday night and move toward completing that legislation as quickly as possible. It is important legislation, and we look forward to the completion of it.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as the debate escalates over the best way to ease the crushing burden of health care, it is easy to become sidetracked by misrepresentations, distracted by minor details or tempted to point fingers. When we do those things, we lose sight of what is at the heart of this effort, this debate, and this reform.

I wish to take a moment at the end of this week to remind all of us what this is all about—the health care debate. It is about hardworking Americans because they are too often the casualties of our broken health care system. They deserve better than to be also casualties of misleading politics.

To the millions of Americans without health care, this is a concrete and critical crisis that affects children, families, small businesses, and big businesses every single day. It is about the parent who can't take a child to the doctor because insurance is prohibitively expensive. It is about the family who lives one accident or one illness away from financial ruin. It is about a small business that had to lay off employees because it couldn't afford the skyrocketing cost of health care premiums or that small business that had to cancel health insurance for its employees because it couldn't afford it. It is about the three-in-five families who put off health care because it simply costs too much.

As Democrats in the Senate, we are committed to lowering the high price of health care, ensuring every American has access to that quality, affordable care and, finally, letting people choose their own doctors, hospitals, and health plans. We are committed to protecting the existing coverage when it is good, improving it when it is not, and guaranteeing health care for the millions—including 9 million children—who have none. We are committed to preventing disease, reducing health disparities, and encouraging early detection and effective treatments that save lives.

No matter what Republicans claim, the government has no intention of choosing for you any of these things or meddling in any of your medical relationships. If you like the coverage you have, you can choose to keep it.

Health care is not a luxury. It shouldn't be a luxury. We can't afford another year in which 46 million people have to choose between basic necessities and lining the pockets of big insurance companies just to stay healthy.

I hear every day from Nevadans—through e-mails, phone calls, letters, and other means of communication—that people are turned down for health

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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coverage by insurance providers who care more about profits than people. I hear about people who lost their health coverage when they lost their jobs and now have no means of getting it back. I hear of people from Nevada who play by the rules and rightly demand that our health care system be guided by common sense.

That is what this debate is all about—nothing more, nothing less. These people—and nothing else—should be the focus of the open and honest debate they deserve—the people of America.

Mr. President, has the Chair yet announced that we are in a period of morning business?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. It has not.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The majority leader.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

Mr. MCCAIN. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. MCCAIN pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 193 are located in today's RECORD under ''Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.'')

HEALTH CARE

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wish to say a few words about health care. Obviously, according to most media reports, and my experience as a member of the HELP Committee, we are basically at gridlock. The Congressional Budget Office stated on Monday, in relation to the legislation being considered in the HELP Committee, that

> Once the proposal is fully implemented . . . the number of people who had coverage through an employer would decline by about 15 million.

The Lewin Group, a health care consulting firm, estimates this number to be much higher. They estimate that up to 70 percent of all Americans who have private insurance today—120 million Americans—will lose their health insurance and be forced onto the government rolls.

That stands in stark contrast to the President's repeated assertions that if you like your health care, you can keep it. Further analysis by HSI Network, a health care economics firm, found that to get all Americans covered under the Democrats' bill, it would cost a staggering $4 trillion and result in 79 million Americans who currently have private insurance having to obtain coverage from the government plan.

What I have described is what is known as the ''crowdout'' phenomenon. It is the substitution effect that occurs when a massive government insurance plan ''crowds out'' private insurance as the expansion of publicly subsidized programs encourage or force people from private arrangements to public ones. This is a real issue and one we must pay attention to.

On Monday the President said:

> I know that there are millions of Americans who are content with their health care coverage. . . . And that means that no matter how we reform health care, we will keep this promise: If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor. Period. If you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan. Period. No one will take it away. No matter what.

If the bill we are considering is enacted, I do not believe this is a promise the President will be able to keep. The President's hometown newspaper, the Chicago Tribune, stated in an editorial on Tuesday:

> [The President] promises that anyone who wants to keep their private coverage will be able to do so . . . But we do know a few things about government-run health plans . . . the Federal Government isn't competition. It is the health care equivalent of Bigfoot . . . It sets low prices, to be sure, lower than many insurers are able to match. But that just means those doctors and hospitals recoup the losses by shifting costs onto those with private insurance . . . [which] could easily crowd out private plans. A lot of Americans think the health care system isn't really all that broken. They get good care. They pay for it via insurance . . . But a government-run health plan? Experience says that the cure would be worse than the illness.

The Chicago Tribune has it exactly right. The fact is, a lot of Americans are pleased with their health care options. In fact, 70 percent of Americans with health insurance rated their coverage good or excellent, according to a Rasmussen Reports poll dated May 14, 2009. Those 70 percent might be the precise group of Americans who will lose their health insurance and be forced into government-run programs if the legislation is enacted.

It is a fact that premiums continue rising, eating into family budgets and preventing the uninsured from getting covered. This is the problem we need to be addressing. We need to bring down the cost of health care and thus the cost of health insurance coverage. This will lead to more coverage of the uninsured and ensure that those who like their health care coverage can keep their coverage and their doctor as the President promises. Yet the majority bill contains not a single reform that will save money. Instead, as I have pointed out, it will cost up to $4 trillion and displace up to 79 million Americans from their current coverage.

This is not reform. This is why we should start over. I continue to believe that the Democrats and the White House should scrap this incomplete bill and start over. Democrats and Republicans must come together and draft a bill that allows the President to uphold his promise that Americans will be able to keep their current doctor or health care plan.

We spent a lot of time in the HELP Committee going over an incomplete proposal. Supposedly by tonight the three major issues, including the so-called government option, will be revealed to us by the majority side. I hope it is soon. I hope we will be able to view it so we could have for the first time a meaningful discussion and negotiation in the HELP Committee. So far, three major components are still blank spaces.

I have been in this body for a long time. I have never seen a process such as we are going through right now. It is basically fundamentally a charade so the Democrats can come to the floor and say we consulted with the Republicans, we had hours and hours of debate and discussion and markup—when we were not presented with the key elements of the legislation we were supposed to be considering. If the key elements are there and we get to examine it over the weekend, then perhaps we will be able to sit down together and negotiate some kind of reasonable approach to this bill.

It is not an accident that the Finance Committee, the other committee that is supposed to be tracking the health reform bill along with the HELP Committee, has decided not to present their proposal until after the Fourth of July recess because they simply do not have a way to pay for it.

The CBO analysis and other outside analysis has revealed something very important, that the plan as proposed and propounded by the administration and by the Democrats is unsustainably expensive and one that they do not have a way of paying for. It will be very interesting to see how they tailor their plan to the expenses and how they address the issue of how to pay for it. Clearly, raising taxes is an option they are considering. I don't think raising anybody's taxes in the present day economy is something that would be beneficial to all Americans.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, one thing Republicans and Democrats can all agree on is the need for serious health care reform. On Monday, President Obama spoke to the American Medical Association to discuss the issue. I applaud the President for his commitment to health care reform and agree with him that we need to make health care more affordable and accessible to all Americans.

While the American people want reform, they want us to fix what is wrong with the system without taking away the freedom, choices, and quality of care they now enjoy. During a speech to the AMA, the President acknowledged these concerns and articulated some principles on health care reform that many Republicans share. But it seems to me that many of my friends on the other side of the aisle should have listened more closely to what the President said to the AMA.

One thing the President said that Republicans agree with is that Americans should not be forced to give up the insurance they currently have and like and be forced into a government plan. The President promised the American people that:

> If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan. No one will take it away no matter what.

Republicans agree with the President. Yet Democrats in Congress are making last-minute edits to a bill in the HELP Committee that the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says will cost 10 million people with employer-sponsored insurance to lose the coverage they currently have. And that is the number of people who would lose their current insurance under just one section of the bill. This legislation is still missing significant sections that could force tens of millions of additional Americans to lose their current coverage. Republicans share the President's belief that those who like their health insurance should be able to keep it, but the bill currently being considered by the HELP Committee would force Americans off of the health care plans they now enjoy.

Another issue the President and Republicans agree on is the need to invest more in preventative care and wellness programs, which is an important way to cut costs and improve care. President Obama mentioned the successful wellness and prevention program Safeway created, which has dramatically cut the company's health care costs and employees' health care premiums. He said he would be open to doing more to help businesses across the country adopt and expand programs like the one created by Safeway. Yet the bill the Democrats are now pushing through the Senate would actually ban this successful program from being copied and implemented by other companies.

Republicans also agree with the President on the need to reform our Nation's medical liability laws. Frivolous malpractice lawsuits are a major cause of our increasing health care costs. These lawsuits cause insurance premiums for doctors to skyrocket, and doctors then pass those higher costs on, of course, to patients.

Doctors also often order expensive and unnecessary tests just to protect themselves against these lawsuits, and some doctors just close their practices or stop offering services as a result of all these pressures.

And patients are the ones who lose out. According to a report by the Kentucky Institute of Medicine, Kentucky is nearly 2,300 doctors short of the national average—a shortage that could be reduced, in part, by reforming medical malpractice laws.

President Obama has not advocated the kind of medical liability reform most Republicans would like to see, but he has at least opened the door to fixing the system. But none of the bills introduced in the Congress even acknowledge the need for malpractice reform or propose any solutions to deal with the problem.

Finally, Republicans share the President's concerns about how much health care reform is going to cost and how we will pay for it. President Obama said that he set down a rule that ''health care reform must be, and will be, deficit-neutral in the next decade.''

But the preliminary estimates from the bill before the HELP Committee show that just one—just one—section of the bill spends $1.3 trillion. And even more outrageous is the fact that the bill doesn't even have any proposals to pay for its enormous pricetag—other than to borrow it from the taxpayers. Americans want reform. But they don't want a blind rush to spend trillions of dollars that they and their grandchildren will have to pay for through higher taxes and even more debt.

When it comes to making sure Americans can keep the coverage they have, strengthening wellness and prevention programs, reforming our medical malpractice laws, and paying for health care reform, Republicans share common ground with the President. I just wish that congressional Democrats did too.

AUNG SAN SUU KYI

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi turns 64 today. Unfortunately, she will spend her birthday not in the company of family and friends but in Burma's notorious Insein Prison where 31 political prisoners have died since 1988.

Despite her apparently poor health, Suu Kyi is being housed in Insein because she is standing trial for the dubious charge of permitting a misguided American to enter her home. Sadly, Suu Kyi has already spent 13 of her last 19 birthdays under house arrest, and if convicted of these trumped-up charges by the Burmese regime, she could spend the next 5 birthdays in this foul prison.

The best gift Suu Kyi can receive for her birthday is for the regime to display some uncommon good sense and free her and other Burmese prisoners of conscience. My colleagues and I are committed to standing with her and the people of Burma for as long as it takes for that to occur.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

E-VERIFY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to share a few thoughts about the E-Verify system. That is the system businesses are voluntarily using today in large numbers provided by the U.S. Government that allows a company to check the Social Security number of an applicant for a job to make sure they are lawfully eligible for employment. This system is growing and working very well. We have had some problems, I think, with Congress, and I attempted to offer an amendment to fix some of those problems on the tourism bill that is before us but was not able to do that. So I wish to share a few thoughts about it. I have been trying to get this situation fixed for some time.

E-Verify is an online system that gives very rapid identification of an individual through the Social Security Administration and Homeland Security to determine whether they are eligible for a job. A business just checks those numbers, and if they come back as clear and they hire the individual, it provides them protection from a charge that they may have knowingly hired someone who was illegally in the country or otherwise not able to be employed.

So it is a good system. As I said, as of June 13, this month, 130,000 employers are enrolled in the program. They have, among them, 501,000 hiring sites. It is free and voluntary, and it is the best means available to determine the eligibility of those who apply.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, 96 percent of the employees are cleared automatically, and growth continues at over 1,000 new users and participants each week as more and more businesses are using it. An employer, as I said, gets protection if they use it.

In 2009, this year, 5.6 million inquiries were run. In 2008, through the whole

12 months, more than 6.6 million inquiries were run, and they continue to grow.

In Alabama alone, there are 1,000 employers who use the E-Verify system. It has been proven effective, and I think it should be made permanent and mandatory for everybody who does business with the U.S. Government. As a matter of fact, that was what the law was supposed to be in January, but it is not. So the program is to expire in September unless it is extended.

Now, I am told the Homeland Security legislation the House passed—or will pass—will extend the E-Verify Program for 2 years. I am told the Senate Homeland Security bill may well report language that will extend it for 3 years. Why we don't make it permanent is beyond me. It is a cornerstone of the enforcement system of business and employers to ensure that they are attempting to comply with the law, and if they are not, to be able to identify them.

I was extremely disappointed when the economic stimulus package was up earlier this year and passed, where we spent $800 billion to stimulate the economy and create jobs, it was passed without any requirement that E-Verify be a part of the stimulus package. So a contractor who gets a job with the U.S. Government, with money paid from the stimulus package, legislation that was designed to create jobs for American citizens, could actually go out and hire people illegally in the country. That is not what the American people have a right to expect. That is not good policy. It should not be done.

We have surging unemployment, unfortunately. All of us hoped it would come in less than it is now. I know the President's budget, offered earlier this year, projected that unemployment would top at 8.4 percent. It is now 9.4 percent, the highest in over 20 years. It is continuing to go up, from what it appears. So we have an obligation to try to use what resources we are expending in a way that helps the American worker find work. Some of these stimulus jobs are good jobs. So the House has supported the extension of E-Verify. It passed in the House last July, 407 to 2. Yet it still hasn't become law to extend it past September.

One of the main purposes of the stimulus bill was to see that people got work. I think if we don't extend E-Verify, people have a right to question how serious we are about using that money—that huge amount—wisely to create jobs for American citizens.

An amendment offered and accepted in the House on the stimulus bill was by Congressman Jack Kingston. It said that funds made available under the stimulus package could not be made available to any business that did not use E-Verify. They apparently accepted that without a single dissenting vote. It was in the House legislation. I offered it in the Senate stimulus bill and did everything I could to see that we could make that a part of the law and make it permanent. It was blocked in the Senate by the Democratic leadership.

I am worried that we talk a good game about doing something about this, but so far, we have been very ineffective in taking real action that will work.

Let me share one more thing about Executive order 12989. President Bush issued an Executive order, and that order called for the implementation of the E-Verify system for government contractors in January of this year. It mandates the use of E-Verify for all Federal contractors and subcontractors. It was supposed to take effect in January. I believed President Bush should have been stronger about that than he was, but they went into it carefully, and that is what they decided to do.

When President Obama came in, immediately he extended that and put it off and blocked its enforcement. So it is still not in the law. Now it is being delayed until September 8—that rule that a government contractor at least ought to check his employees to see if they are legally entitled to be employed. How simple is that? It takes a few minutes, and thousands of businesses are voluntarily doing it today. This decision, again, to delay it now until September 8 is the fourth delay this year by President Obama. I believe it signals the fact that this administration is not yet serious about their stated goal of making sure that employers comply with the law and not hire people illegally.

On January 28, it was pushed back to February 20. A few weeks later, the implementation was pushed back to May 21. Prior to that, it was pushed back to June 30, and now it is further delayed until September 8. This system is up and working. It has been up for years now. It is nothing unusual. I cannot imagine that if this Senate is allowed to vote up or down on whether to make this the law that we would not pass it. I am going to offer an amendment that will do just that. That is the right thing to do. It makes common sense.

What I am afraid may happen is that we will have, through maneuvering and chicanery, actions taken to block that vote. If the Democratic leadership in the Senate blocks a vote on this question, that can only be interpreted as their position is that we should not extend E-Verify and that we should not make it apply to government contractors.

It cannot be interpreted any other way because we have been talking about this for years. Everybody knows what the issue is.

I am concerned. I hope the President, who has had his staff on board now for 5 or 6 months—it is time for them to get their act together and let us know where they stand. Just delaying this is an indication to me they are not serious about it. It should not have taken 5 minutes to know that a government contractor should not be hiring people illegally in the workforce. How long does it take to do that? This is not a new issue. But they are studying it, they say. OK, let's study it. But sooner or later, it is time to act.

To me, there are no two ways about it. There is one logical answer to this question. If we want to make sure the government money that is going out—money taken from American taxpayers—provides jobs for American workers, we need to pass legislation to mandate that. I hope we will. I hope the President will be able to get this study complete, which they claim they are doing, and get on with doing the right thing. We have waited long enough.

I thank the Chair, yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONGRATULATING THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS ON WINNING THE 2009 STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 194, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 194) congratulating the Pittsburgh Penguins on winning the 2009 Stanley Cup Championship.

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

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 194) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 194

Whereas, on June 12, 2009, the Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Detroit Red Wings 2-to-1 in Game 7 of the National Hockey League Stanley Cup Finals;

Whereas the victory marks the Penguins' third Stanley Cup Championship in franchise history and capped off a historic playoff series;

Whereas the Penguins are just the second team in league history to win the seventh game of a Stanley Cup Championship series on the road after the home team won the first 6 games of the series;

Whereas the Penguins beat the Washington Capitals in the Eastern Conference Semifinals and the Detroit Red Wings in the Stanley Cup Championship after losing the first 2 games in both series, making the Penguins the only team in league history to rally from 2-to-0 series deficits twice in the same year;

Whereas Mario Lemieux is to be honored for his commitment to keeping the Penguins in Pittsburgh and passing along his legacy to a new generation of players and fans;

Whereas, in February 2009, the Penguins hired Head Coach Dan Bylsma from the Penguins' minor league franchise in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, making Bylsma the first coach in the history of the National Hockey League to begin a season coaching in the American Hockey League and finish a Stanley Cup champion;

Whereas Sidney Crosby, the youngest team captain to ever win the Stanley Cup, was third in scoring during the regular season, had a league-leading 15 playoff goals, and demonstrated leadership by taking the Penguins to the Stanley Cup Finals in 2 consecutive seasons;

Whereas, over the course of the playoffs, Evgeni Malkin led all players in scoring with 36 points, including 14 goals and 22 assists, and won the Conn Smythe trophy for most valuable player in the playoffs;

Whereas Max Talbot is to be commended for scoring the only 2 Penguins goals in the Game 7 victory over the Detroit Red Wings;

Whereas thousands of Penguins fans supported the team throughout the postseason, donning white t-shirts to create a ''whiteout'' effect at home games or gathering to watch the game on a big screen television outside Mellon Arena;

Whereas the Red Wings are to be commended for a terrific season, committment to sportsmanship, and excellence on and off the ice; and

Whereas nearly 400,000 fans packed the streets of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 15, 2009, to honor the Penguins in a parade along Grant Street and the Boulevard of the Allies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates—

(A) the Pittsburgh Penguins for winning the 2009 Stanley Cup Championship;

(B) Mario Lemieux and the coaching staff of the Penguins and support staff and recognizes their commitment to keeping the team in Pittsburgh;

(C) all Penguins fans who supported the team throughout the season; and

(D) the Detroit Red Wings on an outstanding season; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) co-owners Mario Lemieux and Ron Burkle;

(B) vice president and general manager Ray Shero; and

(C) head coach Dan Bylsma.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to say, first, how much I appreciate the action on that resolution. I could spend a lot of time talking about our Penguins; we are so grateful they were successful in a very hard-fought series against the Detroit Red Wings, who have a strong organization and were difficult to defeat.

As a Pennsylvanian, I was especially proud that it now marks three champions in the last year: the Philadelphia Phillies in baseball, the Pittsburgh Steelers in football, and now the Pittsburgh Penguins in hockey.

We are very fortunate in our State to have three champions this year. We let the Lakers have basketball for this year. We will try to get that next year.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon, at the end of a week where—and the Presiding Officer knows this in his work representing the State of Oregon and in his work as a member of our Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee—we have spent a lot of time on health care, as we did the week before and several weeks leading up to this time. But now we are at the point where in our committee we are actually voting—voting on amendments.

