

session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 1997, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to consider the nomination of Federico F. Peña to be Secretary of Energy.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Finance be permitted to meet to conduct a hearing on Thursday, January 30, 1997, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215-Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 1997, immediately after the first rollcall vote to hold a business meeting to vote on pending items.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, January 30, at 10 a.m. for the purpose of continuing its organizational meeting and approval of the committee funding resolution.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 1997 at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a business meeting to approve the committee's budget for the 105th Congress. The business meeting will be held in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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 for an executive business meeting to take up committee business, and to mark up the S. Res. 1, the Balanced Budget Amendment, during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 1997, at 10:00 a.m.

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 Thursday, January 30, 1997, at 10 a.m. to hold an executive business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

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

Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 1997, beginning at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on FEC Authorization and Campaign Finance Reform.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE CORPORATE SUBSIDY REFORM COMMISSION ACT

• Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, we introduced legislation earlier this week to establish a Corporate Subsidy Review, Reform, and Termination Commission. We know that many Americans believe that Government operates for the benefit of the few and the privileged. They believe the system does not operate fairly, and their lack of confidence in us affects our ability to enact the reforms and make the hard decisions which must be made if we are to get our country back on the right track again.

Last Congress, we actively sought to reform many areas of Government spending—we reduced Government spending by \$53 billion, reformed the welfare system, restructured farm supports, rewrote telecommunications law, reformed the Federal procurement system, and adopted major immigration reforms. We identified and reformed areas of Government spending which needed fundamental reform because they did not work as well as they should.

As part of this process, a bipartisan group of Senators examined some programs whose primary beneficiaries are profit-making enterprises and proposed reforming 12 specific programs which are characterized by some element of corporate subsidization. We chose these examples to demonstrate that such programs exist in virtually every industry, from military construction, to energy production, to consumer product advertising. While all the sponsors were not uniformly enthusiastic about each of the 12 examples, we believed the package as a whole underscored an important point and demonstrated our willingness to examine Government spending in every area. This proposal was offered as an amendment to the reconciliation bill, and received the support of only one-fourth of the Senate. Clearly, this problem needed to be attacked in a different way.

As a result, we introduced another bill last Congress which was reported favorably by the Committee on Governmental Affairs. It is that bill we introduced this week to create a Commission to fairly and independently review corporate subsidies and make recommendations to the President and the Congress for the retention, reform, or termination of such subsidies.

Why establish a Commission and a new process to do what we could and should do directly?

First, this Commission will do what we cannot do well: Make an overall informed assessment of all programs, on both the spending and revenue sides, at one time. Over the years, we have created an intricate, interwoven system of subsidies, taxes, and exemptions. For example, a Tennessee utility which would have been affected by the spending cuts we proposed last Congress pointed out to me that they in turn are competing against other energy providers who receive subsidies in the form of Federal tax exemptions.

Second, our experience last Congress demonstrated that voting hit or miss on individual items is not going to be successful. One person's pork is another's prize. And no one wants to give up their prize program if there isn't shared sacrifice. With the commission approach, we will know that all programs have been examined and those which provide unjustified subsidies have been exposed.

Third, the members of the Commission will be appointed specifically for this purpose by the President and the Congress. They will possess the expertise, authority and stature necessary to do the job.

Fourth, the Commission's recommendations will not be buried in the corner of a Federal agency or a congressional committee. While the President and Congress will be able to propose amendments to or outright reject the Commission's recommendations, they must address them.

S. 207 incorporates provisions to accommodate many of the concerns raised last Congress. This bill takes special note of the Federal Government's role in the area of international trade. In establishing the Commission's review of Federal subsidies, it is not our intent to unduly disadvantage U.S. business interests as they compete in the international marketplace. We recognize that foreign governments frequently subsidize business interests in their own countries. Eliminating a particular program or subsidy might make sense in a purely domestic context, but such action could place a U.S. company at a severe disadvantage when competing with a foreign company which has the benefit of a subsidy from its government. A U.S. Government subsidy may have been instituted in order to offset a similar subsidy to foreign competitors by foreign governments, with the intent of leveling the playing field for U.S. industry. To eliminate such a subsidy not only affects the direct U.S. business interests in global competition, but also reduces the leverage of the U.S. Government in trade negotiations. Having matched a foreign government subsidy, the U.S. Government may call for negotiations to end mutually the practice. We recognize the importance of those issues and have included provisions to address carefully the Federal Government's role in international trade.

Mr. President, we must require no less of profit-making enterprises than

we ask of all Americans. It is a matter of fairness and shared sacrifice. At a time when the national debate is focused on getting control of the budget, now and in the future, we cannot afford to provide inappropriate corporate subsidies which undermine our efforts and which distort the free market. Perhaps most importantly, enactment of this legislation will demonstrate that Congress and the executive branch are serious about addressing and correcting a system which the American public as a whole sees as benefiting the few with access and influence, rather than serving the general public good.●

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES TO MARK SMITH

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize and offer my deep gratitude to legislative director, Mark Smith, who tomorrow, after 14 years of public service, will leave our office to pursue a career in the private sector.

I first became acquainted with Mark in 1983, when he joined my office as a legislative correspondent. He worked on my second campaign for the Senate as a driver and advance worker. After attending law school, he returned to my staff as a natural resources expert, and finally became legislative director in 1993. Very rarely in my life have I met someone who so embodies the qualities of integrity, hard work, perseverance, and loyalty.

