

NOTICE OF HEARING
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Thursday, June 15, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the goals and specific legislative provisions of S. 2557, the National Energy Security Act of 2000. The bill would protect the energy security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50 percent by the year 2010 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources, conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies, mitigating the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and elderly, and for other purposes.

Presentation of oral testimony is by Committee invitation only. However, those who wish to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150. For further information, please contact Brian Malnak at (202) 224-4971.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. WARNER. 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 Wednesday, June 7, for purposes of conducting a Full Committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 7, 2000 at 11:00 am to hold a business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 7, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. in room 485 of the Russell Senate Building to conduct a hearing on S. 2508, the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act Amendments of 2000.

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

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Joint Economic Committee be permitted to meet on June 6, 2000 from the hours of 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on June 7, 2000 from the hours of 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building to conduct a congressional hearing on high technology.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, BUSINESS
RIGHTS AND COMPETITION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, June 7, 2000 at 2:00 p.m., in SD226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 7, at 2:00 p.m. to conduct a hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 2300, a bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for coal that may be held by an entity in any one State; S. 2069, a bill to permit the conveyance of certain land in Powell, Wyoming; and S. 1331, a bill to give Lincoln County, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain public land in the county.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 7, 2000 at 2:30 pm to hold a hearing.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator JEFFORDS' fellow, Sande Blalock, be given floor privileges under this bill.

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Lt. Col. Tim Wiseman, a legislative fellow on my staff, and Amanda Wiley, a staff intern, be given floor privileges for the remainder of the debate on S. 2549.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Curt McFarlin

from the Office of KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON be granted floor privileges during consideration of this bill, S. 2549.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Nancy Thompson of my staff be granted floor privileges during the consideration of this bill.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Bob Herbert, a Congressional Fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges during the pendency of this legislation.

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

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Glen Davis, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor during the entire debate of S. 2549.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Jennings, Dana Krupa, and Pam Nicholson, legislative fellows in Senator BINGAMAN's office, be granted floor privileges during the pendency of S. 2549.

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

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Major Greg Sheppard, an Air Force fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the debate on Defense authorization.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-389, announces the appointment of Robert R. Ferguson III of North Carolina to serve as a member of the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board.

DESIGNATION OF THE NATIONAL
OPERA

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4542, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4542) to designate the Washington Opera in Washington, DC as the National Opera.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4542) was read a third time and passed.

HONORING THOSE LOST ABOARD THE U.S.S. "THRESHER" ON APRIL 10, 1963

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 318, submitted earlier by Senator SNOWE, for herself and others.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 318) honoring the 129 sailors and civilians lost aboard the USS THRESHER on April 10, 1963, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and finally, any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 318) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 318

Whereas this is the 100th year of service to the people of the United States by the United States Navy submarine force, the "Silent Service";

Whereas this is the 200th year of service to the Nation of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard;

Whereas Portsmouth Naval Shipyard launched the first Navy built submarine, the L-8, on April 23, 1917;

Whereas 52 years and 133 submarines later, on November 11, 1969, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard launched the last submarine built by the Navy, the U.S.S. Sand Lance;

Whereas the U.S.S. Thresher was launched at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on July 9, 1960;

Whereas the U.S.S. Thresher departed Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on April 9, 1963, with a crew of 129 composed of 16 officers, 96 sailors, and 17 civilians;

Whereas the mix of that crew reflects the unity of the naval submarine service, military and civilian, in the protection of the Nation;

Whereas at approximately 7:45 a.m. on April 10, 1963, at a location near 41.46 degrees North latitude and 65.03 degrees West longitude, the U.S.S. Thresher began her final mission;

Whereas the U.S.S. Thresher was declared lost with all hands on April 10, 1963;

Whereas from the loss of that submarine, there arose the SUBSAFE program which has kept America's submariners safe at sea ever since as the strongest, safest submarine force in history;

Whereas from the loss of the U.S.S. Thresher, there arose in our Nation's universities the ocean engineering curricula that enables America's preeminence in submarine warfare; and

Whereas the "last full measure of devotion" shown by the crew of the U.S.S.

Thresher characterizes the sacrifice of all submariners, past and present, military and civilian, in the service of this Nation. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) remembers with profound sorrow the loss of the U.S.S. Thresher and her gallant crew of sailors and civilians on April 10, 1963;

(2) expresses its deepest gratitude to all submariners on "eternal patrol", forever bound together by their dedicated and honorable service to the United States of America;

(3) recognizes with appreciation and respect the commitment and sacrifices made by the Naval Submarine Service for the past 100 years in providing for the common defense of the United States; and

(4) offers its admiration and gratitude for the workers of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard whose 200 years of dedicated service to the United States Navy has contributed directly to the greatness and freedom of the United States.

SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION OF RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit this resolution to the Chief of Naval Operations and to the Commanding Officer of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard who shall accept this resolution on behalf of the families and shipmates of the crew of the U.S.S. Thresher.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Health Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2625, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2625) to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise the performance standards and certification process for organ procurement organizations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2625) was read a third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2625

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION ACT OF 2000.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Organ procurement organizations play an important role in the effort to increase organ donation in the United States.

(2) The current process for the certification and recertification of organ procurement organizations conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services has created a level of uncertainty that is interfering with the effectiveness of organ procurement organizations in raising the level of organ donation.

(3) The General Accounting Office, the Institute of Medicine, and the Harvard School

of Public Health have identified substantial limitations in the organ procurement organization certification and recertification process and have recommended changes in that process.

(4) The limitations in the recertification process include:

(A) An exclusive reliance on population-based measures of performance that do not account for the potential in the population for organ donation and do not permit consideration of other outcome and process standards that would more accurately reflect the relative capability and performance of each organ procurement organization.

(B) A lack of due process to appeal to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for recertification on either substantive or procedural grounds.

(5) The Secretary of Health and Human Services has the authority under section 1138(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-8(b)(1)(A)(i)) to extend the period for recertification of an organ procurement organization from 2 to 4 years on the basis of its past practices in order to avoid the inappropriate disruption of the nation's organ system.

(6) The Secretary of Health and Human Services can use the extended period described in paragraph (5) for recertification of all organ procurement organizations to—

(A) develop improved performance measures that would reflect organ donor potential and interim outcomes, and to test these measures to ensure that they accurately measure performance differences among the organ procurement organizations; and

(B) improve the overall certification process by incorporating process as well as outcome performance measures, and developing equitable processes for appeals.

(b) CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION OF ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 371(b)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (G) as subparagraphs (E) through (H), respectively;

(2) by realigning the margin of subparagraph (F) (as so redesignated) so as to align with subparagraph (E) (as so redesignated); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

"(D) notwithstanding any other provision of law, has met the other requirements of this section and has been certified or recertified by the Secretary within the previous 4-year period as meeting the performance standards to be a qualified organ procurement organization through a process that either—

"(i) granted certification or recertification within such 4-year period with such certification or recertification in effect as of January 1, 2000, and remaining in effect through the earlier of—

"(I) January 1, 2002; or

"(II) the completion of recertification under the requirements of clause (ii); or

"(ii) is defined through regulations that are promulgated by the Secretary by not later than January 1, 2002, that—

"(I) require recertifications of qualified organ procurement organizations not more frequently than once every 4 years;

"(II) rely on outcome and process performance measures that are based on empirical evidence, obtained through reasonable efforts, of organ donor potential and other related factors in each service area of qualified organ procurement organizations;

"(III) use multiple outcome measures as part of the certification process; and