We know this is a challenge that has faced America for decades: the challenge of covering people in our country who do not have coverage and making sure those who do have coverage have quality health care coverage that is affordable. So all these challenges are presented to us now.

We have a situation in the country today—and Chairman DODD mentioned this this morning in a hearing—that about 14,000 people a day lose their health care coverage. It is hard to comprehend that every single day that number of Americans are losing their health care coverage. Candidly, if the number was half that, it would be unacceptable—or even less than that—but that is, in a very real way, the status quo, where we are now. Thousands and thousands of people losing coverage every day, 14,000 by one count; people who might have coverage but it is hard for them to afford it or to continue to afford it, and sometimes people have coverage and it is not of the kind of quality that would ensure the best health care for them and for their families.

We are at a point now where we are beginning to see a basic choice that the Congress has to make and the American people have to make. It is the status quo or change. It is the status quo—where we are now—which, in my judgment, is unacceptable—or reform. It is coming down to a basic, fundamental choice.

The status quo right now is the enemy of change. The status quo is the impediment in front of us, the tree across the road or whatever image you want to illustrate. So we have to get to work making sure that the status quo doesn't stay in place.

There are so many ways to tell this story. Every Member of the Senate and every Member of the House and, frankly, virtually every American could tell a story about someone they know or someone they have read about and the challenges they face. In Pennsylvania, we have a lot of examples about people who are living the reality of a lack of coverage or bad quality coverage or coverage they cannot afford. One letter I got stood out for me, among many. It was written back in February of this year by Trisha Urban from Berks County, PA, the eastern side of Pennsylvania. I will read portions of her letter which I think tell the story about as well as anyone could; unfortunately, in this case, in a tragic circumstance. She wrote, talking about her husband Andrew, that he had to leave his job for 1 year to complete an internship requirement that he had to get his doctorate in psychology. The internship was unpaid and they could not afford COBRA coverage—extended health care coverage. Now I am quoting from the middle of the letter. Trisha Urban says:

> Because of the preexisting conditions, neither my husband's health issues——

He had some heart trouble——

> neither my husband's health issues nor my pregnancy would be covered under private insurance.

Now I am quoting again:

> I worked 4 part-time jobs and was not eligible for any health care benefits. We ended up with a second rate health insurance plan through my husband's university. When medical bills started to add up, the insurance company decided to drop our coverage, stating that the internship did not qualify us for the benefits. We were left with close to $100,000 worth of medical bills. Concerned with the upcoming financial responsibility of the birth of our daughter and the burden of current medical expenses, my husband missed his last doctor's appointment less than one month ago.

Trisha Urban's letter goes on. She talks about what happened at one particular moment after summarizing their health care situation. She says, describing her pregnancy:

> My water had broke the night before. We were anxiously awaiting the birth of our first child. A half-hour later, two ambulances were in my driveway. As the paramedics were assessing the health of my baby and me, the paramedic from the other ambulance told me that my husband could not be revived.

She concludes her letter this way. Again, I am quoting Trisha Urban from Berks County, PA:

> I am a working class American and do not have the money or the insight to legally fight the health insurance company. We had no life insurance. I will probably lose my home and my car. Everything we worked so hard to accumulate in our life will be gone in an instant. If my story is heard, if legislation can be changed to help other uninsured Americans in a similar situation, I am willing to pay the price of losing everything.

Trisha Urban is telling us through that poignant but tragic story about her own circumstances and the circumstances surrounding the birth of her daughter and the death of her husband, all we need to know about this debate.

Then, posing that question—or that challenge, I should say—to all of us, especially those of us who have a vote in the Senate:

> I am willing to pay the price of losing everything if my story can be told and legislation can be enacted to deal with health care.

That is the basic challenge that Trisha Urban has put before the Senate and the Congress and the administration. It is the challenge we must respond to. We cannot pretend it is not

there. We cannot pretend that the status quo I talked about a moment ago—14,000 people losing their health insurance every day; so many other people worried about the coverage they have—we cannot pretend that is not there. We cannot say to Trisha Urban that we are sorry about the circumstances of your story, but Congress can't get it done this year.

We have to get it done. We have to pass a bill in our committee. We have to get a bill through the Finance Committee, and we have to make sure the Senate votes on this legislation this year—frankly, this summer; not late in the fall, not in the winter, not in 2010. Right now is the time for action.

President Obama has led us in this effort. He has attached the same sense of urgency to this issue that I know the American people feel.

What is it about? Well, it is about an act that a lot of Americans are just hearing about, which goes by a very simple name: the Affordable Health Choices Act. That is the act that is presently before our committee. It does a couple of things. It focuses on some fundamentals to get at that change that should come to the status quo. First, it reduces costs by way of prevention. It is very important. We know that can reduce costs substantially. It also reduces costs by better quality and information technology. It is still hard to believe that when other industries such as banking and insurance and other parts of our economy have moved into the new era of technology that our health care system isn't anywhere near where it has to be to reduce medical errors and to provide better quality. So by focusing on information technology, we can reduce costs. That is in the bill.

Also, the bill contemplates rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse—another area of cost reduction. We know that the big questions on costs will be dealt with in the other committee—the Finance Committee—but there are elements in this bill that, in fact, reduce costs.

Secondly, the bill preserves choice, that if you like what you have in your insurance plan and the coverage you have, you can keep it. There is no reason why that should change, and it won't change under this bill. But if you don't like the coverage you have, we want to give you options and we also want to give you an option in coverage if you obviously don't have any health insurance at all. So it does reduce costs, it does preserve choice, and, thirdly, it will ensure quality and affordable care for the American people.

I believe, and I think most people in the Senate believe, that one ought to have the option of not just any health care but quality care that is affordable, that you can actually make work in your own budget. So we are going to build on the system we have. We are not going to throw the old system out; we are going to build on the system we have and make it better.

We are also going to make sure that in this legislation, we protect the patient-doctor relationship. There is no reason why anyone should get in between those two, and this bill will not do that.

Finally—this is a quick summary, I know—we are going to make sure that at long last, a preexisting condition does not prevent you from getting the kind of quality health care you have a right to expect in America today.

As we move forward on this legislation, I want to make sure we highlight the fundamental obligation we have, not just in the bill—but especially in the bill—but even beyond this legislation, and that is the obligation we have to get this right for the American people, and to get it right especially for our children. The Presiding Officer knows of the great progress we made this year on children's health insurance. Thank goodness we got that done. Instead of having 6 million kids in America covered by the children's health insurance program, by way of the legislation we passed this year we are going to extend that to almost 11 million kids. That was wonderful. That is a big success and we should all be proud, but it is not enough. We should make sure that the other 5 million children out there who don't have coverage today will get it but especially a child who happens to be in a poor family, a low-income family, or a child with special needs.

Here is what the rule ought to be. This is what should happen throughout this process while enacting health care reform, but certainly at the end of the road, so to speak, ideally this fall when we will have a bill the President can sign: The rule ought to be no child worse off, and especially no child who is poor or who has special needs or is disabled. The great line from the Scriptures that talks about a faithful friend—we have heard this over many years in the context of friendship, in the context of sometimes a reading at weddings, but I would like for us today to think about it in the context of our children. This is what the Scripture said: ''A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter''—a great image about what friendship means. There are a lot of us day in and day out, year in and year out, who talk about how important children are to us, that we are advocates for children—and we should be—that we have solidarity with our children, we are going to do everything we can to protect them. In essence, we are saying we are their friend, that those of us who are elected to public office have an obligation to be a friend of and an advocate for our children. Going back to that line from the Scriptures, if we are going to be a faithful friend to children, we better make sure that we provide a sturdy shelter; not just in the context of the obvious in health care. What is more fundamental than that, other than making sure that a child has enough to eat and making sure that child has an opportunity to learn? Other than those two, health care is essential in the life of a child, especially a vulnerable child, whether they are poor or have special needs or both. So if we are faithful friends in the Senate to our children, we better provide that sturdy shelter. We better make sure that at the end of the day, these children are not worse off because of our legislation.

I wish to conclude with a thought from an expert—not someone who is just interested in children but someone who has an area of expertise which is probably unmatched. I am speaking of someone who testified last week—a week ago today, it was—in front of our committee. Her name is Dr. Judith Palfrey. She is a pediatrician, a child advocate, and happens to be president-elect of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She provided compelling testimony. I won't go through all of her testimony, but here is something she said which I think has relevance and resonance for the debate we are having on health care. She says—and I quote Dr. Palfrey's testimony:

> Sometimes we as childhood advocates find it hard to understand why children's needs are such an afterthought; and why, because children are little. Because children are little, policymakers and insurers think that it should take less effort and resources to provide them health care.

Because children are little, we think that somehow less effort is required or less resources, less in the way of hard work. Well, none of us believes that, do we? We don't believe that. The health care we provide to our children, the protection, the shelter we provide them should be every bit as significant, every bit as fully resourced as the protection we give to adults. We might disagree about a lot of the details in the health care bill, but I think we all in this Chamber believe that children may be little but in God's eyes they are 7 feet tall and we must treat them accordingly, especially on legislation so significant as legislation on health care reform.

So the rule ought to be no child worse off. It is that simple. I believe we can get it right. I believe we can enact health care reform that preserves choice, reduces costs, and enhances quality and affordable coverage for the American people, and that we can make sure every child is no worse off.

This is a great challenge. We understand the difficulty of it. This is a great challenge, but it is a challenge worthy of a great nation. It is a challenge that will help us in our continuing struggle, our journey to make this a more perfect Union.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I will make a couple of comments on Senator CASEY's comments. We sit next to each other in the HELP Committee, and Senator CASEY reminds us almost every day, as we work on this health care bill, that ''no child should be

worse off.'' That is something that, frankly, we all need to hear and every Member of this body and in the House of Representatives needs to hear. I appreciate Senator CASEY's work. It is really our mission to do this right and to see that no child is left worse off.

We spend more than $2 trillion a year on health care in this country, which is more than double any other industrial nation. Americans account for more than 35 million hospital visits and more than 900 million office visits every year. More than 64 million surgical procedures are performed and more than 3.5 billion prescriptions are written. Health care is, in dollar terms, one-sixth of our national economy, and it is growing. Think about that—one-sixth of our economy and hundreds of billions of dollars. Yet millions of Americans are one illness away from bankruptcy.

What we cannot forget as we debate health care reform are the millions of Americans who are depending on us to do the right thing. We cannot forget their stories. Chairman DODD, in the HELP Committee today, reminded us that 14,000 Americans lose their health insurance every single day. So as our committee meets—and some people seem to be slowing this down a little, and they certainly have the right to offer amendments, but they get carried away and talk some of these amendments to death. Every day that we don't pass this health care bill, 14,000 Americans are losing their insurance. I will tell you some of the stories I hear.

Christopher, from Cincinnati, tells us that he and his wife are retired but are not yet 65, not yet Medicare-eligible. Without health care reform, they cannot afford health care insurance because of preexisting health conditions. Their 401(k)—their retirement—is bleeding. Their small pensions don't keep up with rising premiums. Chris puts off going to the doctor to save money. The annual premium increases will raise their out-of-pocket expenses by 45 percent.

Our Nation spends in excess of $2 trillion annually in health care. Yet too many people are only a hospital visit away from financial disaster. We cannot afford to squander this opportunity for reform, nor settle for marginal improvements. Instead, we must fight for substantial reforms that will significantly improve our health care system.

First of all, whatever plan you are in, if you are happy with it, you can keep your insurance. We want to fix what is broken and protect what works. That is why I am making a case for giving Americans a public health insurance option, not controlled by the health insurance industry.

So many of us have had fights—even the President, when he was talking about his mother as she was dying of cancer during the campaign last year, about how while she was sick she had to fight insurance companies to be reimbursed and get payment for her illness. The public health insurance option is important, in part, because it is not controlled by the health insurance industry. It is a competitor. It can compete with private insurance plans. We must preserve access, but that is clearly not enough for what we do in health care. Giving Americans a choice to go with a private or public health insurance plan is good policy and good common sense.

A public insurance option will make health care available and affordable for Americans like Michelle of Willoughby, OH, east of Cleveland. When she was first diagnosed with breast cancer, she had excellent coverage through her husband's insurance. But when her husband lost his job, she lost her insurance. Not yet eligible for Medicare, she started a consulting business and found an insurance plan—exorbitant as it was. With the economic downturn, Michelle writes that the ''sum of her work is to pay for insurance.''

At a time when too many Americans struggle to pay health care costs, the public health insurance option will make health insurance more affordable.

A public health insurance option would make insurance affordable for Americans like Gary from Toledo. Gary was laid off last year and couldn't afford the more than $800 a month COBRA costs. After obtaining health insurance from a company that promised equivalent payments of Medicare for surgeries, Gary's wife underwent surgery. After a week of recovery, they received a hospital bill of $210,000, with a hospital letter saying they lacked insurance. Gary talked to his provider, who agreed to pay only $400 out of $210,000. Fortunately for his family, the hospital absorbed the remaining costs. But that should not happen, either, because of what that means to the local hospital. With Gary and his wife still 3 years away from age 65, they deserve health reform that works for them now.

A public health insurance option will also expand access to affordable health care in rural areas that are often ignored by a private insurance market that tends to target big cities with a more dense population and more consumers.

Too often, as Randall of West Liberty, OH—a small town in our State—can explain, rural communities have a difficult time attracting even basic care. Randall oversees Ohio's only rural training track in family medicine. While his program has received awards for training excellence, he struggles to attract enough doctors for their rural residents. He wrote to me explaining the disincentives and misperceptions he has to overcome to attract the care needed to serve rural Ohio.

A public health insurance option will not neglect rural areas. Insurance companies bail out in rural areas or the insurance companies that stay are so small in number that there is no real competition and they can charge rates that are too high. Instead, the public option would be consistently available in all markets, including rural eastern Oregon and rural western and southeastern Ohio.

I stand ready to work with my colleagues to design a public insurance option as part of overall health care reform. The stories of millions of Americans behind spiraling costs of health care will no longer go unheard. The stories of Chris, Gary, Michelle, and Randall will guide this administration, this Congress, and this Nation to protect and provide health care for all Americans.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we are now embarked in the Senate on one of the most important challenges that our country faces—we will begin to reform our tragically flawed and broken health care system to bring down its skyrocketing costs, to cover its tens of millions of Americans left uninsured, and to improve its way-below-average results so that high-quality health care comes within reach for every American family. The stakes are high.

This week, in a speech before the American Medical Association, President Obama said:

> The cost of our health care is a threat to our economy. It is an escalating burden on our families and businesses. It is a ticking time bomb for the Federal budget. And it is unsustainable for the United States of America.

The President said:

> Health care reform is the single most important thing we can do for America's long-term fiscal health.

Savings in waste, confusion, unnecessary or defective care, and illness prevention could eventually well exceed $700 billion a year. It is not going to happen instantly, but it is a goal we can shoot for.

I applaud President Obama's commitment and leadership, and I commend my Senate colleagues for their tireless efforts in the pursuit of meaningful, comprehensive reform. The new energy and focus we have seen in this debate isn't limited to us here in Washington. In recent months, doctors and hospitals, patients and insurance companies, labor unions and drug companies have all come together in support of the need for a restructure of our system.

Amidst all this, it has been my great honor to join the Presiding Officer, the Senator from Oregon, on the HELP Committee, where he serves with such distinction and where much of the legislation to repair our broken health care system is being debated, written,

and refined. In that capacity, I was recently invited to the White House to meet with President Obama, his health care team, and all of our colleagues on the HELP and Finance Committees. We discussed our priorities for reform, and we reported on the progress each committee has made in the past several weeks.

In the coming weeks, we will hear a lot about the details of health care reform legislation, and those details are very important. But even more important are the hundreds of millions of American families in each of our States all over the country who have experienced real anguish—coverage lost or denied, hospital stays extended due to complications or errors, prescription drug bills rising and rising, with no end in sight, even losing everything because a loved one fell ill.

A few months ago, I launched a page on my Web site for Rhode Islanders to share their personal experiences with our broken health care system, and hundreds of people have written in from all over the State.

Anita is a social worker and mental health professional in Providence. She shared what she describes as the ''sad and rude awakening'' she experienced after opening her own practice last year. As a provider, like all providers, she takes great pride in the quality of care and attention she gives to her patients. Yet she often found herself burdened with an endless trail of paperwork and the time-consuming task of battling insurance companies and tracking down claims. Like so many of her colleagues, Anita is frustrated that she must spend so much time fighting administrative hurdles and navigating bureaucratic red tape. After years of training to become a health professional, Anita wishes she had more time to do just that—provide care to her patients. She writes:

> I would much rather spend the time seeing clients than negotiating automated telephone systems and waiting to speak to a person several hours per week. It is a total waste of human time and talent.

I heard from Melissa, a self-employed writer from Newport, whose unpredictable income leaves her unable to afford health insurance. Without coverage, Melissa knows that she risks being one serious illness away from what she calls the ''brink of disaster.'' Through the stress and fear of not having insurance—through that brink of disaster that she lives on—Melissa waits and hopes that she doesn't get sick because that is the only option she has in this, our great country.

Rhonda is a mother in Coventry. She told me about her struggle to get health care coverage for her family. As if raising her two sons wasn't enough work, this single mother works two jobs to make ends meet. Although her employer offered health coverage at an affordable price, Rhonda's limited income could not be stretched to cover the additional cost of coverage for her children. So her sons went without insurance for 3 years. Rhonda, like so many hard-working Americans, was caught between a rock and a hard place—making slightly more than the eligible income to qualify for health coverage through State assistance plans, but not making enough money to afford health care coverage on her own. She prayed every day her children would be spared from sickness or injury.

I also received a story from Richard, in Providence, who told me about his father—a hard-working man who left work for 6 months to concentrate on fighting a battle against cancer. Sadly, just when Richard's father needed the support the most, his company dropped him from their health plan. Without coverage and unable to pay the costs out of pocket, his father was forced off his chemotherapy treatment. Richard's father was very lucky. The doctors cleared him of cancer. However, the medical bills were so high that Richard's parents lost their home. Remarkably, after all his family has been through, Richard feels fortunate that at least his father was covered for part of his treatment, but he urged us to fix ''this old and broken system.''

For these Rhode Islanders and for millions of more Americans silently suffering through their own personal catastrophes all over the country, we now have to be a voice. We must improve the quality of our health care, we must develop our Nation's health information infrastructure, and we must invest in preventing disease.

We must protect existing coverage where it is good and improve it when it is not. As the President said, if you like your health plan, you get to keep it. We must dial down the paperwork wars, and dial up better information for American health care consumers. We must speak for the 46 million Americans, 9 million of whom are children, who right now as I stand here on the Senate floor have no health insurance at all.

As Families USA reports, 47 million actually understates the problem because during the course of this year nearly 90 million Americans will, at one point or another, go without health insurance.

We look around at dark and tumultuous economic times. Yet looking beyond the immediate economic perils we face, a $35 trillion unfunded liability for Medicare—not a penny set against it—is bearing down on us. As the President told the AMA earlier this week:

> . . . if we fail to act, Federal spending on Medicaid and Medicare will grow, over the coming decades, by an amount almost equal to the amount our government currently spends on our Nation's defense. In fact, it will eventually grow larger than what our government spends on anything else today. It's a scenario that will swamp our Federal and State budgets and impose a vicious choice of either unprecedented tax hikes, overwhelming deficits, or drastic cuts in our Federal and State budgets.

We can only avoid that vicious choice by reforming the health care system. We are committed to making sure every American has health insurance coverage, but meaningful reform will take more than that. Think of it this way. If you had a boat out in the ocean and people overboard around it in danger of drowning, surely you would try to bring them all into the boat. But if the boat itself was sinking, if the boat itself was on fire, you would have to do more than just bring them on board. You have to repair the boat. You have to get it floating and moving forward.

