CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

July 30, 1999

member and a chair of the Public Service Commission for several years. During that time, he demonstrated the ability to balance the diverse utility interests in our state. This was no easy task. Mississippi is the home to both public and private power companies, PUHCAs and providers of all sizes. Curt was also my representative in the Mississippi legislature where he did an excellent job. Curt has proven that he has the skills necessary to address the needs of each of these entities, while keeping the best interest of the consumer in mind.

Congress must recognize that national electric utility deregulation is on the horizon. How and when a new system will be created remains to be seen. What is certain, however, is that the FERC will be instrumental in guiding Congress toward competition in the utility industry. I am confident that Curt has the experience and insight necessary to help us reach the right balance of interests. Most importantly, Curt understands what deregulation means at the state level. Already, Congress has witnessed deregulation of several states, but Congress will value the FERC’s input concerning deregulation.

There is no industry as complex as the utility world—and none that impacts the lives of Americans more directly every hour of every day. The challenges ahead are great and must be tackled head on. There is denying that the FERC Commissioners have their work cut out for them.

I have enjoyed working with Curt, and spending time with his wife, Virginia, and their two children, Lane and Ashley. They are an authentic, Mississippi couple, and their two children, Lane and Ashley, are an authentic, Mississippi family. I am pleased that the Senate has unanimously consented Curt to become a member of the FERC, thus ensuring that the future of the electric utility industry is in good hands. I congratulate him on this accomplishment and wish him the best of luck in the future.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

REJECTING THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H. Con. Res. 107 be discharged from the HELP Committee and, further, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title:

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H. CON. RES. 107

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 107) was agreed to.

ORDERs for monDay, AuGUST 2, 1999

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until noon on Monday, August 2.

I further ask that when the Senate reconvenes on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business until 1 p.m., with Senators to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator Thomas for up to 30 minutes, and Senator Daschle, or his designee, for up to 30 minutes, beginning at noon on Monday.

Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that, at 1 p.m., the Senate proceed to S. 335, regarding sweepstakes, under the previous order, with a vote to occur on passage of the bill at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1233

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate proceeds to the Agriculture Appropriations bill, S. 1233, at 3 p.m. on Monday.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, when the Senate reconvenes on Monday, there will be an hour for morning business, to be followed by 2 hours for debate on the sweepstakes bill. At 3 p.m. on Monday, the Senate will resume the Agriculture Appropriations bill, and the next rollcall vote will occur at 5:30 p.m. Monday, August 2, on passage of S. 335. Additional votes could occur relative to the Agriculture Appropriations bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1999

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:37 p.m., adjourned until Monday, August 2, 1999, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate July 30, 1999:

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SUSAN M. VACHTER, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE MICHAEL A. STEGMAN, RESIGNED.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

ZELL MILLER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2000, VICE SIMON FERRO, TERM EXPIRED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive Nominations Confirmed by the Senate July 30, 1999:

REFORM BOARD (AMTRAK)

Sylvia de León, of Texas, to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak) for a term of five years.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

W. WHITTEN PETERS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Curt Berrett, Jr., of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the term expiring June 30, 2005.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

J. BRADLEY ANDERSON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Evelyn Simonowitz Lieberman, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

The above nominations were approved subject to the nominees’ commitment to respond to requests for appearances and testimony before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

The Judiciary

Charles R. Wilson, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

William Raskill, Alsup, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

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 601:

To be brigadier general

Col. Gary H. Murray, 0008

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: