

from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE], and the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. SIMPSON] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 224, a resolution to designate September 23, 1996, as "National Baseball Heritage Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 226

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from New York [Mr. D'AMATO] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 226, a resolution to proclaim the week of October 13 through October 19, 1996, as "National Character Counts Week."

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Energy Research and Development.

The hearing will take place Wednesday, March 20, 1996, at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1077, a bill to authorize research, development, and demonstration of hydrogen as an energy carrier, and for other purposes, S. 1153, a bill to authorize research, development, and demonstration of hydrogen as an energy carrier, and a demonstration-commercialization project which produces hydrogen as an energy source produced from solid and complex waste for on-site use in fuel cells, and for other purposes, and H.R. 655 a bill to authorize the hydrogen research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Judy Brown or David Garman at (202) 224-8115.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce that a full committee hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Thursday, March 14, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1425, a bill to recognize the validity of rights-of-way granted under section 2477 of the Revised Statutes, and for other purposes. It will also address the Department of the Interior's July 29, 1994, proposed regulations regarding R.S. 2477 rights-of-way.

Those who wish to testify or to submit written testimony should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Presentation of oral testi-

mony is by committee invitation. For further information, please contact Jo Meuse or Brian Malnak at (202) 224-6730.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the District of Columbia, Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold a hearing on Friday, March 8, 1996, at 9:30 a.m., in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, on oversight of governmentwide travel management.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 1996, in open session, to receive testimony on the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 1997 and the future years Defense program.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on HUD Oversight and Structure, of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 5, 1996, to conduct a hearing on oversight of the Office of HEO and implementation of the 1992 Federal Housing Enterprises Safety and Soundness Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 5, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nominations of Thomas Paul Grumbly to the Under Secretary of Energy; Alvin L. Alm to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management; Charles William Burton and Christopher M. Coburn to be members of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Tuesday, March 5, at 9:30 a.m. for a hearing on S. 1376, the Corporate Subsidy Review, Reform and Termination Act of 1995.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 5, 1996, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on "A Decade Later: The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act."

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, The Committee on Veterans' Affairs asks unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The hearing will be held on March 5, 1996, at 9:30 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SUPPORT OF NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, today marks the sixth annual celebration of National Sportsmanship Day. Designed to promote ethics, integrity, and good sportsmanship in athletics, as well as in society as a whole, National Sportsmanship Day was established by the Institute for International Sport at the University of Rhode Island.

As my colleagues may recall, the Institute for International Sport gained national attention 3 years ago as the sponsor of the inaugural World Scholar-Athlete Games in Newport, RI. More than 1,600 student-athletes from 108 countries participated in athletic and scholastic competitions. In 1995, the institute sponsored the Rhode Island Scholar-Athlete Games, which served as a model for similar contests across the country.

Schools and colleges from across the United States are encouraged to participate in National Sportsmanship Day. This year, some 6,000 schools representing all 50 States and 61 nations are expected to take part in the celebration. Working with material provided by the institute, classrooms around the globe will take this opportunity to debate questions related to gender equity, competition, and fair play. In addition, for the third year in a row USA Today is sponsoring a national essay contest.

Another key component of National Sportsmanship Day is the Student-Athlete Outreach Program. This program encourages high schools and colleges to send talented student-athletes to local elementary and middle schools to promote good sportsmanship and serve as positive role models. These students help young people build self-esteem, respect for physical fitness, and an appreciation for the value of teamwork.

National Sportsmanship Day is recognized by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. In a letter to the institute, Florence Griffith

Joyner and Tom McMillen, cochairs of the President's Council, point out "the valuable life skills and lessons that are learned by youth and adults through participation in sports." I will ask that the full text of the letter be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

I am delighted that National Sportsmanship Day was initiated in Rhode Island and I applaud all the students and teachers who are participating in this inspiring event today. Likewise, I congratulate all of those at the Institute for International Sport, whose hard work and dedication over the last 6 years have made this program so successful.

I ask that the letter be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows:

THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS,
WASHINGTON, DC, March 1996.

The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports is pleased to recognize March 5, 1996, as National Sportsmanship Day. The valuable life skills and lessons that are learned by youth and adults through participation in sports cannot be overestimated.

Participation in sports contributes to all aspects of our lives, such as heightened awareness of the value of fair play, ethics, integrity, honesty and sportsmanship, as well as improving levels of physical fitness and health.

The President's Council congratulates the Institute for International Sport for its continued leadership in organizing this important day. We wish you every success in your efforts to broaden participation in and awareness of National Sportsmanship Day.

FLORENCE GRIFFITH
JOYNER,
Co-Chair.
TOM McMILLEN,
Co-Chair. •

DIGITAL BROADCAST SPECTRUM AUCTIONS: CONSUMERS WILL PAY THE HIGHEST PRICE

THERE IS NO SPECTRUM GIVEAWAY

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the Senate majority leader has said that he intends to stop the big spectrum giveaway in the telecommunications bill. The Senator from Kansas is referring to spectrum that the FCC has set aside for broadcasters to use to convert to digital television. He wants this spectrum to be put up for auction, which he believes will net billions of dollars in revenues for the Federal Treasury. And the chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee has announced that he will soon hold hearings on this issue.