That is what we have to do with our health care system. It is not enough just to provide coverage for all Americans, we also have to right this ship. This means improving the quality of health care and investing in prevention, especially in those areas where improved quality of care and investment in prevention means lower cost so that, for instance, 100,000 Americans will no longer die each and every year because of entirely avoidable medical errors. This also means reforming how we pay for health care so what we pay for is what we want from health care.

Government must act. At last, government must act. The problems of health care in America are rooted in market failures. We cannot wait for the market to cure a problem rooted in market failure. It is nonsense. We have to change the rules of the game.

We also can't pay for one thing and expect another. We have to change the incentives. We do not expect Americans to go out and build our highway infrastructure for us. We do that through government. We can't sit around and wait for our health information infrastructure to build itself either. We cannot expect quality improvement and prevention of illness to flourish when we make it a money-losing proposition for the people who have to make it work. We have to change those incentives too.

Opponents of reform are arguing that this process is going too quickly, that we need to slow down, wait, pause. They are loading down this bill with hundreds of amendments—170 amendments alone on the section that deals with preventive care. But haven't we waited long enough? Slow is what we have done for years, even decades. When I hear from Rhode Islanders with the stories I reported here, such as Richard and Rhonda and Melissa and Anita, I think not that we are going too fast, I think we are irresponsibly, even frighteningly late in getting after this problem and taking up this charge.

If we wait much longer, we may be too late to avoid that tidal wave of costs that threatens to swamp our ship of state. To those who say slow down, I say keep up.

Opponents of reform want people to believe that a system that costs too much, that lets insurance company bureaucrats make decisions about our health care; that is riddled with error, duplication, and waste; that leaves nearly 50 million Americans without any health insurance, is acceptable.

Everyone says they want reform, but unless we get moving, all we will end up with is more of the same. As President Obama said this week: The status quo is unsustainable.

Some opponents want to slow this down because they know if they slow it down they can kill it. We cannot let that happen. The stakes are way too high.

The anguish out there, as you know in Oregon, as I see in Rhode Island, as all our colleagues see across the country, is real and it is everywhere. At last we can do something about it. Now is the time. This is the moment. Let us make this work. Let us, together, find a way to make this work.

I yield the floor.

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

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

Mr. ROBERTS. I ask unanimous consent I may proceed as if in morning business for approximately 15 minutes.

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

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, and to all present in terms of staff, this is Friday, and here we are at 1:25. I apologize to the doorkeepers, I apologize to the elevator operators, I don't want to keep you here for a long time, so I will quit apologizing, but there have been some things happening with regard to health care.

The distinguished Senator from Rhode Island indicated the need to move forward on health care. Everybody agrees to that. The pace of it, what is going on, is a real concern, so I do have some remarks to make. I will try to make this as quickly and succinctly as possible so everybody can go about their business. I see smiles from the pages, in regards if I can just hurry up and get through my comments.

Yesterday, in the HELP Committee's markup of the Kennedy-Dodd health care reform bill, we had a very good discussion about the proper use and the objectives of something called government-conducted comparative effectiveness research.

I know that is getting into the weeds in regard to health care language and health care acronyms. It is called CER; remember that term, ''CER.'' It is going to be around for a long time because it has become quite controversial in regard to our health care discussion and what eventually passes. CER is research that compares the relative outcomes of two medical treatments for the same condition to determine which one is better. That is a good thing. It is a good thing to disseminate and to inform doctors and everybody in the health care delivery system—nurses, health care providers, pharmacists, et cetera—it is a good thing. But the first problem with CER is that not every patient is the same. What is better for one patient may not be better, or could actually be worse, for another. For this reason doctors and patients must be able to deviate from the results of something called CER, or a master plan or a master evaluation that could come out of Washington from an outfit called CMS, under the Department of Health and Human Services.

The situation is patients must be able to deviate from the results and make treatment decisions on a case-by-case individualized basis. That is what we all want in terms of our treatment with our doctors.

The other major problem, I submit, is that CER has been used by other governments, such as the United Kingdom, to base treatment decisions not just on relative effectiveness but on relative cost. There is the rub. If CER is going to inform doctors and everybody in the medical community that this kind of treatment or this kind of best practice is the arena in which you should operate or pasture you should operate in, that is OK. But if it is used to control costs as opposed to care, then we have a problem.

By giving priority to the relative costs of the treatments being compared, the government can deny access to health care based on what I would call pseudoscience, under the guise of CER. That brings me back to yesterday's discussion on CER on the health care markup. The Kennedy-Dodd bill includes a section that establishes a new Center for Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation. This outfit is to conduct and support comparative effectiveness research.

Section 219(h)(1)—if that isn't getting into the weeds, I don't know what is—includes the following language relating to the practical effect of CER, or comparative effectiveness research. That would, again, be conducted by the center.

> Center reports and recommendations shall not be construed as mandates for payment, coverage and treatment.

That language was in there to get at this problem for those of us who worry that CER will be used by CMS—that is another acronym. That is the outfit that runs Medicaid and Medicare, in terms of services. These are the people who count the beans, these are the people who want to turn the red beans into black beans. These are the people into cost containment. These are the people who many times drive board members in small hospitals crazy.

At any rate, to take away the worry, that language was put in there: Senate reports and recommendations shall not be construed as mandates for payments, coverage and treatment. They thought that was enough to protect us in regard to CER dictating medical care and stepping in between you and your doctor.

Let's go back to those words ''shall not be construed as mandates.'' What does that mean? ''Mandate'' means to force, compel, bind. This language says the CER shall not be interpreted as forcing CMS, Veterans' Administration or the Department of Defense to restrict payments to doctors based on its results.

Senator MIKULSKI and I and Dr. COBURN as well had a very lively discussion about the intent of this language. Senator MIKULSKI said the intent of the language was to keep the right to make treatment decisions with the doctor and the patient, not with the government. I certainly agree with that.

Senator MIKULSKI has worked long and hard on this bill, and I respect her for that. She is a good colleague and a good friend. I agree with this intent.

But as I pointed out to the Senator, the language in the Kennedy-Dodd bill does not accomplish our common intent of saying the government is not mandated or forced to use the results of this comparative effectiveness research to make payment decisions. Whether you are paid or not in regard to Medicare or, for that matter, Medicaid is not the same thing as prohibiting or preventing CMS from doing so.

In order to vigorously protect the rights of patients and doctors to make treatment decisions against the danger that the government will interfere in that process, I believe the bill must prohibit the government from using the results of CER in making payment, coverage, or treatment decisions. Sorry, you cannot have that, you have got to have this treatment, because it is a best medicine practice, regardless of the fact that maybe you and your doctor have had that treatment before and the doctor thinks that treatment is the best treatment for you.

I offered new language, and the new language would have placed a clear, bright-line firewall between the conduct of CER—which, by the way, I think is essential to advancing medical science; it is a good thing—and the use of its results to restrict your doctor from using his or her best judgment when treating you.

My language, which I further modified at the suggestion of Senator MIKULSKI, read: ''Center reports and recommendations are prohibited from being used by any government entity for payment, coverage, or treatment decisions.''

Senator MIKULSKI agreed to consider my suggestion over last night, along with Senator DODD. I appreciate that. But today when the HELP Committee reconvened in our markup, Senator MIKULSKI and the majority refused to accept my language and offered counter-language that would basically put us back to square one and, in my view, would do nothing to protect patients and doctors from CMS or any other government agency interfering in their treatment decisions.

When I asked why my language was unacceptable, which I thought was acceptable for everybody when we left yesterday, I was told that the decision

to say my language was not acceptable was based on concerns by ''Washington policy experts.''

I said: Who is that? Which Washington policy expert said my language was not acceptable?

When pressed on which policy experts, we learned that the directive came straight down from the White House. Why would the White House be so concerned about prohibiting the Federal Government from using CER to restrict payments to doctors or to direct doctors to follow specific treatment orders? Why would the White House do this on this in-the-weeds proposal, which is not an in-the-weeds proposal at all, it is about what the government is going to do or tell doctors and patients what they can expect.

It is clear from statements made by this administration that they see CER as the golden ring for cost containment. The President said when asked, how on Earth are you going to pay for the health care bill, We are going to cut Medicare payments.

How are you going to do that?

Well, if you have a CER golden ring that comes down from CMS or the National Institutes of Health for cost containment, you can see: This research says that you should follow these practices, not those practices and those practices, or, these practices would certainly cost less.

I do not think that is a good thing. From OMB Director Peter Orszag, to the NIH Director, going on to the National Economic Council Director, Larry Summers, and indications from our new Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius, a good friend, former Governor of Kansas, all have pointed to the huge potential of CER to be used to contain costs, not to recommend procedures best for patients and the doctors as determined by the patient and the doctor, but by CER to control costs.

That is why the White House does not want to prohibit CMS or any government agency from using the results of CER to deny you and your doctor the right to choose the treatment that is best for you.

After all of that was said and done, and a lot was said and not much done, I got quite a lecture this morning in regard to my use of the word ''rationing'' to describe what this could lead to. This lecture was referred to as a scare tactic. They indicated that I was using the word ''rationing'' out there as a scare tactic to scare people to say we do not want health care reform.

I find that rather condescending. I find that demeaning. And it is certainly not accurate. You tell me, when Medicare refuses to pay your doctor if he or she decides you need a particular course of treatment that deviates from the government standard, what would you call it? I would call it rationing.

That is the danger. It is not a scare tactic. Health care rationing is happening right now in this country. We may not have explicit rationing such as in the United Kingdom where the government refuses to give elderly people drugs to treat their macular degeneration until they have already gone blind in one eye—not making that up—or refuses kidney cancer drugs for terminal patients because it is not worth the money to extend their life by 6 months. That is rationing.

But we do have de facto rationing, because Medicare and Medicaid refuse to pay doctors anything close to what their costs are. By the way, it's the same thing for pharmacists, the same thing for home health care, and for all of the providers who provide our health care treatment. This means those doctors cannot afford to take Medicare and Medicaid patients—they make the decision then—and it means that those individuals do not have access to care. That is rationing I am talking about.

I am talking about a doctor who makes a decision: I am only getting paid about 70 cents in terms of the dollar in regard to my cost in regard to Medicare patients. I have to hire extra people to keep up with paperwork and regulations. Those people do not exist in the rural health care system. We have to try to find them. So it is a lot easier if I drop the Medicare Program.

That comes as a sudden jolt and a sudden decision that is not fair in regard to the patients who were being treated by that doctor in terms of Medicare. That is what we call rationing right now in regard to the United States of America.

We know the administration wants to use CER to contain costs. We know CMS has a history of denying full payment based on cost. I am not going to take the time on the Senate floor right now to go into all of the problems that CMS has posed for the health care delivery system. Again, these are folks who have a difficult task. They are trying to change the red beans into black beans so that health care does not cost so much. But in terms of their decisions here in Washington in regard to what care is going to be paid for and what is not, they are an absolute nightmare to every hospital administrator, every hospital board member in the 350 or so hospitals I have in Kansas, and the 83 critical access hospitals I have in Kansas.

We do not have a very good relationship with CMS. What we have is a meaningful dialog, most of the time, when yet another regulation comes down the pike to contain cost, most of which the doctors have never heard of, not to mention everybody else in the health care delivery system. I can go into quite a rant, as you can expect from my comments in regard to CMS and what they do and what they do not do.

Why is the majority, why are the Democrats, resisting any language to protect patients and their doctors, you and your doctor, and your right to make the right treatment decision for you? Why are they trying to muzzle my warnings that this could lead to the rationing of health care? It boils down to the fact that they do not want the American people to know what their true plans could actually be. That is why they are shoving this massive health care reform bill through Congress at warp speed, having markups before we even have complete language or cost estimates.

We heard from the distinguished Senator from Rhode Island about the need for health care reform, and the fact that he was complaining about over 100 amendments in the HELP Committee. My goodness. Almost every major bill I have been associated with, you have literally hundreds of amendments. Many fall by the wayside, many are withdrawn. We have dealt with 17, 18 of them as of today.

Senator MIKULSKI and Senator DODD did a very good job in that respect, along with our ranking member, Senator ENZI from Wyoming. But it would be helpful, if we are going to move forward with the health care reform, if we had the bill. We do not have the bill in the HELP Committee. We have one section of the bill, and then we have a Congressional Budget Office score on one-sixth of the bill that is $1 trillion. And, boy, did that shock everybody. Say $1 trillion for one-sixth of the bill. What is the whole bill going to cost? That estimate is somewhere in the neighborhood of $4 trillion. How on Earth are you going to pay, in the Finance Committee, the pay-for committee, $4 trillion for health care reform, and take it out of the health care delivery system?

I do not think you can do it. But we do not know, because we have not seen the legislation. We are being asked to go on a deadline schedule to produce amendments on things such as CER that worry people in regard to possible rationing by a date certain or a time certain, and we have not even seen the bill we are amending.

I have never been through a situation like that. Not to mention the specific cost estimates by CBO. This is not right. That is why Chairman BAUCUS in the Finance Committee had at least the good sense to postpone the markup of his bill until we could work this out. That is why slowing down does not necessarily mean that everybody is opposed to health care reform. It means we ought to get it right.

We at least ought to have a bill to read, to know what we are dealing with. I think it is because they know that if Americans knew what they were doing, they would never stand for it. I think we need to get this out to the public, and the public will hopefully fully understand it. I am not going to allow this. Personally, I am going to continue to shout it from the rooftops and beware of what lurks under the banner of ''reform'' to tell every doctor, every hospital administrator, every hospital board member, anybody who has anything to do with the health care delivery system, watch out in regard to CER.

It could be the golden ring of cost containment, and it could put you out of business. It could put you out of business. We have examples of CMS doing exactly that. So do not wake up one day and realize that the government has taken over your health care the same way they have taken over the banks and the auto industry. Do not let them ration your health care. Rationing is not what we need. It can be terribly counterproductive, and I hope we can do a better job in the future.

I yield the floor and 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Oregon, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Oregon, I move that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The motion was agreed to, and at 2:30 p.m. the Senate recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 2:34 p.m., when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MERKLEY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Oregon, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have worked several days this week trying to move forward on the tourism bill. It is an extremely important piece of legislation. It is important to every State in the Union. That is why it is so heavily bipartisan.

We have almost 50 cosponsors of this legislation. Lots of Republicans cosponsored this legislation—BOND, BROWNBACK, ENZI, GRAHAM, MARTINEZ, THUNE, WICKER, ALEXANDER, COCHRAN, ENSIGN, VITTER—and I am sure there are others. It is a bipartisan bill.

We have already wasted so much time. We had to file cloture on a motion to proceed to this heavily bipartisan bill. Once we were on the bill, I spoke to the Republican leader. We thought we had a pathway to having civility here, so the Republicans would try to help us. But, of course, we learned yesterday the GOP is still saying no; Democrats need to know when they bring bills up, we are going to extend debate as long as we can, even if we cannot win.

We said: OK. You offer—you, the Republicans—four amendments. And they did. They picked all the amendments they wanted to offer—not germane to this bill.

I said: OK. They were all involving TARP or the money that we all know about by now. So I said, and I told the Senator from Vermont, Mr. SANDERS: If the Republicans want to offer nongermane amendments, I will be happy to have you offer your amendment.

His is a fairly simple amendment. We see what is happening in the world today as it relates to oil. Again, we are seeing speculation. We know it was there before, we are seeing it again. We have a large inventory, with no reason for the price to spike. But we have those people, these commodity traders, who are rolling the dice as if they were coming to Las Vegas to roll the dice on the oil because they think the price is going to go up.

What Sanders wanted to do is basically nothing unique. He wanted to make sure the entity that is responsible for making sure there are no shenanigans being conducted by these traders, that we pass some legislation saying: You have to do better than what you have done, in effect. I am paraphrasing the picture of that legislation. It was fairly noncontroversial. But the Republicans said no. Whom are they trying to protect?

So we were generous in our offer. What was the other amendment they wanted to offer? They still had another amendment. I said: Fine, go ahead. The Senate should take hard votes. I am not concerned about my folks having to take difficult votes.

The Presiding officer knows, in the short time he has been here, that we have taken some hard votes. That is what we are elected to do. We are not elected to run from issues. To be clear, some of the amendments which my Republican colleagues wanted to include would have been votes that have nothing to do with this bill. I said: Let's do it anyway.

But the standard for a Democrat offering an amendment that is not germane, I guess, is different. You can have four. I said: We do not even need the same number of amendments. I guess what is good for us is not good for them.

I am disappointed this has not been worked out. I was going to propound an agreement which was agreed upon that would permit the process of legislating on this most important tourism bill, but I am not able to do so because we do not have a Republican here to object. I certainly am not going to take advantage of anyone because no one is here to object.

But I do want the RECORD to reflect that the majority is ready to move forward with amendments now or Monday. I hope that on Monday, when our managers are here, Senators DORGAN and MARTINEZ, we may still be able to reach an agreement to begin the process of working through this legislation. If we cannot, we are going to vote at 5:30 on Monday on cloture on this bill.

A decision is going to have to be made. I have not tried to jam anybody. We have not tried to jam anybody. We have been as reasonable as anybody can be. But we are going to have to make a decision on this legislation.

The State of Oregon, the home of the Presiding Officer, a couple years ago I took my family to Oregon. Every summer we take all 5 children and all 16 grandchildren and try to go someplace. We went to Oregon. We rented a home on the beautiful coast that was stark. For 8 days the Sun did not shine. But I loved it. Being from the desert, I loved that rain a little bit. It was wonderful.

I would love to go back. There were so many things to do around there. We drove 20 miles to see a waterfall. The water fell some 300 or 400 feet. It was not a lot of falling, but it dropped a long way.

The only point I am making is there is so much for people to see. Years ago, UNLV had a great basketball team. Yours was good, but theirs was great—the Tarkanian years. So I flew into Portland with my wife. We drove over to the coast, down the coast, and went to—I think it was called Salem, the University of Oregon, I think, or Oregon State, whatever university it was where they had this tournament.

I watched UNLV play. The reason I mention it, driving down that coast was so beautiful. But every State, every State I have ever been to—I have been to most of them. I think I have been to all of them—have beautiful things for people to come and see. That is what this legislation is all about.

The No. 1, 2 or 3 most important driver of the economy in every State is tourism, every State. It is the same in Oregon, where unemployment now is over 12 percent. We can get more people to come to Oregon or Nevada. It would be tremendous for those economies. That is what this legislation does. It sets up a public-private partnership in the model, frankly, of what the Las Vegas Convention Center did, which has been so successful. That is what this legislation is all about.

It is bipartisan legislation. Because we could not work anything on amendments, I hope we will get cloture on this bill. But whether we do or not, I am happy to work with my Republican colleagues to move forward on this.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we close morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. Morning business is closed.

TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that bill is now going to be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1023) to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the majority on the Commerce Committee has provided authority to the Chairman, Senator ROCKEFELLER, to withdraw the committee amendments and the chairman has now provided me with that authority.

Therefore, on the authority granted by Senator ROCKEFELLER of the Commerce Committee, I now withdraw the Committee amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The committee amendments are withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 1347

(Purpose: To provide a perfecting amendment)

Mr. REID. On behalf of Senators DORGAN and ROCKEFELLER, I offer a perfecting amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], for Mr. DORGAN and Mr. ROCKEFELLER, proposes an amendment numbered 1347.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. It is my understanding that there is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on the Dorgan amendment, No. 1347, to S. 1023, the Travel Promotion Act of 2009.

Harry Reid, Byron L. Dorgan, Barbara Boxer, Ron Wyden, Michael Begich, Evan Bayh, Charles Schumer, Max Baucus, Jon Tester, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Amy Klobuchar, Patrick Leahy, Barbara Mikulski, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Joseph Lieberman.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1348 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1347

Mr. REID. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1348 to amendment No. 1347.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

This section shall take effect 5 days after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 1349

Mr. REID. I now call up my amendment to the language proposed to be stricken and ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1349 to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 1347.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the language proposed to be stricken, insert the following:

This section shall take effect 4 days after the date of enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1350 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1349

Mr. REID. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1350 to amendment No. 1349.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''3''.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with this provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on S. 1023, the Travel Promotion Act of 2009.