Mark's family comes from Thompson Falls in the northwest section of Montana. That part of our State is known around the world for its spectacular forests and mountains. And it is known throughout Montana for the respect its people hold for the land; for their strong ties of family and friendship; and for their old-fashioned values and work ethic.

All these have put their stamp on Mark, and Mark brings them to work every day.

He is an expert on the environment and natural resources. On these issues, Mark has always been able to find the elusive but essential balance. He has helped preserve Montana's most beautiful natural riches, while at the same time promoting and protecting the natural resource jobs that sustain so many Montana families. The preservation of Pompey's Pillar, the beauty of the Fort Peck Reservoir, and the prosperity of many Montana businesses are due in large part to Mark's appreciation of our great outdoors.

He has a respect for public service and reverence for the law that come right from the heart. Of Mark's many accomplishments here, perhaps the one that has made me proudest comes from this unique quality. That is the confirmation of two Montanans, Sid Thomas and Ron Molloy, as Federal judges. Mark helped me create a selection process that brought two of the most qualified individuals in America to the Federal bench. And that will benefit every Montanan for many years to come.

He has a rock solid work ethic and a deep respect for working men and women. Mark himself comes in to the job early and stays late. And when the Senate goes out on recess, Mark travels throughout Montana listening and learning from millworkers, farmers, small business owners, and people in every walk of life. And that has helped me more than I can say.

And finally, but perhaps most important of all, Mark is one of the most honest, loyal, and dedicated people I have ever met.

Now Mark is moving on. Everyone in our office will miss a valuable co-worker, a respected adviser, and a good friend. But I and all the rest of us are very proud to have worked with Mark, and we wish him the best in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF BERLIN, NH, AS IT CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the people of Berlin, NH, on their city's 100th anniversary. The residents of this north country community will begin celebrating this historic occasion February 2 and continue celebrating with a number of festivities including a parade, fireworks show, and music presentation.

The tract of New Hampshire's wilderness now known as Berlin allowed the first settlers striving for independence to come across the mountains to start a new community in the isolated but spectacularly beautiful, rugged land. At that time, the area was called the Plantation of Maynesborough after a renowned English gentleman to whom it was granted by the Crown in 1771. Though this area was severe in the winter, no one had to go hungry because the woods were full of deer and partridge, and the brooks and river teemed with trout. The seemingly endless stands of timber-pine, spruce, fir, and much more scenic beauty stretched across the land.

I travel to Berlin often. It is the gateway to northern New Hampshire. I am always heartened by the sense of community spirit and the dedication to excellence in the people of this industrial town. I have worked with the members of the city government, and many residents, on issues ranging from environmental protection to job security at the plants to economic development for local business. I know the people of Berlin to possess the Yankee independence exhibited by the first settler, William Sessions. That drive, fellowship, and community spirit still holds true in the Berlin of today.

The village was incorporated on February 2, 1897, by Governor Ramsdell, under the name of Berlin. Over the next 20 years, settlers continued farming, running sawmills, and raising homes and families. By 1920, Berlin became a busy industrial center and the capital of the papermaking world with

the formation of the Brown family's Berlin Mills Co. It is an industry still prevalent today.

Thomas Green opened Berlin's first retail market for business in 1835. By 1890, Berlin developed a downtown of wood framed stores, churches, and other public buildings that lined the unpaved streets and wooden boardwalks. After the turn of the century, several hotels, theaters, and even a large opera house could be found in the center of Berlin's flourishing economy. On July 24, 1902, a street railway began operating between Berlin and Gorham, and in 1920, the railway transported over 1.6 million passengers.

Many of the buildings that graced the streets of Berlin in the early 1900's still exist today and exemplify some of Berlin's extraordinary architecture. Several of the events planned for Berlin's centennial celebration will take place in these historic areas of the city. Sunday evening's formal ceremonies will be held in Berlin's city hall, completed in 1914 by A.N. and J.B. Gilbert. The city hall illustrates Gerogian revival architecture.

I regret I cannot attend the joyous festivities today, but I warmly congratulate the residents of Berlin on 100 years of history. I wish to extend my very best wishes for a festive week of activities and continued prosperity. Happy birthday Berlin.●

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, pursuant to the Standing Rule 26, I submit the rules for the Committee on Small Business to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that was adopted by the committee during its business meeting on January 29, 1997.

The rules follow:

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

1. GENERAL

All applicable provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate and of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, shall govern the Committee.

2. MEETING AND QUORUMS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the first Wednesday of each month unless otherwise directed by the Chairman. All other meetings may be called by the Chairman as he deems necessary, on 3 days notice where practicable. If at least three Members of the Committee desire the Chairman to call a special meeting, they may file in the office of the Committee a written request therefor, addressed to the Chairman. Immediately thereafter, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of such request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of such request, the Chairman fails to call the requested special meeting, which is to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of such request, a majority of the Committee Members may file in the Office of the Committee their written notice that a special Committee meeting will be held, specifying the date, hour and place thereof, and the Committee shall meet at that time and place. Immediately upon the filing of such notice, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify all Committee Members that such special meeting will be held