

commerce, a high priority on its trade agenda and to work in good faith with our trading partners to encourage its continued growth. More specifically, it states that the U.S. should encourage members of the World Trade Organization to promote the development of infrastructures necessary for e-commerce and refrain from adopting measures that would constitute actual or potential trade barriers to electronic commerce. The resolution does not take policy positions on specific issues of international trade. It does take a first step in making sure that global e-commerce is an issue and an opportunity with which members of this body are familiar.

I respectfully urge all of my colleagues here in the Senate to show their support for U.S. consumer and commercial interests by joining Senator MCCAIN and me in sponsoring and working to pass this very important concurrent resolution.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
37—EXPRESSING THE
SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE
OF PROMOTING ELECTRONIC COMMERCE,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

S. CON. RES. 37

Whereas information technologies have spurred additional growth and efficiency for the United States economy, given consumers greater power and choice, and created new opportunities for entrepreneurs;

Whereas an estimated 60 percent of American businesses are involved in electronic commerce;

Whereas in 2000, business-to-consumer electronic transactions were estimated at \$61,000,000,000 and business-to-business electronic transactions at nearly \$200,000,000,000;

Whereas economists have shown that the higher a nation's Internet usage, the faster cross-border trade increases, especially among developing nations;

Whereas cross-border electronic commerce represents a revolutionary form of international trade, one that will provide new opportunities for growth, efficiency, and rising living standards in the United States and overseas;

Whereas in this era of policy development for global electronic commerce, certain policy measures could push Internet users into localized regions of the World Wide Web, significantly reducing long-term opportunities for growth and development;

Whereas the current World Trade Organization (WTO) trade rules, including (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the General Agreement on Trade in Services, and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property) apply to e-commerce;

Whereas the growth of international trade via global electronic commerce could be stunted by domestic policies or measures that have the effect of reducing or eliminating competition; and

Whereas carefully coordinated agreements that ensure open markets, broad access,

competition, and limited burdens on e-commerce can facilitate growth and development in the United States and overseas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary of Commerce and the United States Trade Representative should make the promotion of cross-border trade via electronic commerce a high priority;

(2) the United States should work in good faith with our trading partners to develop a cross-border trade regime that promotes the continued growth of electronic commerce and advances the interests of Internet buyers and sellers in different countries; and

(3) the United States should encourage members of the World Trade Organization to—

(A) promote the development of infrastructures that are necessary to conduct e-commerce;

(B) promote the development of trade in goods and services via e-commerce;

(C) ensure that products delivered electronically receive the most beneficial treatment available under trade agreements relating to similar products that are delivered physically, including market access and non-discriminatory treatment; and

(D) refrain from adopting measures that would constitute actual or potential trade barriers to electronic commerce, and ensure that all other measures are predictable and transparent.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 10 a.m., in open session to consider the nominations of Dr. David S.C. Chu to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Mr. Thomas E. White to be Secretary of the Army; Mr. Gordon England to be Secretary of the Navy; Mr. James G. Roche to be Secretary of the Air Force; and Mr. Alfred Rascon to be Director of Selective Service.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
AFFAIRS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, 2001, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. John E. Robson, of California, to be president of the Export-Import Bank; Mr. Peter R. Fisher, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance; and Mr. James J. Jochum, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration. The Committee will also vote on the nomination of Mr. Grant D. Aldonas, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; Mr. Kenneth I. Juster, of the

District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; Ms. Maria Cino, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service; and Mr. Robert Glenn Hubbard, of New York, to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisors.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The committee will receive testimony on the President's proposed budget for FY2002 for the Department of Energy.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on The Nation's Investment in Biomedical Research: Opportunities and Outcomes during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 10, 2001 at 2:45 p.m. in room 495 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an Oversight Hearing to receive the goals and priorities of the Alaska Native community for the 107th Congress.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, May 10, 2001 at 10:00 a.m., in SD226.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, 2001 at 11:30 a.m. to hold a closed briefing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. on Air Traffic Control.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, immediately following the Subcommittee on National Parks Historic Preservation and Recreation hearing, to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on H.R. 880, a bill to provide for all right, title, and interest in certain property in Washington County, UT, to be vested in the United States.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 10, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on the President's proposed budget for FY2002 for the National Park Service.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 10, 2001 at 10:15 a.m. to receive testimony regarding FY02 Budget requests for the Department of Transportation and the General Services Administration.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Christie Onoda and John Carwell of Senator DODD's staff be granted the privilege of the floor during the remainder of the debate on S. 1.

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

MODIFICATION OF AMENDMENT NO. 402

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the instruction line of amendment No. 402 be modified to conform to the pending Jeffords substitute amendment. Amendment No. 402 was previously agreed to.

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

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY WEEK

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 75 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 75) designating the week beginning May 13, 2001, as "National Biotechnology Week."

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

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 75) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 75

Whereas biotechnology is increasingly important to the research and development of medical, agricultural, industrial, and environmental products;

Whereas public awareness, education, and understanding of biotechnology is essential for the responsible application and regulation of this new technology;

Whereas biotechnology has been responsible for breakthroughs and achievements that have benefited people for centuries and contributed to increasing the quality of human health care through the development of vaccines, antibiotics, and other drugs;

Whereas biotechnology is central to research for cures to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, heart and lung disease, Alzheimer's disease, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and innumerable other medical ailments;

Whereas biotechnology contributes to crop yields and farm productivity, and enhances the quality, value, and suitability of crops for food and other uses that are critical to the agriculture of the United States;

Whereas biotechnology promises environmental benefits including protection of water quality, conservation of topsoil, improvement of waste management techniques, reduction of chemical pesticide usage, production of renewable energy and biobase products, and cleaner manufacturing processes;

Whereas biotechnology contributes to the success of the United States as the global leader in research and development, and international commerce;

Whereas biotechnology will be an important catalyst for creating more high-skilled jobs throughout the 21st century and will lead the way in reinvigorating rural economies; and

Whereas it is important for all Americans to understand the beneficial role bio-

technology plays in improving quality of life and protecting the environment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning May 13, 2001, as "National Biotechnology Week"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—S. 821

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 821 and that the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 106-554, appoints the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) to the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Education Foundation.

The Chair, on behalf of the democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 100-696, announces the appointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission, vice the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of the following nominations, reported by the Judiciary Committee: Daniel Bryant, PN 214; Larry Thompson, PN 200; reported by the Banking Committee: Grant Aldonas, PN 216, Robert Hubbard, PN 264, Kenneth Juster, PN 192.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Larry D. Thompson, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Daniel J. Bryant, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Kenneth I. Juster, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.