Harry Reid, Byron L. Dorgan, Barbara Boxer, Ron Wyden, Michael Begich, Evan Bayh, Charles Schumer, Max Baucus, Jon Tester, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Amy Klobuchar, Patrick Leahy, Barbara Mikulski, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Joseph Lieberman.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1351

Mr. REID. I now have a motion to recommit with instructions. That motion is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to recommit the bill to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation with instructions to report back forthwith with the following amendment numbered 1351.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end insert the following: This section shall become effective 2 days after enactment of the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1352 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1351

Mr. REID. I have a first-degree amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1352 to amendment No. 1351.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''2'' and insert ''1''.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1353 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1352

Mr. REID. I have a second-degree amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1353 to amendment No. 1352.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''1'' and insert ''immediately''

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 187, 189, 190, 191, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 210, 211, 212, 213, 216, 220, 221, 222 to and including 250, 253, 254 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order, that any statements relating to any of these matters be printed in the

RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Rand Beers, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary, Department of homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Catherine Radford Zoi, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Energy, Efficiency, and Renewable Energy).

William F. Brinkman, of New Jersey, to be Director of the Office of Science, Department of Energy.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Anne Castle, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Howard K. Koh, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Laurie I. Mikva, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2010.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Martha J. Kanter, of California, to be Under Secretary of Education.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Jane Oates, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Herbert M. Allison, Jr., of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. (New Position)

EXCUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Jeffrey D. Zients, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Andrew J. Shapiro, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Eric P. Schwartz, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Population, Refugees, and Migration).

Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs.

Eric P. Goosby, of California, to be Ambassador at Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Zachary J. Lemnios, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering.

Jamie Michael Morin, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. James J. Carroll

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. William T. Lord

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brigadier General James W. Kwiatkowski
Brigadier General Jeffrey S. Lawson
Brigadier General Deborah S. Rose
Brigadier General Edwin A. Vincent, Jr.

To be brigadier general

Colonel Stephen M. Atkinson
Colonel Paul L. Ayers
Colonel Daniel S.V. Bader
Colonel Daryl L. Bohac
Colonel Joseph J. Brandemuehl
Colonel Timothy T. Dearing
Colonel Sharon S. Dieffenderfer
Colonel Jonathan S. Flaugher
Colonel Robert M. Ginnetti
Colonel Johnathan H. Groff
Colonel James D. Hill
Colonel Zane R. Johnson
Colonel Joseph K. Kim
Colonel Keith I. Lang
Colonel Robert W. Lovell
Colonel John P. McGoff
Colonel Gunther H. Neumann
Colonel Paul A. Pocopanni, Jr.
Colonel Christopher A. Pope
Colonel Carolyn J. Protzmann
Colonel Carlos E. Rodriguez
Colonel Jose J. Salinas
Colonel Wayne M. Shanks
Colonel William H. Shawver, Jr.
Colonel James C. Witham
Colonel Sallie K. Worcester
Colonel Wanda A. Wright
Colonel Wayne A. Wright

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8034:

To be general

Gen. Carrol H. Chandler

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Steven J. Arquiette
Colonel Robert J. Beletic
Colonel Scott A. Bethel
Colonel Charles Q. Brown, Jr.
Colonel Scott D. Chambers
Colonel Cary C. Chun
Colonel Richard M. Clark
Colonel Dwyer L. Dennis
Colonel Steven J. DePalmer
Colonel Ian R. Dickinson
Colonel Mark C. Dillon
Colonel Scott P. Goodwin
Colonel Morris E. Haase
Colonel James E. Haywood
Colonel Paul T. Johnson
Colonel Randy A. Kee
Colonel Jim H. Keffer
Colonel Jeffrey B. Kendall
Colonel Michael J. Kingsley
Colonel Steven L. Kwast
Colonel Lee K. Levy, II
Colonel Jerry P. Martinez
Colonel Jimmy E. McMillian
Colonel Andrew M. Mueller
Colonel Eden J. Murrie
Colonel Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy
Colonel David E. Petersen
Colonel Timothy M. Ray
Colonel John W. Raymond
Colonel John N. T. Shanahan
Colonel John D. Stauffer
Colonel Michael S. Stough
Colonel Marshall B. Webb
Colonel Robert E. Wheeler
Colonel Martin Whelan
Colonel Kenneth S. Wilsbach

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Gilmary M. Hostage, III

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Glenn F. Spears

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Douglas J. Robb

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203:

To be major general

Brigadier General Harold G. Bunch
Brigadier General Stuart M. Dyer
Brigadier General Glenn J. Lesniak
Brigadier General Charles D. Luckey
Brigadier General Jeffrey W. Talley
Brigadier General Luis R. Visot

To be brigadier general

Colonel Mark C. Arnold
Colonel Lawrence W. Brock, III
Colonel Dwayne R. Edwards
Colonel Steven J. Feldmann
Colonel Fernando Fernandez
Colonel Jonathan G. Ives
Colonel Bud R. Jameson, Jr.
Colonel Bryan R. Kelly
Colonel Jon D. Lee
Colonel Mark T. McQueen
Colonel Therese M. O'Brien
Colonel Lucas N. Polakowski
Colonel Peter T. Quinn
Colonel Robert L. Walter, Jr.
Colonel James T. Williams

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. David M. Rodriguez

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Robert W. Cone

IN THE NAVY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Kathleen M. Dussault
Rear Adm. (lh) Mark F. Heinrich

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Janice M. Hamby

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Steven R. Eastburg

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Thomas P. Meek

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Joseph F. Campbell
Rear Adm. (lh) John C. Orzalli

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Townsend G. Alexander
Rear Adm. (lh) David H. Buss
Rear Adm. (lh) Kendall L. Card
Rear Adm. (lh) Nevin P. Carr, Jr.
Rear Adm. (lh) John N. Christenson
Rear Adm. (lh) Michael J. Connor
Rear Adm. (lh) Kenneth E. Floyd
Rear Adm. (lh) William D. French
Rear Adm. (lh) Philip H. Greene
Rear Adm. (lh) Bruce E. Grooms
Rear Adm. (lh) Edward S. Hebner
Rear Adm. (lh) Michelle J. Howard
Rear Adm. (lh) William E. Shannon, III
Rear Adm. (lh) Charles E. Smith
Rear Adm. (lh) Scott H. Swift
Rear Adm. (lh) David M. Thomas
Rear Adm. (lh) Kurt W. Tidd
Rear Adm. (lh) Michael P. Tillotson
Rear Adm. (lh) Mark A. Vance
Rear Adm. (lh) Edward G. Winters, III

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Michael W. Broadway

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Sean F. Crean

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) Patrick E. McGrath
Rear Adm. (1h) John G. Messerschmidt
Rear Adm. (1h) Michael M. Shatynski

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Ron J. MacLaren

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Robin L. Graf

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. David G. Russell

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Kurt L. Kunkel
Capt. Jonathan A. Yuen

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Katherine L. Gregory
Capt. Kevin R. Slates

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Vice Adm. Ann E. Rondeau

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Joseph D. Kernan

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general in the United States Marine Corps while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Inez Moore Tenenbaum, of South Carolina, to be Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Inez Moore Tenenbaum, of South Carolina, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2006.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN432 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning STEPHEN R. DASUTA, and ending BETH M. DITTMER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN470 AIR FORCE nomination of Thomas J. Sobieski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN471 AIR FORCE nominations (10) beginning JOHN E. BLAIR, and ending PETER T. TRAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN495 AIR FORCE nomination of Joshua D. Rosen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2009.

PN511 AIR FORCE nominations (114) beginning MARK W. ANDERSON, and ending STEVEN W. WRIGHT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN565 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeffrey A. Lewis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

IN THE ARMY

PN105 ARMY nominations (19) beginning CHRISTOPHER L. ARNHEITER, and ending JAMES W. TURONIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 23, 2009.

PN106 ARMY nominations (82) beginning BRET T. ACKERMANN, and ending D060652, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 23, 2009.

PN472 ARMY nominations (2) beginning KINDALL L. JONES, and ending WILLIAM J. NOVAK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN473 ARMY nominations (2) beginning SHARON E. BLONDEAU, and ending KAREN D. CHAMBERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN474 ARMY nominations (3) beginning REBECCA D. LANGE, and ending ROBERT SANTIAGO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN475 ARMY nominations (18) beginning WALTER A. BEHNERT, and ending ZACHARIAH P. WHEELER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN476 ARMY nominations (46) beginning ARTHUR R. BAKER, and ending ANITA M. YEARLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN477 ARMY nominations (9) beginning DENNIS C. AYER, and ending JEFFREY O. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN478 ARMY nominations (3) beginning MICHAEL C. OGUINN, and ending TRACY L. SMITH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN479 ARMY nominations (7) beginning LARRY D. BARTHOLOMEW, and ending KENNETH A. WADE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN480 ARMY nominations (3) beginning DAWN B. BARROWMAN, and ending REBA J. MUELLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN481 ARMY nominations (38) beginning LAUREN J. ALUKONIS, and ending LUCY D. WALKER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN482 ARMY nominations (5) beginning PETER H. GUEVARA, and ending MATTHEW A. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN483 ARMY nominations (10) beginning RICHARD CANER, and ending CHARLES W. WHITE JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN484 ARMY nominations (12) beginning MICHAEL J. BEAULIEU, and ending JAMES A. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN496 ARMY nomination of Stuart W. Smythe Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2009.

PN512 ARMY nomination of Edward P. Naessens, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN513 ARMY nomination of Donald R. Anderson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN514 ARMY nomination of Sandra M. Keavey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN515 ARMY nomination of Thamius J. Morgan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN516 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CONSTANCE ROSSER, and ending AVERY E. DAVIS, which nominations were received

by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN517 ARMY nominations (3) beginning NORMA G. SANDOW, and ending PAUL J. SINQUEFIELD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN518 ARMY nominations (4) beginning CHARLES W. HIPP, and ending ANITA M. KIMBROUGHJACOB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN519 ARMY nominations (12) beginning DANIEL E. BANKS, and ending RICK A. SHACKET, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN520 ARMY nominations (4) beginning CARLTON L. DAY, and ending MARK W. WEISS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

IN THE COAST GUARD

PN464 COAST GUARD nominations (37) beginning Scott W. Crawley, and ending James T. Zawrotny, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN465 COAST GUARD nomination of Michael J. Capelli, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN466 COAST GUARD nomination of Michael J. Hauschen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 18, 2009.

PN605 COAST GUARD nomination of Christopher G. Buckley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 16, 2009.

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

PN282–1 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (340) beginning Marvin F. Burgos, and ending Stephen Alan Cristina, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 20, 2009.

IN THE NAVY

PN433 NAVY nominations (6) beginning PAUL V. ACQUAVELLA, and ending DAVID M. TULLY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN434 NAVY nominations (9) beginning CLEMIA ANDERSON JR., and ending RICHARD C. VALENTINE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN435 NAVY nominations (4) beginning JOSEPH R. BRENNER JR., and ending GREG A. ULSES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN436 NAVY nominations (7) beginning JOHN G. BISCHERI, and ending TODD J. SQUIRE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN437 NAVY nominations (5) beginning JEFFREY A. BENDER, and ending DAVID H. WATERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN438 NAVY nominations (14) beginning ROBERT J. ALLEN, and ending EDWARD B. ZELLEM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN439 NAVY nominations (9) beginning MICKEY S. BATSON, and ending FRANK A. SHAUL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN440 NAVY nominations (13) beginning ANGELA D. ALBERGOTTIE, and ending MICHAEL L. THRALL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN441 NAVY nominations (5) beginning MICHAEL E. BEAULIEU, and ending GREGORY A. MUNNING, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN442 NAVY nominations (15) beginning SCOTT F. ADLEY, and ending PATRICK W. SMITH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN443 NAVY nominations (19) beginning MICHAEL A. BALLOU, and ending STEPHEN F. WILLIAMSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN444 NAVY nominations (11) beginning ANN M. BURKHARDT, and ending JACKLYN D. WEBB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN445 NAVY nominations (218) beginning HEIDI C. AGLE, and ending THOMAS A. ZWOLFER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN446 NAVY nomination of JAMES F. ELIZARES, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN447 NAVY nomination of STACY R. STEWART, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN448 NAVY nominations (2) beginning STEPHEN E. MARONICK, and ending TAMARA A.L. SHELTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN449 NAVY nominations (4) beginning DANIEL T. BATES, and ending GARY P. KIRCHNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN450 NAVY nominations (14) beginning GARY R. BARRON, and ending MICHAEL M. NORMILE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN451 NAVY nominations (8) beginning JOSEPH R. DAVILA, and ending JOHN M. TARPEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN452 NAVY nominations (4) beginning MARCIA R. FLATAU, and ending LINNEA J. SOMMERWEDDINGTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN453 NAVY nominations (3) beginning STEVEN W. HARRIS, and ending GEORGE L. SNIDER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN454 NAVY nominations (2) beginning PAUL C. BURNETTE, and ending STEPHEN S. JOYCE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN455 NAVY nominations (3) beginning MATTHEW B. AARON, and ending DAVID M. SILLDORFF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN456 NAVY nominations (6) beginning DALE E. CHRISTENSON, and ending FRANK VACCARINO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN457 NAVY nominations (4) beginning THERESE D. CRADDOCK, and ending LEITH S. WIMMER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN458 NAVY nominations (21) beginning ROBERT A. BENNETT, and ending KENNETH S. WRIGHT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN459 NAVY nominations (108) beginning DONALD T. ALLERTON, and ending TODD A. ZVORAK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 14, 2009.

PN497 NAVY nominations (3) beginning SCOTT K. RINEER, and ending MARY P. COLVIN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2009.

PN521 NAVY nominations (9) beginning JUDI C. HERRING, and ending LUIS M. TUMIALAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2009.

PN541 NAVY nominations (12) beginning VINCENT G. AUTH, and ending MARTHA P. VILLALOBOS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN542 NAVY nominations (12) beginning SALVADOR AGUILERA, and ending DENNIS W. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN543 NAVY nominations (16) beginning MICHAEL M. BATES, and ending DAVID G. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN544 NAVY nominations (16) beginning JOHN J. ADAMETZ, and ending RICHARD L. WHIPPLE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN545 NAVY nominations (29) beginning KRISTEN ATTERBURY, and ending CONSTANCE L. WORLINE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN546 NAVY nominations (29) beginning DANIEL L. ALLEN, and ending DONALD J. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN547 NAVY nominations (35) beginning LUIS A. BENEVIDES, and ending TIMOTHY H. WEBER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN548 NAVY nominations (64) beginning BRIAN A. ALEXANDER, and ending PETER G. WOODSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2009.

PN566 NAVY nominations (2) beginning VINCENT P. CLIFTON, and ending PATRICK J. COOK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN567 NAVY nominations (2) beginning DAVID J. BUTLER, and ending JON E. CUTLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN568 NAVY nominations (4) beginning BARRY C. DUNCAN, and ending JAMES E. PARKHILL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN569 NAVY nominations (16) beginning DAVID A. BIANCHI, and ending SARAH WALTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN570 NAVY nominations (10) beginning LISA M. BAUER, and ending JOSEPH E. STRICKLAND, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN571 NAVY nominations (12) beginning DWAIN ALEXANDER II, and ending THOMAS E. WALLACE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN572 NAVY nominations (19) beginning JAMES F. ARMSTRONG, and ending JULIE A. ZAPPONE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN573 NAVY nominations (10) beginning WILLIAM E. BUTLER, and ending JONATHAN D. WALLNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

PN574 NAVY nominations (12) beginning ROBERT J. CAREY, and ending BRIAN S. VINCENT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 9, 2009.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wanted to go into a bit more detail about the cash for clunkers provision the Senate passed yesterday as part of the $105 billion war supplemental. I continue to believe that the American people would be appalled to learn the specifics of this lemon legislation. Here is a quick summary:

Any person who trades in a car he or she has owned and insured for at least 1 year that has a combined fuel economy value of 18 miles or less per gallon is eligible for: $3,500 toward the purchase of a new car if it has a fuel economy value at least 4 miles per gallon higher than the trade-in, or a new truck if it has a fuel economy value at least 2 miles per gallon higher than the trade-in; or $4,500 toward the purchase of a new car if it has a fuel economy value at least 10 miles per gallon higher than the trade-in, or a new truck if it has a fuel economy value at least 5 miles per gallon higher than the trade-in.

The auto dealer that sells the new car, must accept the trade-in and crush it, then submit paperwork to the Department of Transportation, DOT, and the money is directly wired to the auto dealer. This is ripe for fraud and abuse and the bill provides a penalty of a mere $15,000 fine for each abuse.

Only cars costing less than $45,000 and purchased between July 1, 2009, and November 1, 2009, are eligible.

Lastly, I want to talk about how this clunker was salvaged by the Democrats placing it in a war supplemental bill. On January 14, 2009, several Senators introduced a cash for clunkers bill that would provide between $2,500 and $4,500 toward the purchase of a new or used car as long as the trade-in had a fuel economy rating of less than 18 miles a gallon and the new or used car had a fuel economy rating exceeding target for that class of vehicles by at least 25 percent, as determined by DOT.

Then on May 21, 2009, a new cash for clunkers bill was introduced by a different group of Senators who limited the benefit to only the purchase of a new car, and removed the requirement that the new car must have a fuel economy rating exceeding the target by at least 25 percent and replaced it with a more lax requirement that a new car merely had to be 2 miles per gallon more fuel efficient.

Senators COLLINS and FEINSTEIN wrote an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal on June 11, 2009, stating:

> It's amazing how quickly a good idea can go bad in Washington . . . Our ''Cash for Clunkers'' proposal was a win-win for the environment and the economy. Then Detroit auto industry lobbyists got involved. Soon a rival bill emerged . . . tailored perfectly to the auto industry's specifications. They claim their bill would have resulted in 32 percent more oil savings and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. And then Detroit's bill was placed into the war supplemental and will likely be signed into law without ever having been reviewed by the committee that has jurisdiction over such legislation or being available for amendment by the full Senate.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, tomorrow is World Refugee Day, a day to pause and recognize the millions of people who have been forced from their homes by natural disaster, conflict, or in some cases persecution. They often only carry with them the clothes on their backs and the new burdens and trauma that accompany the title of ''refugee.'' Yet as we acknowledge the tragedy of their loss, we can also celebrate their enduring resilience. Even after years of suffering and hopelessness, many refugees never give up hope that they will return to their homes to be allowed to live peaceful and full lives. They continue to struggle to ensure that their basic rights are protected and basic needs met.

Today, the overall number of refugees and internally displaced people is estimated at 42 million. The refugee experience cuts across borders and countries, but the circumstances that give rise to displacement are often unique. There are so many crises to talk about—in Colombia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Zimbabwe, for example—but I want to briefly highlight three in particular.

First, in Pakistan's North West Frontier Province, a humanitarian crisis continues to unfold as more than 2 million Pakistanis have been displaced from their homes due to fighting between militants and the Pakistani Government. The Pakistani people have borne additional hardship as friends, families, and strangers—already strained by the global economic crisis—have opened their homes and lives to many of the displaced. We must do more to encourage this generosity through creative means as well as providing traditional aid to the hundreds of thousands in camps.

I also wish to highlight the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced by the fighting between the Congolese military and armed groups in eastern Congo, forcing people into squalid camps where children are subject to forced recruitment and women suffer unspeakable levels of sexual violence. In eastern Congo and so many other conflict zones, rape and other forms of gender-based violence have become not just outgrowths of war and its brutality—they are used as weapons of war. We must do more to stop this horrifying practice, to provide protection to these vulnerable refugee populations, and to address the underlying causes of eastern Congo's conflicts.

