

(A) shall transmit to Congress and that member a notification of the intent to postpone the member's return from overseas service; and

(B) if the Secretary has received from such member a standing request to notify someone in the member's family or the member's employer (or both) of any postponement of the member's employer (or both) of any postponement of the member's date of expected return from overseas service, shall transmit to the requested recipient or recipients, as the case may be, a notification of the intent to postpone the member's return from overseas service.

(c) The Secretary of defense shall prescribe in regulations a process for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces to submit to the Secretary standing requests for notifications of family members or employers under subsections (a)(2)(B) and (b)(2)(B).

(d) The Secretary of Defense may waive the requirements of subsection (a) or (b) in any case in which the Secretary determines that it is necessary to do so to respond to a national security emergency or to meet dire operational requirements of the Armed Forces.

SA 1858. Mr. NELSON of Florida proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1689, making emergency supplemental appropriations for Iraq and Afghanistan security and reconstruction for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2313. Of the amounts appropriated by chapter 2 of this title under the heading "OTHER BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT" under the heading "IRAQ RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION FUND", other than amounts available under such heading for security (including public safety requirements, national security, and justice), \$10,000,000 shall be available only for the Family Readiness Program of the National Guard.

SA 1859. Mr. REID (for Ms. LANDRIEU) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1689, making emergency supplemental appropriations for Iraq and Afghanistan security and reconstruction for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 38, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2313. (a) The President shall direct the head of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, in coordination with the Governing Council of Iraq or a successor governing authority in Iraq, to establish an Iraq Reconstruction Finance Authority. The purpose of the Iraq Reconstruction Finance Authority shall be to obtain financing for the reconstruction of the infrastructure in Iraq by collateralizing the revenue from future sales of oil extracted in Iraq. The Iraq Reconstruction Finance Authority shall obtain financing for the reconstruction of the infrastructure in Iraq through—

(1)(A) issuing securities or other financial instruments; or

(B) obtaining loans on the open market from private banks or international financial institutions; and

(2) to the maximum extent possible, securitizing or collateralizing such securities, instruments, or loans with the revenue from the future sales of oil extracted in Iraq.

(b) It is the policy of the United States that payment of the cost of reconstruction in Iraq, other than payment made with funds made available in this title under the sub-

heading "IRAQ RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION FUND" under the heading "OTHER BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT" or made available by a foreign country or an appropriate international organization, should be the responsibility of the Iraq Reconstruction Finance Authority.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet at 9 a.m., Tuesday, October 28, 2003, in Room 301 Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a confirmation hearing on four Presidential nominees to the Election Assistance Commission.

The nominees are Paul S. DeGregorio (R) of Missouri (2 year term); Gracia M. Hillman (D) of the District of Columbia (2 year term); Deforest "Buster" Soaries (R) of New Jersey (4 year term); and Raymundo Martinez III (D) of Texas (4 year term).

For further information concerning this meeting, please contact Susan Wells at 202-224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. 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 October 15, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a markup of S. 811, the "American Dream Downpayment Act", of S. 300, the "Jackie Robinson Congressional Gold Medal bill." The committee will also vote on the nominations of Mr. Harvey S. Rosen, of New Jersey, and Ms. Kristin J. Forbes, of Massachusetts, to be members of the Council of Economic Advisors; Ms. Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement; and Mr. Peter Lichtenbaum, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.

Following the votes, the Subcommittee on Securities and Investment will meet in open session to conduct a hearing on "The Future of the Securities Markets."

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Wednesday, October 15, at 9:30 to conduct a business meeting to consider legislation S. 1643, S. 1066, S. 1663, and S. 1669, and the nomination of Michael O. Leavitt, to be Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The meeting will take place in SD 406, hearing room.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on "Company Owned Life Insurance."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing on The Middle East Road Map: Overcoming Obstacles to Peace.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at 10 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a Hearing on S. 550, the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2003.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a Judicial Nominations hearing on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in the Dirksen Office Building room 226.

Agenda

Panel I: Senators.