I don't think the real question is not whether there should be auctions of broadcast spectrum. Rather, the question is when. Some, like the majority leader, have proposed up front auctions of spectrum intended for the transition to digital television. Others, such as myself, believe that the auctions should occur on the analog spectrum, after the transition occurs.

I am a strong supporter of auctions as a means of allocating spectrum. As my colleagues know, I joined the Senator from Arizona, Senator MCCAIN, in

sponsoring an amendment last year which called for auctioning spectrum for a direct broadcast satellite license. The FCC concluded the auction for this license earlier this year, netting nearly \$700 million for the Federal Treasury.

I think if my colleagues will look through the rhetoric and focus on the serious policy consequences of this debate, they will realize that the very future of free over-the-air broadcasting is at stake. If up front auctions are required for the digital spectrum, as suggested by some of my colleagues, it is local television stations and the consumers who rely upon them as their only source of television that will be the losers.

At issue in this debate is the current plan of the FCC to allocate an additional 6 MHz of spectrum to broadcasters. The purpose of this allocation is to allow broadcast television to convert their broadcast signals from analog to digital, which will be a necessity in the digital world that is rapidly approaching the video industry, and in fact, is already here with direct broadcast satellite. Digital conversion will permit broadcast television to keep pace with the vast changes in telecommunications technology, and thereby help to make broadcast TV competitive.

The FCC is not planning on giving spectrum to the broadcasters. Rather, it intends to loan the additional spectrum to broadcasters for a period of years in order to permit a transition from analog to digital. After a certain point, the broadcasters will return their current analog spectrum—but not until Americans have become equipped with digital televisions. That has been the plan for years. The process of converting to digital television was born by the FCC over a decade ago. It is only in the rush of the moment when politicians are searching for revenue to balance the budget, that this plan has come into question.

DAVID AND GOLIATH AUCTIONS

Some believe that broadcasters should have to pay for this spectrum—rather than receive it on a loan basis. If the spectrum is placed up for auction, there is very little chance that local broadcast stations will have the resources to compete with the giant telecommunications corporations that want the spectrum for subscriber-based services. The proposals talked about up to this point will permit anyone to bid for the spectrum. Thus, the telecommunications giants like AT&T, MCI, the RBOC's, Microsoft, and others will be competing against local television stations for the spectrum. The fact is, up-front auctions mean that broadcast stations will not have a chance at the digital spectrum, and therefore, will never have the opportunity to compete in a digital world.

Everyone needs to realize how the cards will be stacked in this kind of auction. When we talk about broadcasters having to compete in an auction for this spectrum, we are talking

about little Davids going up against Goliath telecommunications corporations. The auctions will be between small, locally owned stations bidding against large, national corporations. The vast majority of broadcast stations in this country are small, locally owned stations and many of these stations have well under \$1 million in pretax revenues. Local broadcast stations cannot successfully compete against other interests vying for the spectrum. The other interests who plan to use the spectrum for more profitable subscriber-based services will simply overwhelm the local broadcasters' efforts.

Even if we assume that broadcasters would win the licenses at an auction, this would not ensure that broadcasters will have the opportunity to compete with other digital-quality services. A costly fight for the spectrum could make digital conversion financially prohibitive. We are told that local broadcast stations are going to have to invest nearly \$10 million per station to convert to digital. Investing in digital equipment and technology for small locally owned stations such as those in my home state of North Dakota is going to be challenging enough. Add on top of the equipment costs a sizable fee for the spectrum, and digital conversion for broadcasters will never become a reality. Tomorrow's TV will be like today's AM radio when the rest of the video world goes digital.

ANALOG VERSUS DIGITAL AUCTIONS

The administration has a different and equally troublesome proposal to auction the analog broadcast spectrum. Under the administration's proposal, broadcasters would have to accelerate the giveback of the analog spectrum after completing the conversion to digital. A 15-20 year process would be crammed in a 10-year window under this approach. While I strongly support the notion that broadcasters should have to give back the analog spectrum after converting to digital, and I further support the notion that this should be auctioned, the administration's proposal is seriously flawed because the acceleration is totally unrealistic. Under this approach, broadcasters would be required to vacate the analog spectrum they are currently using by the year 2005.

The consequences under this approach fall largely on the American consumer. When the broadcasters stop sending analog signals, existing television sets will be useless. Thus, under this approach, the administration is asking that all Americans replace all existing television sets with new, yet to be manufactured digital sets, within 10 years. The cost to the American consumer will likely exceed any revenue gained from this accelerated auction.

As I stated earlier, there really should be no question about whether or not broadcast spectrum should be auctioned. The timing of the auction is the question. It seems to me that the best