Third, there continue to be more than 250,000 refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan in eastern Chad in addition to some 190,000 internally displaced people—Chadians—in the area. Moreover, millions of people remain internally displaced in Darfur. These people do not have access to many basic humanitarian needs such as water, health care, and education, and they continue to be subject to attacks by government forces and armed rebel groups. We need to address their needs and enhance civilian protection, while working to stand up a viable peace process for Darfur and the wider region.

Finally, World Refugee Day is also an occasion to celebrate the work of donor governments including our own, private individuals, nongovernmental organizations, and agencies like the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees that are working to meet the needs of the displaced. To those who have given generously, to those who have lived among the displaced, and to those who report their stories and refuse to allow them to be forgotten, I say, thank you.

Nonetheless, we must do more to bring attention to the plight of the tens of millions of refugees around the world and to ensure their fundamental right to be safe. The theme of this year's World Refugee Day is ''Real People, Real Needs''—a reminder of the human face of refugee crises around the world. Today, let us see that face and commit ourselves to meeting the real needs of refugees and IDPs around the world.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING THE ORLANDO MAGIC

• Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Orlando Magic on a tremendous 2008–09 season; which ended on Sunday as the Los Angeles Lakers won a hard fought victory to win the NBA Finals. Although the Magic didn't end up taking home the championship trophy,

they still turned in an inspiring performance throughout their improbable postseason run.

Four years ago, few would have imagined the Orlando Magic would be the 2008–2009 Eastern Conference Champions. During the 2003–2004 season, the Magic finished last in the league with a record of 21 wins and 61 losses. Since that time, the Magic organization has assembled a team that has made the Orlando community and now all of Florida proud.

I commend coach Stan Van Gundy for leading his team to their third consecutive postseason and the team's second NBA Finals appearance. Whether it was overcoming long odds to beat the defending champion Boston Celtics or defeating LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers, the team proved that when ''Blue and White Ignite,'' it is tough to beat the Orlando Magic.

For their hard work and sportsmanship, I would like to recognize Dwight Howard, Hedo Türkoğlu, Rashard Lewis, rookie Courtney Lee and the rest of the team for setting a tremendous example.

Today, all Floridians are proud of the Orlando Magic for having such a memorable season. I congratulate the Magic organization and their fans on a great season and look forward to the next season as the team builds on this year's success.●

COMMENDING MAIKI AIU LAKE

● Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, today marks the 25th anniversary of the passing of a most beloved and remarkable hula master and instructor, Maiki Aiu Lake. Her skills in the art of hula and love of teaching have made her a legendary figure in the State of Hawaii.

Affectionately known as ''Aunty Maiki,'' Maiki Aiu Lake has played a pivotal role in the preservation and continuation of Native Hawaiian culture. Her unwavering dedication to her students and art has proved hula more than a dance; the elegance and beauty exhibited in hula enriches its audience, and instills a deeper understanding and appreciation for Hawaii's artistic heritage. Her Halau Hula is renowned among many for its attention to detail and profound respect for the traditions of the Native Hawaiian people. Through her passion as both an artist and teacher, Aunty Maiki has touched countless lives. She remains an enduring influence whose legacy continues through the work of her many students and devoted friends.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the great accomplishments of Maiki Aiu Lake.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:45 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 813. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 306 East Main Street in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the ''J. Herbert W. Small Federal Building and United States Courthouse''.

H.R. 837. An act to designate the Federal building located at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York, New York, as the ''Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building''.

H.R. 2344. An act to amend section 114 of title 17, United States Code, to provide for agreements for the reproduction and performance of sound recordings by webcasters.

H.R. 2346. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2675. An act to amend title II of the Antitrust Criminal Penalty Enhancement and Reform Act of 2004 to extend the operation of such title for a 1-year period ending June 22, 2010.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DODD for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Kathleen Martinez, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Kathy J. Greenlee, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary for Aging, Department of Health and Human Services.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1306. A bill to provide for payment to the survivor or surviving family members of compensation otherwise payable to a contractor employee of the Department of Energy who dies after application for compensation under the Energy Employees occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1307. A bill to amend part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to Medicare special needs plans and the alignment of Medicare and Medicaid for dually eligible individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 1308. A bill to reauthorize the Maritime Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. BURRIS):

S. 1309. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure funding for grants to promote responsible fatherhood and strengthen low-income families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 1310. A bill to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1311. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand and strengthen cooperative efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the resource productivity, water quality, and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 1312. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage, as supplies associated with the injection of insulin, of containment, removal, decontamination and disposal of home-generated needles, syringes, and other sharps through a sharps container, decontamination/destruction device, or sharps-by-mail program or similar program under part D of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KYL, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 193. A resolution expressing support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law, and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. Res. 194. A resolution congratulating the Pittsburgh Penguins on winning the 2009 Stanley Cup Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. INOUYE:

S. Res. 195. A resolution recognizing Bishop Museum, the Nation's premier showcase for Hawaiian culture and history, on the occasions of its 120th anniversary and the restoration and renovation of its Historic Hall; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BUNNING):

S. Res. 196. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on freedom of the press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression in Iran; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BURRIS,

Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. Res. 197. A resolution congratulating the men and women of the National Archives and Records Administration on occasion of its 75th anniversary; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURRIS (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. Res. 198. A resolution observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. BURRIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to liability under State and local requirements respecting devices.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 883

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 883, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861, America's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States, to honor the American military men and women who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor, and to promote awareness of what the Medal of Honor represents and how ordinary Americans, through courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism, can challenge fate and change the course of history.

S. 908

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 908, a bill to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to enhance United States diplomatic efforts with respect to Iran by expanding economic sanctions against Iran.

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 908, supra.

S. 973

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 973, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to protect girls in developing countries through the prevention of child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 1066

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1066, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 1106

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1106, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the provision of medical and dental readiness services to certain members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve based on medical need, and for other purposes.

S. 1121

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1121, a bill to amend part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for the repair, renovation, and construction of elementary and secondary schools, including early learning facilities at the elementary schools.

S. 1284

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1284, a bill to require the implementation of certain recommendations of the National Transportation Safety Board, to require the establishment of national standards with respect to flight requirements for pilots, to require the development of fatigue management plans, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 11

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 11, a concurrent resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirming the support of Congress for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1253

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1253 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1256, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1320

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1320 intended to be proposed to S. 1023, a bill to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1306. A bill to provide for payment to the survivor or surviving family members of compensation otherwise payable to a contractor employee of the Department of Energy who dies after application for compensation under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1306

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Improvement Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO SURVIVORS OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3672 of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 7385s–1) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 3672. COMPENSATION TO BE PROVIDED.

''Subject to the other provisions of this subtitle:

''(1) CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A covered DOE contractor employee shall receive contractor employee compensation under this subtitle in accordance with section 3673.

''(B) COMPENSATION AFTER DEATH OF CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided paragraph (2)(B), if the death of a contractor employee occurs after the employee applies for compensation under this subtitle but before such compensation is paid, the amount of compensation described in clause (ii) shall be paid to a survivor (as that term is used in section 3674) of the employee or, if the employee has no such survivors, to the surviving family members of the employee in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 3628(e)(1).

''(ii) AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION.—The amount of compensation described in this clause is the amount of compensation the contractor employee would have received pursuant to section 3673(a), except that if the Secretary cannot determine the minimum impairment rating of the employee under paragraph (1) of such section as a result of the death of the employee, such compensation shall not include compensation pursuant to such paragraph.

''(2) SURVIVORS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B) or paragraph (1)(B), a survivor of a covered DOE contractor employee shall receive contractor employee compensation under this subtitle in accordance with section 3674.

''(B) ELECTION OF CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION OR SURVIVOR COMPENSATION.—A survivor who is otherwise eligible to receive compensation pursuant to both subparagraph (A) and paragraph (1)(B) shall not receive compensation pursuant to both subparagraph (A) and paragraph (1)(B), but shall receive compensation pursuant to subparagraph (A) or paragraph (1)(B), as elected by the survivor.

''(C) COMPENSATION AFTER DEATH OF SURVIVOR.—If the death of a survivor occurs after the survivor applies for compensation under this subtitle but before such compensation is paid and, in the case of compensation pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), there are no other survivors (as that term is used in section 3674) of the employee, the amount of compensation the survivor would have received under this section shall be paid to the surviving family members of the employee in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 3628(e)(1).''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The provisions of section 3672 of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 7385s–1), as amended by subsection (a), shall apply to applications for compensation under subtitle E of such Act filed before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 1310. A bill to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation requested by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, as a courtesy to the Secretary and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Except in unusual circumstances, it is my practice to introduce legislation requested by the administration so that such measures will be available for review and consideration.

This ''by-request'' bill consists of several provisions addressing major facility construction projects and major facility leases for fiscal year 2010. It would authorize five major medical facility construction projects and fifteen major facility leases. The bill would authorize $1,196,230,000 for the major facility construction projects and $196,227,000 for the major facility leases.

I am introducing this bill for the review and consideration of my colleagues at the request of the administration. As Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have not taken a position on this legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and a letter of support be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1310

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 1. AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2010 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following major medical facility projects in fiscal year 2010, with each project to be carried out in the amount specified for each project:

(1) Construction (including acquisition of land) for the realignment of services and closure projects at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center In Livermore, California, in an amount not to exceed $55,430,000.

(2) Construction of a Multi-Specialty Care Facility in Walla Walla, Washington, in an amount not to exceed $71,400,000.

(3) Construction (including acquisition of land) for a new medical facility at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Louisville, Kentucky, in an amount not to exceed $75,000,000.

SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following major medical facility projects in fiscal year 2010:

(1) Replacement of the existing Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Denver, Colorado, in an amount not to exceed $800,000,000.

(2) Construction of Outpatient and Inpatient Improvements in Bay Pines, Florida, in an amount not to exceed $194,400,000.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2010 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following fiscal year 2010 major medical facility leases at the locations specified, in an amount not to exceed the amount shown for that location:

(1) Anderson, South Carolina, Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $4,774,000.

(2) Atlanta, Georgia, Specialty Care Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $5,172,000.

(3) Bakersfield, California, Community Based Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $3,464,000.

(4) Birmingham, Alabama, Annex Clinic and Parking Garage, in an amount not to exceed $6,279,000.

(5) Butler, Pennsylvania, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $16,482,000.

(6) Charlotte, North Carolina, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $30,457,000.

(7) Fayetteville, North Carolina, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $23,487,000.

(8) Huntsville, Alabama, Outpatient Clinic Expansion, in an amount not to exceed $4,374,000.

(9) Kansas City, Kansas, Community Based Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $4,418,000.

(10) Loma Unda, California, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $31,154,000.

(11) McAllen, Texas, Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $4,444,000.

(12) Monterey, California, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $11,628,000.

(13) Montgomery, Alabama, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $9,943,000.

(14) Tallahassee, Florida, Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $13,165,000.

(15) Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Health Care Center, in an amount not to exceed $26,986,000.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010 or the year in which funds are appropriated for the Construction, Major Projects, Account—

(1) $201,830,000 for the projects authorized in section 1; and

(2) $994,400,000 for the projects authorized in section 2.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010 or the year in which funds are appropriated for the Medical Facilities account $196,227,000 for the leases authorized in section 3.

(c) LIMITATION.—The projects authorized in sections 1 and 2 may only be carried out using—

(1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 2010 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection (a) of this section;

(2) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation;

(3) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation;

(4) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for fiscal year 2010 for a category of activity not specific to a project;

(5) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before 2010 for a category of activity not specific to a project; and

(6) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after 2010 for a category of activity not specific to a project.

THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, June 10, 2009.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am pleased to submit the enclosed draft bill to authorize $1,196,230,000 for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) major facility construction projects for Fiscal Year 2010 and $196,227,000 for major facility leases for Fiscal Year 2010.

Title 38 U.S.C. section 8104(a) (2) requires statutory authorization for all VA major medical facility construction projects and all major medical facility leases prior to the appropriation of funds. In accordance with title 38, the draft bill authorizes five major medical facility construction projects and fifteen major facility leases. The five major medical facility construction projects are located in: Livermore, California; Walla Walla, Washington; Louisville, Kentucky; Denver, Colorado; and Bay Pines, Florida. Previously, Congress authorized funds for Denver and Bay Pines. This proposed bill would authorize additional funds necessary to continue with these projects.

The proposed project in Livermore is for construction, including the acquisition of

land, necessary for the realignment of services and closure projects. The proposed project in Walla Walla is for construction of a Multi-Specialty Care Facility. The proposed project in Louisville is for the construction, including the acquisition of land, for a new medical facility.

The proposed project in Denver will provide for the replacement of the existing medical center. Additional authorization is required to complete this project. The proposed project in Bay Pines is for construction of both outpatient and inpatient improvements. Additional authorization is required to complete this project.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this legislative proposal to the Congress and that its enactment would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

ERIC K. SHINSEKI.

Enclosures.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1 authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out three major medical facility projects. Authorization is requested for the construction, including acquisition of land, for realignment of services and closure projects in Livermore, California, in an amount not to exceed $55,430,000. Authorization is requested for the construction of a Multi-Specialty Care Facility in Walla Walla, Washington, in an amount not to exceed $71,400,000. Authorization is requested for the construction, including acquisition of land, for a new medical facility in Louisville, Kentucky, in an amount not to exceed $75,000,000.

Section 2 authorizes the Secretary of VA to carry out two major medical facility projects. Previously, these campuses received authorization, but additional authorization is required to complete the construction projects on these campuses. In this regard, authorization is requested for replacement of the VAMC in Denver, Colorado, in an amount not to exceed $800,000,000. Authorization is also requested for the construction of outpatient and inpatient improvements in Bay Pines, Florida, in an amount not to exceed $194,400,000.

Section 3 authorizes the Secretary of VA to carry out major medical facility leases for an Outpatient Clinic in Anderson, South Carolina, in an amount not to exceed $4,774,000; a Specialty Care Clinic in Atlanta, Georgia, in an amount not to exceed $5,172,000; a Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Bakersfield, California, in an amount not to exceed $3,464,000; an Annex Clinic and Parking Garage in Birmingham, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed $6,279,000; a Health Care Center in Butler, Pennsylvania, in an amount not to exceed $16,482,000; a Health Care Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed $30,457,000; a Health Care Center in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed $23,487,000; an Outpatient Clinic Expansion in Huntsville, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed $4,374,000; a Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Kansas City, Kansas, in an amount not to exceed $4,418,000; a Health Care Center in Loma Linda, California, in an amount not to exceed $31,154,000; an Outpatient Clinic in McAllen, Texas, in an amount not to exceed $4,444,000; a Health Care Center in Monterey, California, in an amount not to exceed $11,628,000; a Health Care Center in Montgomery, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed $9,943,000; an Outpatient Clinic in Tallahassee, Florida, in an amount not to exceed $13,165,000; and, a Health Care Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed $26,986,000.

Section 4 authorizes for appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010, $201,830,000 from the Major Construction Projects account for the projects authorized in Section 1 and $994,400,000 for the projects authorized in Section 2. Section 4 also authorizes for appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010, $196,227,000 from the Medical Facilities account for the leases authorized in Section 3. Section 4 allows the projects authorized in Sections 1 and 2 to be carried out by using only 1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 2010 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection a; 2) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation; 3) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation; and 4) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for fiscal year 2010 for a category of activity not specific to a project.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1311. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand and strengthen cooperative efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the resource productivity, water quality, and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, today I introduce an important piece of legislation that will help protect and preserve the health and productivity of one of our Nation's most important bodies of water—the Gulf of Mexico.

The Gulf of Mexico Restoration and Protection Act will serve as a national and international model for the collaborative management of large marine ecosystems. Specific provisions of this Act will be administered by the Gulf of Mexico Program, formed in 1988 by the Environmental Protection Agency as a non-regulatory, inclusive partnership that collaborates with federal offices, state, and local governments and the private sector in each of 5 Gulf States—all committed to helping preserve and protect the Gulf.

Collectively, the fertile waters and seabed of the Gulf of Mexico represent the 6th largest economy in the world with a total economic trade value of almost $6 trillion. These waters are now threatened by excessive nutrient loads and invasive species as well as the significant deterioration of many coastal wetlands as a result of hurricane and tropical storm damage.

The future of the Gulf's environmental stability is vital to America's economy and security. This legislation authorizes much needed additional funds to the Gulf of Mexico Program and finally puts it on a path toward more equal footing with other national great water body programs. Members of the Gulf of Mexico program are working together to secure the Gulf's future. It is time for this critical region to be recognized for its strategic importance. This legislation is an important step toward ensuring the Gulf receives the kind of support it deserves.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 193—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ALL IRANIAN CITIZENS WHO EMBRACE THE VALUES OF FREEDOM, HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND RULE OF LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KYL, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 193

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law;

(2) condemns the ongoing violence against demonstrators by the Government of Iran and pro-government militias, as well as the ongoing government suppression of independent electronic communication through interference with the Internet and cellphones; and

(3) affirms the universality of individual rights and the importance of democratic and fair elections.

SENATE RESOLUTION 194—CONGRATULATING THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS ON WINNING THE 2009 STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 194

Whereas, on June 12, 2009, the Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Detroit Red Wings 2-to-1 in Game 7 of the National Hockey League Stanley Cup Finals;

Whereas the victory marks the Penguins' third Stanley Cup Championship in franchise history and capped off a historic playoff series;

Whereas the Penguins are just the second team in league history to win the seventh game of a Stanley Cup Championship series on the road after the home team won the first 6 games of the series;

Whereas the Penguins beat the Washington Capitals in the Eastern Conference Semifinals and the Detroit Red Wings in the Stanley Cup Championship after losing the first 2 games in both series, making the Penguins the only team in league history to rally from 2-to-0 series deficits twice in the same year;

Whereas Mario Lemieux is to be honored for his commitment to keeping the Penguins in Pittsburgh and passing along his legacy to a new generation of players and fans;

Whereas, in February 2009, the Penguins hired Head Coach Dan Bylsma from the Penguins' minor league franchise in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, making Bylsma the first coach in the history of the National Hockey League to begin a season coaching in the American Hockey League and finish a Stanley Cup champion;

Whereas Sidney Crosby, the youngest team captain to ever win the Stanley Cup, was third in scoring during the regular season, had a league-leading 15 playoff goals, and demonstrated leadership by taking the Penguins to the Stanley Cup Finals in 2 consecutive seasons;

Whereas, over the course of the playoffs, Evgeni Malkin led all players in scoring with

36 points, including 14 goals and 22 assists, and won the Conn Smythe trophy for most valuable player in the playoffs;

Whereas Max Talbot is to be commended for scoring the only 2 Penguins goals in the Game 7 victory over the Detroit Red Wings;

Whereas thousands of Penguins fans supported the team throughout the postseason, donning white t-shirts to create a ''whiteout'' effect at home games or gathering to watch the game on a big screen television outside Mellon Arena;

Whereas the Red Wings are to be commended for a terrific season, committment to sportsmanship, and excellence on and off the ice; and

Whereas nearly 400,000 fans packed the streets of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 15, 2009, to honor the Penguins in a parade along Grant Street and the Boulevard of the Allies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates—

(A) the Pittsburgh Penguins for winning the 2009 Stanley Cup Championship;

(B) Mario Lemieux and the coaching staff of the Penguins and support staff and recognizes their commitment to keeping the team in Pittsburgh;

(C) all Penguins fans who supported the team throughout the season; and

(D) the Detroit Red Wings on an outstanding season; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) co-owners Mario Lemieux and Ron Burkle;

(B) vice president and general manager Ray Shero; and

(C) head coach Dan Bylsma.

