

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 3, 2005, at 10 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on U.S. military operations and stabilization activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BENNETT. 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, February 3, at 10 a.m., to receive testimony regarding forecasting the future: U.S. energy challenges in the global context.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, February 3, 2005 at 9:30 a.m., in the Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 226.

*Agenda:*

Legislation: S. 5, Class Action Fairness Act of 2005; GRASSLEY, FEINSTEIN, HATCH, KOHL, KYL, SCHUMER, SESSIONS.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 3, 2005, for a full committee hearing on Benefits for Survivors.

The hearing will take place in Room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet today, Thursday, February 3, 2005, from 2 p.m.–5 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

THE WEEK IN THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, after the first complete week that we have been

in session, looking back over the last several days, we have had a productive week. Today, we confirmed Judge Alberto Gonzales as U.S. Attorney General. I talked to him a few moments ago. As we heard from so many, Judge Gonzales is an outstanding choice to lead the Justice Department. In that phone call, I had the opportunity to congratulate him and to express my optimistic anticipation of working with him in what I know will be a very productive and important several years.

From very humble beginnings in Humble, TX, he has climbed to those highest peaks, in Government and law. As friend and fellow Texan Henry Cisneros attests, Judge Gonzales has a personal story that allows him to understand the realities so many Americans face in their everyday lives.

A former Texas Supreme Court Justice, over the last 4 years as White House Counsel to the President, Judge Gonzales is eminently qualified to be our Nation's top law enforcement officer.

Candid and thoughtful and always a straight shooter, for him the law is the law—exactly what is needed for this high post. I am confident he will serve with distinction and with honor. I applaud his confirmation.

In addition to confirming Judge Gonzales, we passed the Family Entertainment and Copyright Act of 2005 this week. It didn't get a lot of fanfare, but this new legislation is another very important tool to help families protect their children from violent and explicit movie content. We have the V-chip, and we have television ratings. Now parents will have even more ways to stop inappropriate images from coming into and flooding their homes.

As Senator HATCH, the lead sponsor of this bill, says, parents, not Hollywood, should decide what kids see today.

The bill also provides a uniform Federal law to help crack down on international piracy, which is a huge problem in a creative industry.

I mention that, in part, because I am from a part of the country in Tennessee that has a rich music tradition, extending from the Grand Ole Opry to the Country Music Hall of Fame. From Elvis Presley to Johnny Cash, throughout Tennessee, artists and musicians have shaped popular music the world over.

Their contributions deserve to be celebrated. But they also deserve to be protected. That is what this legislation does. The legislation will help stop the Internet theft that threatens this creative industry and, indeed, the creative arts more broadly.

I thank Senator ORRIN HATCH, Senator PATRICK LEAHY, Senator JOHN CORNYN, who is occupying the Chair, and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN for their hard work on this important issue.

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a final note, tomorrow, February 4—I mention this because we will not be in session tomorrow—is called National Wear Red Day. So I put my red tie on a little bit earlier, and I will be wearing it tomorrow because tomorrow all across the country men and women will be wearing this red color of dress, or pant suit, or tie, or maybe jackets, all to raise awareness for heart disease in women.

A lot of people do not realize that this year more women will die of heart disease than men. People think heart disease, unfortunately, is a men's disease. More women will die of heart disease than men. It is true this year, last year, the year before that—all the way back to 1984. It is a fact.

Last week, I had the pleasure of joining WomenHeart, which is the Nation's only patient advocacy organization for women with heart disease. I shared my experiences with them as a heart surgeon, as a heart and lung transplant surgeon, and the importance of awareness of early detection and prevention and treatment.

It is not a "man's disease" and it is not an "elderly disease." It is a disease that affects all people. There are over 8 million women nationwide who have heart disease right this very second. That is more than the number of women—if you added them together—in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

Women who experience heart problems—it is interesting—die at a higher rate after their first heart attack than men. So you have a man and woman, they both have a heart attack, but the woman is more likely to die of a heart attack. We don't know exactly why that is the case, which is one of the things we need to continue to investigate.

In my own State of Tennessee, the death rate for women with heart disease is 70 percent higher than men.

These are the sorts of observations of phenomena that need to be even more aggressively investigated. And part of wearing red tomorrow is this awareness—the necessity of research, the focus on prevention and diagnosis of heart disease in women.

We have made huge strides in treating heart disease in women.

