

Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; and S. 429, a bill to establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 15, 2005, at 10 a.m. for a hearing entitled, "Critical Mission: Ensuring the Success of the National Security Personnel System."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY, AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittees on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Openness in Government and Freedom of Information: Examining the OPEN Government Act of 2005," on Tuesday, March 15, 2005, at 10 a.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The tentative witness list is attached.

Panel I: Katheryn M. "Missy" Cary, Assistant Attorney General of Texas, Chief, Open Records, Division, Austin, TX; Walter Mears, former Washington Bureau chief and Executive Editor, Associated Press, Chapel Hill, NC; Marck Tapscott, Director, Center for Media and Public Policy, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC; Lisa Graves, Senior Counsel for Legislative Strategy, American Civil Liberties Union, Washington, DC; Meredith Fuchs, General Counsel, National Security Archive, George Washington University, Washington, DC; and Thomas M. Susman, Ropes & Gray LLP, Washington, DC.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows and interns of the Finance Committee be granted floor privileges during consideration of the budget resolution: Brian Townsend, Mary Baker, Janis Lazda, Richard Litsey, Cuong Huynh, David Schwartz, Stuart Sirkin, Janellen Duffy, Ashley Fingarson, Jessica Heringer, Serena Maxwell, Jesse Woodson, Briana Schwandt, Emily Meeker, Waylon Mathern, and Adrienne Frazier.

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

APPOINTMENT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-83, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as members of the National Council on the Arts: the Senator from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY; vice, the Senator from Nevada, Mr. REID.

The Chair, pursuant to Executive Order 12131, as amended, appoints the following Members to the President's Export Council: the Senator from Montana, Mr. BAUCUS; the Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN.

REAUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1160, which was received from the House.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1160) to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through June 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 1160) was read the third time and passed.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2005

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, the Senate adjourn until 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 16. I further ask 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 then resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 18, the budget resolution; provided further that Senator FEINSTEIN then be recognized for 20 minutes as provided under the previous order; further, that following those remarks, Senator SPECTER be recognized to offer the NIH amendment under the limitations provided under the earlier agreement.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will resume consideration of the budget resolution. We will continue the amendment process tomorrow morning. Under the previous order, we will conclude debate on five amendments during tomorrow morning's session. It is anticipated that we will have votes in relation to all five of these amendments around 1 p.m. tomorrow, and we will keep Senators posted as to the timing of these stacked series of votes.

For the remainder of the day, the Senate will continue working through the amendments on the budget resolution. We have made good progress on the resolution thus far, but we still have a long way to go prior to passage. We will be very busy over the next couple of days, and Senators should continue to make themselves available for the remainder of the week.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CRAIG. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator HARKIN for up to 10 minutes.

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

The Senator from Iowa.

PERKINS VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment that I just sent to the desk. It is pending. I will not call it up now or ask unanimous consent, but I will do so at some point, probably tomorrow. I want to take this time to at least lay out the reasons for this amendment and what it does, because I know what the crunch will be like tomorrow when we come back here.

The budget resolution for fiscal year 2006 basically eliminates funding for an enormously effective and popular education program called the Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act. The straightforward purposes of my amendment, which I will offer for myself, Senator DURBIN, Senator MURRAY, and others, are, first, to restore funding to the Perkins Vocational Education Act; second, to reduce the deficit; and, third, to offset the costs by rescinding two tax-cut provisions in the 2001 tax bill.

These tax-cut provisions, the so-called PEP and Pease phaseout provisions, are scheduled to start taking effect next year for the first time.

President Kennedy used to say that to govern is to choose. Right now the budget resolution chooses very unwisely. It eliminates funding for a critical education program, vocational