SENATE RESOLUTION 195—RECOGNIZING BISHOP MUSEUM, THE NATION'S PREMIER SHOWCASE FOR HAWAIIAN CULTURE AND HISTORY, ON THE OCCASIONS OF ITS 120TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF ITS HISTORIC HALL

Mr. INOUYE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 195

Whereas Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 in Honolulu, Hawai'i by Charles Reed Bishop in memory of his beloved wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, the great granddaughter of Kamehameha I, to house the personal legacies and bequests of the royal Kamehameha and Kalākaua families;

Whereas the mission of Bishop Museum since its inception has been to study, preserve, and tell the stories of the cultures and natural history of Hawai'i and the Pacific;

Whereas the collections of Bishop Museum include more than 24,000,000 objects, collectively the largest Hawai'i and Pacific area collection in the world, which includes more than 1,200,000 cultural objects representing Native Hawaiian, Pacific Island, and Hawai'i immigrant life, more than 125,000 historical publications (including many in the Hawaiian language), more than 1,000,000 historical photographs, films, works of art, audio recordings, and manuscripts, and more than 22,000,000 plant and animal specimens;

Whereas a primary goal of Bishop Museum is to serve and represent the interests of Native Hawaiians by advancing Native Hawaiian culture and education, protecting the collections and increasing access to them, and strengthening the museum's connections with the schools of Hawai'i;

Whereas the national significance of Bishop Museum's cultural collection lies in the Native Hawaiian collection, which collectively represents the largest public resource in the world documenting a way of life, and has been a source of knowledge and inspiration for numerous visitors, researchers, students, native craftsmen, teachers, and community and spiritual leaders over the years, especially since the cultural revival, which has been steadily growing and gaining in popularity;

Whereas more than 【300,000】 people visit Bishop Museum each year to learn about Hawaiian culture and experience Hawaiian Hall;

Whereas the desire to see Hawaiian Hall and to learn about Hawaiian culture is the primary reason 【400,000】 visitors each year give for visiting Bishop Museum;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall is the Nation's only showcase of its size, proportion, design, and historic context that is devoted to the magnificent legacy of Hawai'i's kings and queens, and the legacies of its Native Hawaiian people of all walks of life and ages;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall, constructed between 1889 and 1903 and 1 of 3 interconnected structures known as the Hawaiian Hall Complex, is considered a masterpiece of late Victorian museum design with its Kamehameha blue stone exterior quarried on site and extensive use of native koa wood, and is one of the few examples of Romanesque Richardsonian style museum buildings to have survived essentially unchanged;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall, designed by noted Hawai'i architects C.B. Ripley and C.W. Dickey in 1898, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, based on its unique combination of architectural, cultural, scientific, educational, and historical significance;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of Hawaiian Hall and its exhibits by noted Hawai'i architect Glenn Mason and noted national and international museum exhibit designer Ralph Appelbaum are integral to the museum's ability to fulfill its mission and achieve its primary goal of serving and representing the interests of Native Hawaiians;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of Hawaiian Hall, begun in 2005, included the building of a new gathering place in an enclosed, glass walled atrium, improved access to the hall through the installation of an elevator in the new atrium to all 3 floors of the hall and other buildings in the Hawaiian Hall Complex, improved collection preservation through the installation of new, state-of-the-art environmental controls, lighting, security, and fire suppression systems, and restored original woodwork and metalwork;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of the hall's exhibits bring multiple voices and a Native Hawaiian perspective to bear on Bishop Museum's treasures, by conveying the essential values, beliefs, complexity, and achievements of Hawaiian culture through exquisite and fragile artifacts in a setting that emphasizes their ''mana'' (power and essence) and the place in which they were created;

Whereas the new exhibit incorporates contemporary Native Hawaiian artwork illustrating traditional stories, legends, and practices, and contemporary Native Hawaiian voices interpreting the practices and traditions through multiple video presentations;

Whereas the new exhibit features more than 2,000 objects and images from the museum's collections on the open floor, mezzanines, and the center space, conceptually organized to represent 3 traditional realms or ''wao'' of the Hawaiian world—Kai Ākea, the expansive sea from which gods and people came, Wao Kānaka, the realm of people, and Wao Lani, the realm of gods and the ''ali'i'' (chiefs) who descended from them;

Whereas the new exhibit's ending display celebrates the strength, glory, and achievements of Native Hawaiians with a large 40-panel mural titled ''Ho'ohuli, To Cause An Overturning, A Change'', made by students of Native Hawaiian charter schools in collaboration with Native Hawaiian artists and other students, and interpreted by Native Hawaiian artists and teachers in a video presentation; and

Whereas the people of the United States wish to convey their sincerest appreciation to Bishop Museum for its service and devotion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the reopening of historic Hawaiian Hall on the 120th anniversary of the founding of Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawai'i; and

(2) on the occasions of the reopening and anniversary of the museum, honors and praises Bishop Museum for its work to ensure the preservation, study, education, and appreciation of Native Hawaiian culture and history.

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a resolution that recognizes the Bishop Museum on its 120th Anniversary and celebrates the reopening of its historic Hawaiian Hall.

The Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop in honor of his late wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, the last descendant of the royal Kamehameha family. The museum was established to house the extensive collection of Hawaiian artifacts and royal family heirlooms of the Princess, and has expanded to include millions of artifacts, documents and photographs about Hawaii and other Pacific island cultures.

Today, the Bishop Museum is the largest museum in the State of Hawaii and the premier natural and cultural history institution in the Pacific, recognized throughout the world for its cultural collections, research projects, consulting services and public educational programs. It also has one of the largest natural history specimen collections in the world. The museum provides a great service to the State of Hawaii and I commend them for their long time commitment of serving and representing the interests of native Hawaiians.

SENATE RESOLUTION 196—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN IRAN

Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BUNNING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 196

Whereas since the June 12 Iranian presidential elections, there have been increased restrictions on freedom of the press in Iran and limitations on the free flow of information among the Iranian people;

Whereas newspapers and news services have been restricted by the Government of Iran, preventing the publication of specific articles, blocking the transmission of some

news broadcasts, and cancelling of foreign press credentials;

Whereas websites and blogs have been blocked in Iran, including social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter;

Whereas numerous Iranian journalists have been arrested, detained, imprisoned, or assaulted since June 12;

Whereas foreign journalists have been prevented from covering street demonstrations, confined to their hotels, and told their visas would not be renewed;

Whereas non-Iranian government news services, including the Associated Press, have been told they may not distribute Farsi-language reports;

Whereas Iranian journalists were instructed by the Government of Iran to report solely from their offices;

Whereas on June 13, the leading mobile phone operator in Iran, the government-owned Telecommunication Company of Iran, was suspended for over 24 hours;

Whereas short message service (SMS) in Iran has been blocked, preventing text message communications and blocking internet sites that utilize such services;

Whereas on June 14, an Al–Arabiya correspondent was instructed by the Iranian Ministry of Information to change a story and its Tehran bureau was subsequently closed;

Whereas shortwave and medium wave transmissions of the Farsi-language Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's (RFE/RL) Radio Farda have been partially jammed since June 12; and

Whereas satellite broadcasts, including those of the Voice of America's Persian News Networkand the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), have been intermittently jammed since late May: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) respects the sovereignty, proud history, and rich culture of the Iranian people;

(2) respects the universal values of freedom of speech and freedom of the press in Iran and throughout the world;

(3) supports the Iranian people as they take steps to peacefully express their voices, opinions, and aspirations;

(4) supports the Iranian people seeking access to news and other forms of information;

(5) condemns the detainment, imprisonment, and intimidation of all journalists, in Iran and elsewhere throughout the world;

(6) supports journalists who take great risk to report on political events in Iran, including those surrounding the presidential election;

(7) supports the efforts of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) to provide credible news and information within Iran through the Voice of America's (VOA) 24-hour television station Persian News Network, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's (RFE/RL) Radio Farda 24-hour radio station; and

(8) condemns acts of censorship, intimidation, and other restrictions on freedom of the press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression in Iran and throughout the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 197—CONGRATULATING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION ON OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 197

Whereas the National Archives was established by Congress in 1934 to centralize Federal recordkeeping;

Whereas the National Archives, now called the National Archives and Records Administration (in this resolution referred to as ''NARA''), serves democracy in the United States by ensuring that United States citizens can discover, use, and trust the records of the United States Government;

Whereas NARA has grown from one building along the National Mall to 38 facilities nationwide, from Atlanta to Anchorage;

Whereas NARA administers regional archives, Federal records centers, Presidential libraries, the Federal Register, and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission;

Whereas the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom serves as the permanent home of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights and makes these founding documents available to more than 1,000,000 visitors each year;

Whereas the first issue of the Federal Register was published on March 16, 1936, and the Federal Register has not missed a publication date since, providing orderly publication of the official actions of the Federal Government;

Whereas the Electronic Records Archives is laying the foundation for preserving and providing public access to historically valuable electronic records, ranging from vast, complex databases to documents that detail the making of foreign and domestic policies;

Whereas the Presidential libraries are great treasures of the United States, serving as repositories and preserving and making accessible the papers, records, and other historical materials of Presidents of the United States;

Whereas the National Personnel Records Center serves as the official repository for records of military personnel, responding to 2,000,000 requests a year by veterans and their families for documents to verify military service;

Whereas the Information Security and Oversight Office is responsible to the President for policy and oversight of the Government-wide security classification system and the National Industrial Security Program;

Whereas the National Historical Publications and Records Commission promotes the preservation and use of the documentary heritage of the United States, which is essential to understanding the democracy, history, and culture of the United States, by providing grants in support of the archives of the United States and for projects to edit and publish non-Federal historical records of national importance;

Whereas NARA holds records, in the National Archives Building and its regional facilities across the country, that allow naturalized citizens to claim their rights of citizenship;

Whereas NARA works with Federal agencies, researchers, genealogists, lawyers, scholars, and authors to respond to their evolving needs, requirements, and methods;

Whereas NARA provides records management training, enhances reference services, works with partners to digitize its holdings, and improves access to the records of the United States;

Whereas NARA provides, through its Internet site, easy and convenient public access to many of the most important and most requested historic documents and valuable databases of the United States; and

Whereas inscribed on the facade of the National Archives Building are Shakespeare's words, ''What is past is prologue'', which aptly describe the records of the past preserved by NARA as the groundwork for the future: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the men and women of the National Archives and Records Administration on the occasion of its 75th anniversary;

(2) understands the vital role that records play in a democracy;

(3) recognizes the service that NARA has given to the democracy of the United States by protecting and preserving the records of the United States Government; and

(4) commends the efforts by NARA to support democracy, promote civic education, and facilitate historical understanding of the national experience.

SENATE RESOLUTION 198—OBSERVING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. BURRIS (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 198

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach frontier areas of the United States, and in particular the southwestern States, for more than 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued on January 1, 1863, and months after the conclusion of the Civil War;

Whereas, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free;

Whereas African-Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as ''Juneteenth Independence Day'', as the anniversary of their emancipation;

Whereas African-Americans from the Southwest continue the tradition of celebrating Juneteenth Independence Day as inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas for more than 140 years, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures;

Whereas although Juneteenth Independence Day is beginning to be recognized as a national, and even global, event, the history behind the celebration should not be forgotten; and

Whereas the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves remains an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the Nation;

(B) supports the continued celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past and to understand better the experiences that have shaped the Nation; and

(C) encourages the people of the United States to observe Juneteenth Independence Day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the celebration of the end of slavery is an important and enriching part of the history and heritage of the United States; and

(B) history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1347. Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States.

SA 1348. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1347 proposed by Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) to the bill S. 1023, supra.

SA 1349. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1023, supra.

SA 1350. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1349 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, supra.

SA 1351. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1023, supra.

SA 1352. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1351 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, supra.

SA 1353. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1352 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 1351 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1347. Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

Strike out all after the first word and insert the following:

1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Travel Promotion Act of 2009''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. The Corporation for Travel Promotion.
Sec. 3. Accountability measures.
Sec. 4. Matching public and private funding.
Sec. 5. Travel promotion fund fees.
Sec. 6. Assessment authority.
Sec. 7. Office of Travel Promotion.
Sec. 8. Research program.

SEC. 2. THE CORPORATION FOR TRAVEL PROMOTION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Corporation for Travel Promotion is established as a nonprofit corporation. The Corporation shall not be an agency or establishment of the United States Government. The Corporation shall be subject to the provisions of the District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act (D.C. Code, section 29–1001 et seq.), to the extent that such provisions are consistent with this section, and shall have the powers conferred upon a nonprofit corporation by that Act to carry out its purposes and activities.

(b) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall have a board of directors of 11 members with knowledge of international travel promotion and marketing, broadly representing various regions of the United States, who are United States citizens. Members of the board shall be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (after consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State), as follows:

(A) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the hotel accommodations sector;

(B) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the restaurant sector;

(C) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the small business or retail sector or in associations representing that sector;

(D) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the travel distribution services sector;

(E) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the attractions or recreations sector;

(F) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience as officials of a city convention and visitors' bureau;

(G) 2 shall have appropriate expertise and experience as officials of a State tourism office;

(H) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in the passenger air sector;

(I) 1 shall have appropriate expertise and experience in immigration law and policy, including visa requirements and United States entry procedures; and

(J) 1 shall have appropriate expertise in the intercity passenger railroad business.

(2) INCORPORATION.—The members of the initial board of directors shall serve as incorporators and shall take whatever actions are necessary to establish the Corporation under the District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act (D.C. Code, section 29–301.01 et seq.).

(3) TERM OF OFFICE.—The term of office of each member of the board appointed by the Secretary shall be 3 years, except that, of the members first appointed—

(A) 3 shall be appointed for terms of 1 year;

(B) 4 shall be appointed for terms of 2 years; and

(C) 4 shall be appointed for terms of 3 years.

(4) REMOVAL FOR CAUSE.—The Secretary of Commerce may remove any member of the board for good cause.

(5) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the board shall not affect its power, but shall be filled in the manner required by this section. Any member whose term has expired may serve until the member's successor has taken office, or until the end of the calendar year in which the member's term has expired, whichever is earlier. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which that member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of the predecessor's term. No member of the board shall be eligible to serve more than 2 consecutive full 3-year terms.

(6) ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—Members of the board shall annually elect one of the members to be Chairman and elect 1 or 2 of the members as Vice Chairman or Vice Chairmen.

(7) STATUS AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no member of the board may be considered to be a Federal employee of the United States by virtue of his or her service as a member of the board.

(8) COMPENSATION; EXPENSES.—No member shall receive any compensation from the Federal government for serving on the Board. Each member of the Board shall be paid actual travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from his or her usual place of residence, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall have an executive director and such other officers as may be named and appointed by the board for terms and at rates of compensation fixed by the board. No individual other than a citizen of the United States may be an officer of the Corporation. The Corporation may hire and fix the compensation of such employees as may be necessary to carry out its purposes. No officer or employee of the Corporation may receive any salary or other compensation (except for compensation for services on boards of directors of other organizations that do not receive funds from the Corporation, on committees of such boards, and in similar activities for such organizations) from any sources other than the Corporation for services rendered during the period of his or her employment by the Corporation. Service by any officer on boards of directors of other organizations, on committees of such boards, and in similar activities for such organizations shall be subject to annual advance approval by the board and subject to the provisions of the Corporation's Statement of Ethical Conduct. All officers and employees shall serve at the pleasure of the board.

(2) NONPOLITICAL NATURE OF APPOINTMENT.—No political test or qualification shall be used in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking other personnel actions with respect to officers, agents, or employees of the Corporation.

(d) NONPROFIT AND NONPOLITICAL NATURE OF CORPORATION.—

(1) STOCK.—The Corporation shall have no power to issue any shares of stock, or to declare or pay any dividends.

(2) PROFIT.—No part of the income or assets of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any director, officer, employee, or any other individual except as salary or reasonable compensation for services.

(3) POLITICS.—The Corporation may not contribute to or otherwise support any political party or candidate for elective public office.

(4) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES.—It is the sense of Congress that the Corporation should not engage in lobbying activities (as defined in section 3(7) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (5 U.S.C. 1602(7)).

(e) DUTIES AND POWERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall develop and execute a plan—

(A) to provide useful information to foreign tourists, business people, students, scholars, scientists, and others interested in traveling to the United States, including the distribution of material provided by the Federal government concerning entry requirements, required documentation, fees, processes, and information concerning declared public health emergencies, to prospective travelers, travel agents, tour operators, meeting planners, foreign governments, travel media and other international stakeholders;

(B) to identify, counter, and correct misperceptions regarding United States entry policies around the world;

(C) to maximize the economic and diplomatic benefits of travel to the United States by promoting the United States of America to world travelers through the use of, but not limited to, all forms of advertising, outreach to trade shows, and other appropriate promotional activities;

(D) to ensure that international travel benefits all States and the District of Columbia and to identify opportunities and strategies to promote tourism to rural and urban areas equally, including areas not traditionally visited by international travelers; and

(E) to give priority to the Corporation's efforts with respect to countries and populations most likely to travel to the United States.

(2) SPECIFIC POWERS.—In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the Corporation may—

(A) obtain grants from and make contracts with individuals and private companies, State, and Federal agencies, organizations, and institutions;

(B) hire or accept the voluntary services of consultants, experts, advisory boards, and panels to aid the Corporation in carrying out its purposes; and

(C) take such other actions as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in this section.

(3) PUBLIC OUTREACH AND INFORMATION.—The Corporation shall develop and maintain a publicly accessible website.

(f) OPEN MEETINGS.—Meetings of the board of directors of the Corporation, including any committee of the board, shall be open to the public. The board may, by majority vote, close any such meeting only for the time necessary to preserve the confidentiality of commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential, to discuss personnel matters, or to discuss legal matters affecting the Corporation, including pending or potential litigation.

(g) MAJOR CAMPAIGNS.—The board may not authorize the Corporation to obligate or expend more than $25,000,000 on any advertising campaign, promotion, or related effort unless—

(1) the obligation or expenditure is approved by an affirmative vote of at least ⅔ of the members of the board present at the meeting;

(2) at least 6 members of the board are present at the meeting at which it is approved; and

(3) each member of the board has been given at least 3 days advance notice of the meeting at which the vote is to be taken and the matters to be voted upon at that meeting.

(h) FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(1) FISCAL YEAR.—The Corporation shall establish as its fiscal year the 12-month period beginning on October 1.

(2) BUDGET.—The Corporation shall adopt a budget for each fiscal year.

(3) ANNUAL AUDITS.—The Corporation shall engage an independent accounting firm to conduct an annual financial audit of the Corporation's operations and shall publish the results of the audit. The Comptroller General of the United States may review any audit of a financial statement conducted under this subsection by an independent accounting firm and may audit the Corporation's operations at the discretion of the Comptroller General. The Comptroller General and the Congress shall have full and complete access to the books and records of the Corporation.

(4) PROGRAM AUDITS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall conduct a review of the programmatic activities of the Corporation for Travel Promotion. This report shall be provided to appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 3. ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.

(a) OBJECTIVES.—The Board shall establish annual objectives for the Corporation for each fiscal year subject to approval by the Secretary of Commerce (after consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State). The Corporation shall establish a marketing plan for each fiscal year not less than 60 days before the beginning of that year and provide a copy of the plan, and any revisions thereof, to the Secretary.

(b) BUDGET.—The board shall transmit a copy of the Corporation's budget for the forthcoming fiscal year to the Secretary not less than 60 days before the beginning of each fiscal year, together with an explanation of any expenditure provided for by the budget in excess of $5,000,000 for the fiscal year. The Corporation shall make a copy of the budget and the explanation available to the public and shall provide public access to the budget and explanation on the Corporation's website.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Corporation shall submit an annual report for the preceding fiscal year to the Secretary of Commerce for transmittal to the Congress on or before the 15th day of May of each year. The report shall include—

(1) a comprehensive and detailed report of the Corporation's operations, activities, financial condition, and accomplishments under this Act;

(2) a comprehensive and detailed inventory of amounts obligated or expended by the Corporation during the preceding fiscal year;

(3) a detailed description of each in-kind contribution, its fair market value, the individual or organization responsible for contributing, its specific use, and a justification for its use within the context of the Corporation's mission;

(4) an objective and quantifiable measurement of its progress, on an objective-by-objective basis, in meeting the objectives established by the board;

(5) an explanation of the reason for any failure to achieve an objective established by the board and any revisions or alterations to the Corporation's objectives under subsection (a);

(6) a comprehensive and detailed report of the Corporation's operations and activities to promote tourism in rural and urban areas; and

(7) such recommendations as the Corporation deems appropriate.