Panel II: D. Michael Fisher to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Panel III: Dale S. Fisher to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California; Gary L. Sharpe to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. on "Indecent Exposure: Oversight of DOJ's Efforts to Protect Pornography's Victims," in the Dirksen Senate Office Building room 226.

Witness List

Panel 1: Mr. John Malcolm, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, Washington D.C.; Mr. J. Robert Flores, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Department of Justice, Washington D.C.; Mr. Lawrence E. Maxwell, Inspector in Charge, Fraud and Dangerous Mail Investigations, United States Postal Inspectors, Washington D.C.; Honorable Mary Beth Buchanan, U.S. Attorney

for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA.

Panel 2: Mr. Bruce A. Taylor, President and Chief Counsel, National Law Center for Children and Families, Fairfax, VA; Mr. Victor Cline, Emeritus Professor, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT; Mr. Steve Takeshita, Officer in Charge, Pornography Unit, Organized Crime and Vice Division, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles, CA.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 15, at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 943, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into one or more contracts with the city of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the storage of water in the Kendrick project; S. 1027 and H.R. 2040, bills to amend the Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act of 1998 to extend certain contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and certain irrigation water contractors in the States of Wyoming and Nebraska; S. 1058, a bill to provide a cost-sharing requirement for the construction of the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the State of Colorado; S. 1071, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on a water conservation project within the Arch Hurley Conservancy District in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; S. 1307, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to assist in the implementation of fish passage and screening facilities at non Federal water projects, and for other purposes; S. 1308, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to pursue and complete actions related to the implementation of a U.S. District of a U.S. district court consent decree; S. 1355, a bill to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the rehabilitation of the Wallowa Lake Dam in Oregon, and for other purposes; S. 1577, a bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Wyoming; H.R. 1284, a bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to increase the Federal share of the costs of the San Gabriel Basin Demonstration Project; and S. Res. 183, a resolution commemorating 50 years of adjudication under the McCarran amendment of rights to the use of water.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Darcy Zotter, a fel-

low on Senator HARKIN's staff, be given floor privileges for the duration of the consideration of this bill.

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

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 243 introduced earlier today by Senator REED of Rhode Island.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 243) designating the week of October 19, 2003, through October 25, 2003, as National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.

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

Mr. BURNS. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, all with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 243) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 243

Whereas lead poisoning is a leading environmental health hazard to children in the United States;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 434,000 preschool children in the United States have harmful levels of lead in their blood;

Whereas lead poisoning may cause serious, long-term harm to children, including reduced intelligence and attention span, behavior problems, learning disabilities, and impaired growth;

Whereas children from low-income families are 8 times more likely to be poisoned by lead than are children from high-income families;

Whereas children may be poisoned by lead in water, soil, or consumable products;

Whereas children most often are poisoned in their homes through exposure to lead particles when lead-based paint deteriorates or is disturbed during home renovation and repainting; and

Whereas lead poisoning crosses all barriers of race, income, and geography: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 19, 2003, through October 25, 2003, as "National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention 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 and activities.

TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO PUBLIC PRINTER

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3229, which is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3229) to amend title 44, United States Code, to transfer to the Public Printer the authority over the individuals responsible for preparing indexes on the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3229) was read the third time and passed.

CHECK CLEARING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT-CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I submit a report of the committee of conference on the bill (H.R. 1474), and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1474), to facilitate check truncation by authorizing substitute checks, to foster innovation in the check collection system without mandating receipt of checks in electronic form, and to improve the overall efficiency of the Nation's payments system, and for other purposes, having met, have agreed that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report.

(The conference report is printed in the proceedings of the House in the RECORD of October 1, 2003.)

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I support the conference report to the Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act or Check 21 Act. This is an important piece of legislation and a high priority for the Federal Reserve Board. I commend Chairman SHELBY for his leadership on this issue. Senators JOHNSON, CARPER, MILLER and BENNETT also played important roles in developing this legislation. The Check 21 Act enjoys broad bipartisan support. The conference report passed the House of Representatives unanimously on October 9th. Earlier this year both Houses of Congress passed similar bills by unanimous vote.

This legislation is designed to allow banks to use electronic images of checks to expedite check collection and processing. Current law requires a bank that receives a deposited check to physically return the check to the