In January, the American Cancer Society released its annual statistical report, citing that mortality rates for heart disease are dropping dramatically. I am encouraged by this news. But we can't be complacent. Heart disease is still the second leading cause of death in the United States.

While we can't control our genes—which is a large predeterminant—we can eat a healthy diet, get active, stay in shape, absolutely stop smoking, and reduce stress in our daily lives.

Those are all the controllable variables which we know can have a dramatic impact on improving quality of

life, if you have heart disease, or avoiding heart disease altogether. If we live by these very simple principles, we can live a healthier life and have a more optimistic outlook on life.

In celebration of National Wear Red Day, in the spirit of the Heart Truth Campaign, I call upon each and every American to take action—take charge of your health and this Friday wear red.

I actually have a little pin on as well that has a red dress. You will see a lot of women wearing red dresses tomorrow.

By encouraging awareness, you will help women across the country—mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends—to learn the facts about this deadly disease.

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#### APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, after consultation with the members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Aging, pursuant to Public Law 100-175, as amended by Public Laws 102-375, 103-171, and 106-501, appoints the following individual as a member of the Policy Committee to the White House Conference on Aging: the Honorable HARRY REID of Nevada.

Mr. REID. Every 10 years, the President convenes a White House Conference on Aging—WHCoA. It conducts extensive work to understand and develop policy recommendations on issues of critical importance to our seniors.

The WHCoA is made up of a Policy Committee recommended by Congress and the President from the public and private sector. The work of the committee culminates in the October WHCoA which will be attended by 12,000 delegates and other officials. The theme of this year's conference, "The Booming Dynamics of Aging: From Awareness to Action" will deal with a broad range of issues from workplace opportunities for older workers to health care and access to affordable prescription drugs.

Following the October meeting, WHCoA formulates a series of policy recommendations for Congress and the President.

Senator Daschle was gracious enough to place me on the policy committee because of my strong interest in the topics it would consider. Many of those issues are of critical importance to Ne-

vadans. In particular, I assumed a position on the Health and Long Living Subcommittee because its work will focus on access to care and affordable prescription drugs, disease prevention and quality of care.

Today, I have decided to pass the torch of this important post to my friend and colleague, Thomas E. Gallagher. These issues are near to his heart. Tom will be an important voice on the WHCoA for Nevadans and all Americans.

Tom's extensive private sector experience will be a great asset to the conference as it works to formulate recommendations to Congress. Through his work as chief executive officer—CEO—chief administrative officer and general counsel of several Fortune 500 Companies, Tom became intimately familiar with the health care challenges facing the business community.

For example, as President and CEO of Park Place Entertainment—now Caesars Entertainment—Mr. Gallagher reached a historic contract with Nevada's Culinary Union resulting in fully paid health care and free prescription drugs for employees, as well as retiree benefits for seniors.

Prior to his corporate management work, Tom was a partner in Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, specializing in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions. He graduated magna cum laude from the College of Holy Cross in Worcester, MA in 1966. He graduated from Harvard Law School with honors in 1969 and was the Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Journal on Legislation.

I plan to work closely with Tom as he works on the WHCoA on meetings to help ensure that the issues and view of Nevadans are explored in the listening sessions, solution meetings and other WHCoA events.

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#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate begin consideration of S. 5, the class action bill, on Monday, February 7, at a time to be determined by the majority leader after consultation with the Democratic leader; that Monday's consideration be limited to debate only; that during the consideration of the bill amendments be limited to those which are related to the subject matter of the bill.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 7.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate begin a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; provided that at 3 p.m. the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 5, the class action bill, as provided under the previous order.

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

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#### PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on Monday, following morning business, the Senate will begin consideration of the class action bill. The managers of the bill will be here on Monday. I encourage Members to make themselves available for opening statements. The previous order provides for debate only on the class action bill during Monday's session, and I expect we will start the amendment process early on Tuesday.

I would also announce to my colleagues that we are working on a resolution relating to the recent elections in Iraq. It is our intent to have a vote on that resolution on Monday evening at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Again, we do not have that locked in, but we will be working in good faith on the final language and agreement for that 5:30 vote.

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#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2005, AT 2 P.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:07 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 7, 2005, at 2 p.m.

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#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate: Thursday, February 3, 2005:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*To be attorney general*

ALBERTO R. GONZALES, OF TEXAS