(d) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts deposited in the Fund may not be used for any purpose inconsistent with carrying out the objectives, budget, and report described in this section.

SEC. 4. MATCHING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDING.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAVEL PROMOTION FUND.—There is hereby established in the Treasury a fund which shall be known as the Travel Promotion Fund.

(b) FUNDING.—

(1) START-UP EXPENSES.—For fiscal year 2010, the Secretary of the Treasury shall make available to the Corporation such sums as may be necessary, but not to exceed $10,000,000, from amounts deposited in the general fund of the Treasury from fees under section 217(h)(3)(B)(i)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(h)(3)(B)(i)(I)) to cover the Corporation's initial expenses and activities under this Act. Transfers shall be made at least quarterly, beginning on October 1, 2009, on the basis of estimates by the Secretary, and proper adjustments shall be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates were in excess or less than the amounts required to be transferred.

(2) SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—For each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014, from amounts deposited in the general fund of the Treasury during the preceding fiscal year from fees under section 217(h)(3)(B)(i)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(h)(B)(i)(I)), the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer not more than $100,000,000 to the Fund, which shall be made available to the Corporation, subject to subsection (c) of this section, to carry out its functions under this Act. Transfers shall be made at least quarterly on the basis of estimates by the Secretary, and proper adjustments shall be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates were in excess or less than the amounts required to be transferred.

(c) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No amounts may be made available to the Corporation under this section after fiscal year 2010, except to the extent that—

(A) for fiscal year 2011, the Corporation provides matching amounts from non-Federal sources equal in the aggregate to 50 percent or more of the amount transferred to the Fund under subsection (b); and

(B) for any fiscal year after fiscal year 2011, the Corporation provides matching amounts from non-Federal sources equal in the aggregate to 100 percent of the amount transferred to the Fund under subsection (b) for the fiscal year.

(2) GOODS AND SERVICES.—For the purpose of determining the amount received from non-Federal sources by the Corporation, other than money—

(A) the fair market value of goods and services (including advertising) contributed to the Corporation for use under this Act may be included in the determination; but

(B) the fair market value of such goods and services may not account for more than 80 percent of the matching requirement under paragraph (1) for the Corporation in any fiscal year.

(3) RIGHT OF REFUSAL.—The Corporation may decline to accept any contribution in-kind that it determines to be inappropriate, not useful, or commercially worthless.

(4) LIMITATION.—The Corporation may not obligate or expend funds in excess of the total amount received by the Corporation for a fiscal year from Federal and non-Federal sources.

(d) CARRYFORWARD.—

(1) FEDERAL FUNDS.—Amounts transferred to the Fund under subsection (b)(2) shall remain available until expended.

(2) MATCHING FUNDS.—Any amount received by the Corporation from non-Federal sources in fiscal year 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, or 2014 that cannot be used to meet the matching requirement under subsection (c)(1) for the fiscal year in which amount was collected may be carried forward and treated as having been received in the succeeding fiscal year for purposes of meeting the matching requirement of subsection (c)(1) in such succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 5. TRAVEL PROMOTION FUND FEES.

Section 217(h)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(h)(3)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) FEES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—No later than September 30, 2009, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a fee for the use of the System and begin assessment and collection of that fee. The initial fee shall be the sum of—

''(I) $10 per travel authorization; and

''(II) an amount that will at least ensure recovery of the full costs of providing and administering the System, as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) DISPOSITION OF AMOUNTS COLLECTED.—Amounts collected under clause (i)(I) shall be credited to the Travel Promotion Fund established by section 4 of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009. Amounts collected under clause (i)(II) shall be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury and made available to pay the costs incurred to administer the System.

''(iii) SUNSET OF TRAVEL PROMOTION FUND FEE.—The Secretary may not collect the fee authorized by clause (i)(I) for fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2014.''.

SEC. 6. ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Corporation may impose an annual assessment on United

States members of the international travel and tourism industry (other than those described in section 2(b)(1)(C) or (H)) represented on the Board in proportion to their share of the aggregate international travel and tourism revenue of the industry. The Corporation shall be responsible for verifying, implementing, and collecting the assessment authorized by this section.

(b) INITIAL ASSESSMENT LIMITED.—The Corporation may establish the initial assessment after the date of enactment of the Travel and Tourism Promotion Act at no greater, in the aggregate, than $20,000,000.

(c) REFERENDA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation may not impose an annual assessment unless—

(A) the Corporation submits the proposed annual assessment to members of the industry in a referendum; and

(B) the assessment is approved by a majority of those voting in the referendum.

(2) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting a referendum under this subsection, the Corporation shall—

(A) provide written or electronic notice not less than 60 days before the date of the referendum;

(B) describe the proposed assessment or increase and explain the reasons for the referendum in the notice; and

(C) determine the results of the referendum on the basis of weighted voting apportioned according to each business entity's relative share of the aggregate annual United States international travel and tourism revenue for the industry per business entity, treating all related entities as a single entity.

(d) COLLECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall establish a means of collecting the assessment that it finds to be efficient and effective. The Corporation may establish a late payment charge and rate of interest to be imposed on any person who fails to remit or pay to the Corporation any amount assessed by the Corporation under this Act.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The Corporation may bring suit in Federal court to compel compliance with an assessment levied by the Corporation under this Act.

(e) INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—Pending disbursement pursuant to a program, plan, or project, the Corporation may invest funds collected through assessments, and any other funds received by the Corporation, only in obligations of the United States or any agency thereof, in general obligations of any State or any political subdivision thereof, in any interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit of a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System, or in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.

SEC. 7. OFFICE OF TRAVEL PROMOTION.

Title II of the International Travel Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2121 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 201 the following:

"SEC. 202. OFFICE OF TRAVEL PROMOTION.

''(a) OFFICE ESTABLISHED.—There is established within the Department of Commerce an office to be known as the Office of Travel Promotion.

''(b) DIRECTOR.—

''(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Office shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary.

''(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Director shall be a citizen of the United States and have experience in a field directly related to the promotion of travel to and within the United States.

''(3) DUTIES.—The Director shall be responsible for ensuring the office is carrying out its functions effectively and shall report to the Secretary.

''(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Office shall—

''(1) serve as liaison to the Corporation for Travel Promotion established by section 2 of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009 and support and encourage the development of programs to increase the number of international visitors to the United States for business, leisure, educational, medical, exchange, and other purposes;

''(2) work with the Corporation, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security—

''(A) to disseminate information more effectively to potential international visitors about documentation and procedures required for admission to the United States as a visitor;

''(B) to ensure that arriving international visitors are generally welcomed with accurate information and in an inviting manner;

''(C) to collect accurate data on the total number of international visitors that visit each State; and

''(D) enhance the entry and departure experience for international visitors through the use of advertising, signage, and customer service; and

''(3) support State, regional, and private sector initiatives to promote travel to and within the United States.

''(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Within a year after the date of enactment of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009, and periodically thereafter as appropriate, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce, the House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security, and the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs describing the Office's work with the Corporation, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out subsection (c)(2).''.

SEC. 8. RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Title II of the International Travel Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2121 et seq.), as amended by section 7, is further amended by inserting after section 202 the following:

"SEC. 203. RESEARCH PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Travel and Tourism Industries shall expand and continue its research and development activities in connection with the promotion of international travel to the United States, including—

''(1) expanding access to the official Mexican travel surveys data to provide the States with traveler characteristics and visitation estimates for targeted marketing programs;

''(2) expanding the number of inbound air travelers sampled by the Commerce Department's Survey of International Travelers to reach a 1 percent sample size and revising the design and format of questionnaires to accommodate a new survey instrument, improve response rates to at least double the number of States and cities with reliable international visitor estimates and improve market coverage;

''(3) developing estimates of international travel exports (expenditures) on a State-by-State basis to enable each State to compare its comparative position to national totals and other States;

''(4) evaluate the success of the Corporation in achieving its objectives and carrying out the purposes of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009; and

''(5) research to support the annual reports required by section 202(d) of this Act.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.''.

SA 1348. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1347 proposed by Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

This section shall take effect 5 days after enactment.

SA 1349. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

At the end of the language proposed to be stricken, insert the following:

This section shall take effect 4 days after the date of enactment.

SA 1350. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment S. 1349, proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''3''.

SA 1351. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

At the end insert the following: This section shall become effective 2 days after enactment of the bill.

SA 1352. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1351 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

Strike ''2'' and insert ''1''

SA 1353. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1352 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 1351 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; as follows:

Strike ''1'' and insert ''immediately''

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commitee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the

session of the Senate on June 19, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. in room 325 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

MIAMI DADE COLLEGE LAND CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 814 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 814) to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of land held by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in Miami Dade County, Florida, to facilitate the construction of a new educational facility that includes a secure parking area for the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. 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, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 814) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 814

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Miami Dade College Land Conveyance Act''.

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF BUREAU OF PRISONS LAND TO MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

(a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—The Attorney General shall convey, without consideration, to Miami Dade College of Miami Dade County, Florida (in this section referred to as the ''College''), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of land held by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in Miami Dade County, Florida, consisting of a parking lot approximately 47,500 square feet and located at 35 NE 2 Street, for the purpose of permitting the College to use the parcel as a site for a new educational building that includes a parking area, of which not less than 118 secure parking spaces shall be designated for use by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice.

(b) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Attorney General determines at any time that the real property conveyed under subsection (a) is not being used in accordance with the purpose of the conveyance specified in such subsection, all right, title, and interest in and to the property shall revert, at the option of the Attorney General, to the United States, and the United States shall have the right of immediate entry onto the property. Any determination of the Attorney General under this subsection shall be made on the record after an opportunity for a hearing.

(c) SURVEY.—If the Attorney General considers it necessary, the Attorney General may have the exact acreage or square footage and legal description of the land to be conveyed under subsection (a) determined by a survey satisfactory to the Attorney General. The College shall bear the cost of the survey.

(d) EXEMPTION.—Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)) shall not apply to the conveyance of land under subsection (a).

RECOGNIZING THE DEMOCRATIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF ALBANIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 80, S. Res. 182.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 182) recognizing the democratic accomplishments of the people of Albania and expressing the hope that the parliamentary elections on June 28, 2009, maintain and improve the transparency and fairness of democracy in Albania.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 182) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 182

Whereas the people of Albania have made extraordinary progress from authoritarian government and a closed market to a democratic government and market economy in less than two decades;

Whereas the Republic of Albania, with the advice and consent of this Senate and the governments of the other member countries, was officially admitted to full membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on April 2, 2009;

Whereas the Thessaloniki Declaration of 2003 confirmed that the countries of the Western Balkans are eligible for accession to the European Union once they have fulfilled the requirements for membership; and

Whereas the Government of Albania has accepted numerous specific commitments governing the conduct of elections as a participating state in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) urges the Government of Albania to fulfill the commitments it has made to the OSCE with respect to the conduct of its upcoming elections, and to ensure that those elections are free and fair;

(2) urges the Government of Albania to expedite the implementation of its voter identification card program to minimize the possibility of disenfranchisement and provide as many cards as possible to eligible voters prior to the election;

(3) commends the positive step taken by the Government of Albania to reduce the cost of the voter ID card significantly and avoid charges of a poll tax; and

(4) expresses its hope that credible democratic elections in Albania will contribute to a strong and stable government responsive to the wishes of the people of Albania and strengthen Albania's standing within NATO and European institutions.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ALL IRANIAN CITIZENS WHO EMBRACE THE VALUES OF FREEDOM, HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND RULE OF LAW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 193, 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. 193) expressing support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, the resolution I submitted, on behalf of myself, Senator LIEBERMAN and others, is exactly the same as has been introduced by Congressmen BERMAN and PENCE in the House of Representatives. It is the exact same resolution. It expresses support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, rule of law, and for other purposes.

The resolution expresses its support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law, and for other purposes. It condemns the ongoing violence against demonstrators by the Government of Iran and progovernment militias as well as the ongoing government suppression of independent electronic communication through interference with the Internet and cell phones and affirms the universality of individual rights and the importance of democratic and fair elections.

Basically, what this is is a resolution that has been introduced in both Houses, which affirms America's fundamental respect and commitment to human rights, to people no matter where they reside in the world.

It is unfortunate, in a way, that this resolution is required since the administration does not want to ''meddle,'' and the President has refused to speak out in support of these brave Iranian citizens, most of them young, who are risking their very lives to protest what was clearly an unfair and corrupt election.

What we are seeing in Iran today is sort of a sequence of events that should worry all of us who have watched this before. The demonstrators, some beaten, some killed, the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei calls together the participants in the election and then says there should be no more demonstrations and strong action will be taken.

That is coupled with ejecting the world's media from Iran—first restricting it and then forcing them out so as not to record events. Unfortunately for the Iranian mullahs, Twitter has become an incredible means of communication, as well as cameras in cell phones. The word is still coming out as to the degree of oppression that is being practiced by the Iranian Government.

There is a lot I wish to say today about what is going on in Iran; the fact that we, the United States of America, have a long history of speaking out on behalf of people who are oppressed, who are victims of a corrupt election. We stood tall, America did, for the workers in Gdansk, in solidarity with Lech Walesa. We stood tall for the people of Prague during the Prague Spring, and we were not afraid, as Ronald Reagan was not, to go to the Berlin Wall and say ''Take down this wall,'' and call an evil empire what it was, an evil empire.

One of the ironies of this situation that I wish to address very briefly is that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's political adviser said Thursday that the United States will regret its interference in Iran's disputed election. In other words, our President says he does not want to go meddle and at the same time, of course, they are accusing us of doing exactly that.

He, the adviser, said:

> I hope in the case of the elections they realize their interference is a mistake and that they don't repeat this mistake. They will certainly regret this. They will have problems reestablishing relations with Iran.

In the history of this country, since July 4, 1776, we affirmed the fundamental rights of all people throughout the world, and that is the inalienable rights granted by our Creator to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That commitment to human rights was there then and it is there today. The United States of America must, and this body must, affirm our support for fundamental human rights of the Iranian people who are being beaten and killed in the streets of Tehran and other cities around Iran. We are with them.

It is not an accident that the signs ''Where is my vote?'' are in English. They are waiting for an expression of support from the Government and the people of the United States of America. I think this resolution is an important way to do so.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution 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. 193) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 193

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law;

(2) condemns the ongoing violence against demonstrators by the Government of Iran and pro-government militias, as well as the ongoing government suppression of independent electronic communication through interference with the Internet and cellphones; and

(3) affirms the universality of individual rights and the importance of democratic and fair elections.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN IRAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to S. Res. 196.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

> A resolution (S. Res. 196), expressing the sense of the Senate on freedom of the press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression in Iran.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 196) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 196

Whereas since the June 12 Iranian presidential elections, there have been increased restrictions on freedom of the press in Iran and limitations on the free flow of information among the Iranian people;

Whereas newspapers and news services have been restricted by the Government of Iran, preventing the publication of specific articles, blocking the transmission of some news broadcasts, and cancelling of foreign press credentials;

Whereas websites and blogs have been blocked in Iran, including social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter;

Whereas numerous Iranian journalists have been arrested, detained, imprisoned, or assaulted since June 12;

Whereas foreign journalists have been prevented from covering street demonstrations, confined to their hotels, and told their visas would not be renewed;

Whereas non-Iranian government news services, including the Associated Press, have been told they may not distribute Farsi-language reports;

Whereas Iranian journalists were instructed by the Government of Iran to report solely from their offices;

Whereas on June 13, the leading mobile phone operator in Iran, the government-owned Telecommunication Company of Iran, was suspended for over 24 hours;

Whereas short message service (SMS) in Iran has been blocked, preventing text message communications and blocking internet sites that utilize such services;

Whereas on June 14, an Al-Arabiya correspondent was instructed by the Iranian Ministry of Information to change a story and its Tehran bureau was subsequently closed;

Whereas shortwave and medium wave transmissions of the Farsi-language Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's (RFE/RL) Radio Farda have been partially jammed since June 12; and

Whereas satellite broadcasts, including those of the Voice of America's Persian News Networkand the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), have been intermittently jammed since late May: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) respects the sovereignty, proud history, and rich culture of the Iranian people;

(2) respects the universal values of freedom of speech and freedom of the press in Iran and throughout the world;

(3) supports the Iranian people as they take steps to peacefully express their voices, opinions, and aspirations;

(4) supports the Iranian people seeking access to news and other forms of information;

(5) condemns the detainment, imprisonment, and intimidation of all journalists, in Iran and elsewhere throughout the world;

(6) supports journalists who take great risk to report on political events in Iran, including those surrounding the presidential election;

(7) supports the efforts of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) to provide credible news and information within Iran through the Voice of America's (VOA) 24-hour television station Persian News Network, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's (RFE/RL) Radio Farda 24-hour radio station; and

(8) condemns acts of censorship, intimidation, and other restrictions on freedom of the press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression in Iran and throughout the world.

CONGRATULATING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to S. Res. 197.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

> A resolution (S. Res. 197), congratulating the men and women of the National Archives and Records Administration on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 197) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 197

Whereas the National Archives was established by Congress in 1934 to centralize Federal recordkeeping;

Whereas the National Archives, now called the National Archives and Records Administration (in this resolution referred to as ''NARA''), serves democracy in the United

States by ensuring that United States citizens can discover, use, and trust the records of the United States Government;

Whereas NARA has grown from one building along the National Mall to 38 facilities nationwide, from Atlanta to Anchorage;

Whereas NARA administers regional archives, Federal records centers, Presidential libraries, the Federal Register, and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission;

Whereas the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom serves as the permanent home of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights and makes these founding documents available to more than 1,000,000 visitors each year;

Whereas the first issue of the Federal Register was published on March 16, 1936, and the Federal Register has not missed a publication date since, providing orderly publication of the official actions of the Federal Government;

Whereas the Electronic Records Archives is laying the foundation for preserving and providing public access to historically valuable electronic records, ranging from vast, complex databases to documents that detail the making of foreign and domestic policies;

Whereas the Presidential libraries are great treasures of the United States, serving as repositories and preserving and making accessible the papers, records, and other historical materials of Presidents of the United States;

Whereas the National Personnel Records Center serves as the official repository for records of military personnel, responding to 2,000,000 requests a year by veterans and their families for documents to verify military service;

Whereas the Information Security and Oversight Office is responsible to the President for policy and oversight of the Government-wide security classification system and the National Industrial Security Program;

Whereas the National Historical Publications and Records Commission promotes the preservation and use of the documentary heritage of the United States, which is essential to understanding the democracy, history, and culture of the United States, by providing grants in support of the archives of the United States and for projects to edit and publish non-Federal historical records of national importance;

Whereas NARA holds records, in the National Archives Building and its regional facilities across the country, that allow naturalized citizens to claim their rights of citizenship;

Whereas NARA works with Federal agencies, researchers, genealogists, lawyers, scholars, and authors to respond to their evolving needs, requirements, and methods;

Whereas NARA provides records management training, enhances reference services, works with partners to digitize its holdings, and improves access to the records of the United States;

Whereas NARA provides, through its Internet site, easy and convenient public access to many of the most important and most requested historic documents and valuable databases of the United States; and

Whereas inscribed on the facade of the National Archives Building are Shakespeare's words, ''What is past is prologue'', which aptly describe the records of the past preserved by NARA as the groundwork for the future: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the men and women of the National Archives and Records Administration on the occasion of its 75th anniversary;

(2) understands the vital role that records play in a democracy;

(3) recognizes the service that NARA has given to the democracy of the United States by protecting and preserving the records of the United States Government; and

(4) commends the efforts by NARA to support democracy, promote civic education, and facilitate historical understanding of the national experience.

OBSERVING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to S. Res. 198.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 198), observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this week people all across the Nation are engaging in the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. It was in June of 1865, that the Union soldiers landed in Galveston, TX, with the news that the war had ended and that slavery finally had come to an end in the United States. This was 21½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation, which had become official January 1, 1863. This week and specifically on June 19, we celebrate what is known as ''Juneteenth Independence Day.'' It was on this date, June 19, that slaves in the Southwest finally learned of the end of slavery. Although passage of the thirteenth amendment in January 1863, legally abolished slavery, many African Americans remained in servitude due to the delayed dissemination of this news across the country.

Since that time, over 145 years ago, the descendants of slaves have observed this anniversary of emancipation as a remembrance of one of the most tragic periods of our Nation's history. The suffering, degradation and brutality of slavery cannot be repaired, but the memory can serve to ensure that no such inhumanity is ever perpetrated again on American soil.

All across America we also celebrate the many important achievements of former slaves and their descendants. We do so because in 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, son of former slaves, proposed such a recognition as a way of preserving the history of African Americans and recognizing the enormous contributions of a people of great strength, dignity, faith, and conviction—a people who rendered their achievements for the betterment and advancement of a nation once lacking in humanity towards them. Every February, nationwide, we celebrate African American History Month. And, every year on June 19, we celebrate ''Juneteenth Independence Day.''

Lerone Bennett, editor, writer and lecturer has reflected on the life and times of Dr. Woodson. Bennett tells us that one of the most inspiring and instructive stories in African American history is the story of Woodson's struggle and rise from the coal mines of West Virginia to the summit of academic achievement:

> At 17, the young man who was called by history to reveal Black history was an untutored coal miner. At 19, after teaching himself the fundamentals of English and arithmetic, he entered high school and mastered the four-year curriculum in less than two years. At 22, after two-thirds of a year at Berea College [in Kentucky], he returned to the coal mines and studied Latin and Greek between trips to the mine shafts. He then went on to the University of Chicago, where he received bachelor's and master's degrees, and Harvard University, where he became the second Black to receive a doctorate in history. The rest is history—Black history.

In keeping with the spirit and the vision of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, I would like to pay tribute to two courageous women, claimed by my home State of Michigan, who played significant roles in addressing American injustice and inequality. These are two women of different times who would change the course of history.

The contributions of Sojourner Truth, who helped lead our country out of the dark days of slavery, and Rosa Parks whose dignified leadership sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the start of the civil rights movement are indelibly etched in the chronicle of the history of this nation. Moreover, they are viewed with distinction and admiration throughout the world.

Sojourner Truth, though unable to read or write, was considered one of the most eloquent and noted spokespersons of her day on the inhumanity and immorality of slavery. She was a leader in the abolitionist movement, and a ground breaking speaker on behalf of equality for women. Michigan recently honored her with the dedication of the Sojourner Truth Memorial Monument, which was unveiled in Battle Creek, MI, on September 25, 1999. In April 2009, Sojourner Truth became the first African American woman to be memorialized with a bust in the U.S. Capitol. The ceremony to unveil Truth's likeness was appropriately held in Emancipation Hall at the Capitol Visitor Center. I was pleased to cosponsor the legislation to make this fitting tribute possible. Sojourner Truth lived in Washington, DC for several years, helping slaves who had fled from the South and appearing at women's suffrage gatherings. She returned to Battle Creek in 1875, and remained there until her death in 1883. Sojourner Truth spoke from her heart about the most troubling issues of her time. A testament to Truth's convictions is that her words continue to speak to us today.

On May 4, 1999, legislation was enacted which authorized the President of the United States to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks. I was pleased to coauthor this tribute to Rosa Parks—the gentle warrior who decided that she would no longer tolerate the humiliation and demoralization of racial segregation on a bus. I

was also pleased to coauthor legislation directing the Architect of the Capitol to commission a statue of Rosa Parks, which will be placed in the U.S. Capitol, making her the second African American woman to receive such an honor.

Her personal bravery and self-sacrifice are remembered with reverence and respect by us all. Over 55 years ago, in Montgomery, AL, the modern civil rights movement began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and move to the back of the bus. The strength and spirit of this courageous woman captured the consciousness of not only the American people, but the entire world. The boycott which Rosa Parks began was the beginning of an American revolution that elevated the status of African Americans nationwide and introduced to the world a young leader who would one day have a national holiday declared in his honor, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. President, we have come a long way toward achieving justice and equality for all. We still however have work to do. In the names of Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and many others, let us rededicate ourselves to continuing the struggle and the struggle for human rights.

In closing, I would like to pay tribute to the Juneteenth directors and event coordinators throughout my State of Michigan. They have worked tirelessly in the planning of intergenerational activities in celebration of Juneteenth. Ms. Marilyn Plumber is heading up three events in Lansing, MI, this week and coordinators in Flint, Detroit, Saginaw, and other areas around the State are observing Juneteenth through a wide range of programs over several days.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 198) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 198

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach frontier areas of the United States, and in particular the southwestern States, for more than 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued on January 1, 1863, and months after the conclusion of the Civil War;

Whereas, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free;

Whereas African-Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as ''Juneteenth Independence Day'', as the anniversary of their emancipation;

Whereas African-Americans from the Southwest continue the tradition of celebrating Juneteenth Independence Day as inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas for more than 140 years, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures;

Whereas although Juneteenth Independence Day is beginning to be recognized as a national, and even global, event, the history behind the celebration should not be forgotten; and

Whereas the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves remains an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the Nation;

(B) supports the continued celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past and to understand better the experiences that have shaped the Nation; and

(C) encourages the people of the United States to observe Juneteenth Independence Day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the celebration of the end of slavery is an important and enriching part of the history and heritage of the United States; and

(B) history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, June 22; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period of morning business for 1 hour, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 71, S. 1023, the Travel Promotion Act of 2009. Further, I ask that the time between 4:30 and 5:30 be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, and that the cloture vote on the Dorgan amendment occur at 5:30 p.m.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the filing deadline for first-degree amendments be 3:30 p.m. on Monday.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, because we were unable to reach agreement to begin the amendment process on the travel legislation, I filed cloture on the Dorgan amendment, as I have just announced, and the underlying bill in order to move along the process. We hope to be able to reach agreement on amendments prior to the cloture vote on Monday.

COMMENDING SENATOR MERKLEY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is now approaching 4 o'clock. The Presiding Officer has been in that chair since noon. That is a long time. I have sat there for a while but never as long as the Senator has—3 hours 40 minutes.

I have commented in recent days about the brilliance of the Senator from Oregon and the speech he gave on health care. There have been a lot of good speeches, but no one has given a better, more informative speech than the Senator from Oregon. I say that without any qualification.

The people from Oregon are fortunate to have the Senator from Oregon, JEFF MERKLEY. He is a wonderful human being, I say to everybody in Oregon—so well prepared, and he has extremely difficult committee assignments, which he handles with such confidence and grace. I appreciate very much the work he does for the State of Oregon and for our country.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 22, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:40 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 22, 2009, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

JOSEPH A. GREENAWAY, JR., OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT, VICE SAMUEL A. ALITO, JR., ELEVATED.

BEVERLY BALDWIN MARTIN, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT, VICE R. LANIER ANDERSON, III, RETIRED.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CRAIG E. HOOKS, OF KANSAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE LUIS LUNA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARK HENRY GITENSTEIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ROMANIA.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate, Friday, June 19, 2009:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

RAND BEERS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CATHERINE RADFORD ZOI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (ENERGY, EFFICIENCY, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY).

WILLIAM F. BRINKMAN, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ANNE CASTLE, OF COLORADO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HOWARD K. KOH, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

LAURIE I. MIKVA, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2010.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MARTHA J. KANTER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JANE OATES, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

HERBERT M. ALLISON, JR., OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JEFFREY D. ZIENTS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ANDREW J. SHAPIRO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (POLITICAL-MILITARY AFFAIRS).

ERIC P. SCHWARTZ, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION).

BONNIE D. JENKINS, OF NEW YORK, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS COORDINATOR FOR THREAT REDUCTION PROGRAMS.

ERIC P. GOOSBY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE AND COORDINATOR OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS GLOBALLY.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ZACHARY J. LEMNIOS, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING.

JAMIE MICHAEL MORIN, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

INEZ MOORE TENENBAUM, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION.

INEZ MOORE TENENBAUM, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2006.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES J. CARROLL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM T. LORD

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES W. KWIATKOWSKI
BRIGADIER GENERAL JEFFREY S. LAWSON
BRIGADIER GENERAL DEBORAH S. ROSE
BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWIN A. VINCENT, JR.

To be brigadier general

COLONEL STEPHEN M. ATKINSON
COLONEL PAUL L. AYERS
COLONEL DANIEL S.V. BADER
COLONEL DARYL L. BOHAC
COLONEL JOSEPH J. BRANDEMUEHL
COLONEL TIMOTHY T. DEARING
COLONEL SHARON S. DIEFFENDERFER
COLONEL JONATHAN S. FLAUGHER
COLONEL ROBERT M. GINNETTI
COLONEL JOHNATHAN H. GROFF
COLONEL JAMES D. HILL
COLONEL ZANE R. JOHNSON
COLONEL JOSEPH K. KIM
COLONEL KEITH I. LANG
COLONEL ROBERT W. LOVELL
COLONEL JOHN P. MCGOFF
COLONEL GUNTHER H. NEUMANN
COLONEL PAUL A. POCOPANNI, JR.
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER A. POPE
COLONEL CAROLYN J. PROTZMANN
COLONEL CARLOS E. RODRIGUEZ
COLONEL JOSE J. SALINAS
COLONEL WAYNE M. SHANKS
COLONEL WILLIAM H. SHAWVER, JR.
COLONEL JAMES C. WITHAM
COLONEL SALLIE K. WORCESTER
COLONEL WANDA A. WRIGHT
COLONEL WAYNE A. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8034:

To be general

GEN. CARROL H. CHANDLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL STEVEN J. ARQUIETTE
COLONEL ROBERT J. BELETIC
COLONEL SCOTT A. BETHEL
COLONEL CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR.
COLONEL SCOTT D. CHAMBERS
COLONEL CARY C. CHUN
COLONEL RICHARD M. CLARK
COLONEL DWYER L. DENNIS
COLONEL STEVEN J. DEPALMER
COLONEL IAN R. DICKINSON
COLONEL MARK C. DILLON
COLONEL SCOTT P. GOODWIN
COLONEL MORRIS E. HAASE
COLONEL JAMES E. HAYWOOD
COLONEL PAUL T. JOHNSON
COLONEL RANDY A. KEE
COLONEL JIM H. KEFFER
COLONEL JEFFREY B. KENDALL
COLONEL MICHAEL J. KINGSLEY
COLONEL STEVEN L. KWAST
COLONEL LEE K. LEVY II
COLONEL JERRY P. MARTINEZ
COLONEL JIMMY E. MCMILLIAN
COLONEL ANDREW M. MUELLER
COLONEL EDEN J. MURRIE
COLONEL TERRENCE J. O'SHAUGHNESSY
COLONEL DAVID E. PETERSEN
COLONEL TIMOTHY M. RAY
COLONEL JOHN W. RAYMOND
COLONEL JOHN N. T. SHANAHAN
COLONEL JOHN D. STAUFFER
COLONEL MICHAEL S. STOUGH
COLONEL MARSHALL B. WEBB
COLONEL ROBERT E. WHEELER
COLONEL MARTIN WHELAN
COLONEL KENNETH S. WILSBACH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. GILMARY M. HOSTAGE III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. GLENN F. SPEARS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DOUGLAS J. ROBB

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DENNIS L. VIA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL HAROLD G. BUNCH
BRIGADIER GENERAL STUART M. DYER
BRIGADIER GENERAL GLENN J. LESNIAK
BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES D. LUCKEY
BRIGADIER GENERAL JEFFREY W. TALLEY
BRIGADIER GENERAL LUIS R. VISOT

To be brigadier general

COLONEL MARK C. ARNOLD
COLONEL LAWRENCE W. BROCK III
COLONEL DWAYNE R. EDWARDS
COLONEL STEVEN J. FELDMANN
COLONEL FERNANDO FERNANDEZ
COLONEL JONATHAN G. IVES
COLONEL BUD R. JAMESON, JR.
COLONEL BRYAN R. KELLY
COLONEL JON D. LEE
COLONEL MARK T. MCQUEEN
COLONEL THERESE M. O'BRIEN
COLONEL LUCAS N. POLAKOWSKI
COLONEL PETER T. QUINN
COLONEL ROBERT L. WALTER, JR.
COLONEL JAMES T. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DAVID M. RODRIGUEZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT W. CONE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) KATHLEEN M. DUSSAULT
REAR ADM. (LH) MARK F. HEINRICH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JANICE M. HAMBY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) STEVEN R. EASTBURG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS P. MEEK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JOSEPH F. CAMPBELL
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN C. ORZALLI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) TOWNSEND G. ALEXANDER
REAR ADM. (LH) DAVID H. BUSS
REAR ADM. (LH) KENDALL L. CARD
REAR ADM. (LH) NEVIN P. CARR, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN N. CHRISTENSON
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL J. CONNOR
REAR ADM. (LH) KENNETH E. FLOYD
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM D. FRENCH
REAR ADM. (LH) PHILIP H. GREENE
REAR ADM. (LH) BRUCE E. GROOMS
REAR ADM. (LH) EDWARD S. HEBNER
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHELLE J. HOWARD
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM E. SHANNON III
REAR ADM. (LH) CHARLES E. SMITH
REAR ADM. (LH) SCOTT H. SWIFT
REAR ADM. (LH) DAVID M. THOMAS
REAR ADM. (LH) KURT W. TIDD
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL P. TILLOTSON
REAR ADM. (LH) MARK A. VANCE
REAR ADM. (LH) EDWARD G. WINTERS III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL W. BROADWAY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) SEAN F. CREAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) PATRICK E. MCGRATH
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN G. MESSERSCHMIDT
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL M. SHATYNSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. RON J. MACLAREN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ROBIN L. GRAF

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID G. RUSSELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. KURT L. KUNKEL
CAPT. JONATHAN A. YUEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. KATHERINE L. GREGORY
CAPT. KEVIN R. SLATES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. ANN E. RONDEAU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. JOSEPH D. KERNAN

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. RICHARD C. ZILMER

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEPHEN R. DASUTA AND ENDING WITH BETH M. DITTMER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF THOMAS J. SOBIESKI, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN E. BLAIR AND ENDING WITH PETER T. TRAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JOSHUA D. ROSEN, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARK W. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH STEVEN W. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JEFFREY A. LEWIS, TO BE COLONEL.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER L. ARNHEITER AND ENDING WITH JAMES W. TURONIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRET T. ACKERMANN AND ENDING WITH D060652, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KINDALL L. JONES AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM J. NOVAK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SHARON E. BLONDEAU AND ENDING WITH KAREN D. CHAMBERS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH REBECCA D. LANGE AND ENDING WITH ROBERT SANTIAGO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WALTER A. BEHNERT AND ENDING WITH ZACHARIAH P. WHEELER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ARTHUR R. BAKER AND ENDING WITH ANITA M. YEARLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DENNIS C. AYER AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY O. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL C. OGUINN AND ENDING WITH TRACY L. SMITH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LARRY D. BARTHOLOMEW AND ENDING WITH KENNETH A. WADE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAWN B. BARROWMAN AND ENDING WITH REBA J. MUELLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LAUREN J. ALUKONIS AND ENDING WITH LUCY D. WALKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PETER H. GUEVARA AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW A. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD CANER AND ENDING WITH CHARLES W. WHITE, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL J. BEAULIEU AND ENDING WITH JAMES A. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STUART W. SMYTHE, JR., TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF EDWARD P. NAESSENS, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DONALD R. ANDERSON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SANDRA M. KEAVEY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF THAMIUS J. MORGAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CONSTANCE ROSSER AND ENDING WITH AVERY E. DAVIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NORMA G. SANDOW AND ENDING WITH PAUL J. SINQUEFIELD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHARLES W. HIPP AND ENDING WITH ANITA M. KIMBROUGHJACOB, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL E. BANKS AND ENDING WITH RICK A. SHACKET, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CARLTON L. DAY AND ENDING WITH MARK W. WEISS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT W. CRAWLEY AND ENDING WITH JAMES T. ZAWROTNY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 18, 2009.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. CAPELLI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. HAUSCHEN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER G. BUCKLEY, TO BE LIEUTENANT.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARVIN F. BURGOS AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN ALAN CRISTINA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 20, 2009.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PAUL V. ACQUAVELLA AND ENDING WITH DAVID M. TULLY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW B. AARON AND ENDING WITH DAVID M. SILLDORFF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DALE E. CHRISTENSON AND ENDING WITH FRANK VACCARINO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THERESE D. CRADDOCK AND ENDING WITH LEITH S. WIMMER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT A. BENNETT AND ENDING WITH KENNETH S. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DONALD T. ALLERTON AND ENDING WITH TODD A. ZVORAK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT K. RINEER AND ENDING WITH MARY P. COLVIN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 21, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JUDI C. HERRING AND ENDING WITH LUIS M. TUMIALAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 1, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT G. AUTH AND ENDING WITH MARTHA P. VILLALOBOS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SALVADOR AGUILERA AND ENDING WITH DENNIS W. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL M. BATES AND ENDING WITH DAVID G. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN J. ADAMETZ AND ENDING WITH RICHARD L. WHIPPLE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KRISTEN ATTERBURY AND ENDING WITH CONSTANCE L. WORLINE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL L. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH DONALD J. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LUIS A. BENEVIDES AND ENDING WITH TIMOTHY H. WEBER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN A. ALEXANDER AND ENDING WITH PETER G. WOODSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 4, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT P. CLIFTON AND ENDING WITH PATRICK J. COOK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID J. BUTLER AND ENDING WITH JON E. CUTLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BARRY C. DUNCAN AND ENDING WITH JAMES E. PARKHILL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID A. BIANCHI AND ENDING WITH SARAH WALTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LISA M. BAUER AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH E. STRICKLAND, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CLEMIA ANDERSON, JR. AND ENDING WITH RICHARD C. VALENTINE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSEPH R. BRENNER, JR. AND ENDING WITH GREG A. ULSES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN G. BISCHERI AND ENDING WITH TODD J. SQUIRE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEFFREY A. BENDER AND ENDING WITH DAVID H. WATERMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT J. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH EDWARD B. ZELLEM, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICKEY S. BATSON AND ENDING WITH FRANK A. SHAUL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANGELA D. ALBERGOTTIE AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL L. THRALL,

WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL E. BEAULIEU AND ENDING WITH GREGORY A. MUNNING, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT F. ADLEY AND ENDING WITH PATRICK W. SMITH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL A. BALLOU AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN F. WILLIAMSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANN M. BURKHARDT AND ENDING WITH JACKLYN D. WEBB, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HEIDI C. AGLE AND ENDING WITH THOMAS A. ZWOLFER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JAMES F. ELIZARES, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF STACY R. STEWART, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEPHEN E. MARONICK AND ENDING WITH TAMARA A.L. SHELTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL T. BATES AND ENDING WITH GARY P. KIRCHNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GARY R. BARRON AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL M. NORMILE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSEPH R. DAVILA AND ENDING WITH JOHN M. TARPEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARCIA R. FLATAU AND ENDING WITH LINNEA J. SOMMERWEDDINGTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN W. HARRIS AND ENDING WITH GEORGE L. SNIDER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PAUL C. BURNETTE AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN S. JOYCE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 14, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DWAIN ALEXANDER II AND ENDING WITH THOMAS E. WALLACE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES F. ARMSTRONG AND ENDING WITH JULIE A. ZAPPONE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM E. BUTLER AND ENDING WITH JONATHAN D. WALLNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT J. CAREY AND ENDING WITH BRIAN S. VINCENT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 9, 2009.