

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, 2000, at 9:15 a.m., in closed session to mark up the Fiscal Year 2001 Intelligence Authorization Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, 2000, at 10 a.m., in open and closed session to receive testimony on the report of the National Missile Defense Independent Review Team.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, 2000, at 1 p.m., for a hearing regarding Oversight of Rising Oil Prices and the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Executive Branch Response—Part II.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, June 29, 2000, at 10 a.m., in SD226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND WATER

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on pending issues in the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, at 10 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on the United States Forest Service's Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Perma-

nent Subcommittee on Investigations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, 2000, 9:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "HUD's Government Insured Mortgages: The Problem of Property 'Flipping.'"

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 134, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area; S. 2051, a bill to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; S. 2279, a bill to authorize the addition of land to Sequoia National Park, and for other purposes; S. 2512, a bill to convey certain Federal properties on Governors Island, New York.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUPERFUND, WASTE CONTROL, AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 29, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on S. 2700, the Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act of 2000.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Sharon Boysen of my office be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar, nominations en bloc: 560 through 563.

I further ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed, the motion to consider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Daniel G. Webber, Jr., of Oklahoma, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma.

James L. Whigham, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Russell John Qualliotine, of New York, to be United States marshal for the Southern District of New York for the term of four years.

Julio F. Mercado, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on the bill (S. 148), to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 148) entitled "An Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) of the nearly 800 bird species known to occur in the United States, approximately 500 migrate among countries, and the large majority of those species, the neotropical migrants, winter in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(2) neotropical migratory bird species provide invaluable environmental, economic, recreational, and aesthetic benefits to the United States, as well as to the Western Hemisphere;

(3)(A) many neotropical migratory bird populations, once considered common, are in decline, and some have declined to the point that their long-term survival in the wild is in jeopardy; and

(B) the primary reason for the decline in the populations of those species is habitat loss and degradation (including pollution and contamination) across the species' range; and

(4)(A) because neotropical migratory birds range across numerous international borders each year, their conservation requires the commitment and effort of all countries along their migration routes; and

(B) although numerous initiatives exist to conserve migratory birds and their habitat, those initiatives can be significantly strengthened and enhanced by increased coordination.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to perpetuate healthy populations of neotropical migratory birds;

(2) to assist in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds by supporting conservation initiatives in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean; and

(3) to provide financial resources and to foster international cooperation for those initiatives.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ACCOUNT.**—The term "Account" means the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Account established by section 9(a).

(2) **CONSERVATION.**—The term “conservation” means the use of methods and procedures necessary to bring a species of neotropical migratory bird to the point at which there are sufficient populations in the wild to ensure the long-term viability of the species, including—

(A) protection and management of neotropical migratory bird populations;

(B) maintenance, management, protection, and restoration of neotropical migratory bird habitat;

(C) research and monitoring;

(D) law enforcement; and

(E) community outreach and education.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide financial assistance for projects to promote the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

(b) **PROJECT APPLICANTS.**—A project proposal may be submitted by—

(1) an individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association, or other private entity;

(2) an officer, employee, agent, department, or instrumentality of the Federal Government, of any State, municipality, or political subdivision of a State, or of any foreign government;

(3) a State, municipality, or political subdivision of a State;

(4) any other entity subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or of any foreign country; and

(5) an international organization (as defined in section 1 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288)).

(c) **PROJECT PROPOSALS.**—To be considered for financial assistance for a project under this Act, an applicant shall submit a project proposal that—

(1) includes—

(A) the name of the individual responsible for the project;

(B) a succinct statement of the purposes of the project;

(C) a description of the qualifications of individuals conducting the project; and

(D) an estimate of the funds and time necessary to complete the project, including sources and amounts of matching funds;

(2) demonstrates that the project will enhance the conservation of neotropical migratory bird species in the United States, Latin America, or the Caribbean;

(3) includes mechanisms to ensure adequate local public participation in project development and implementation;

(4) contains assurances that the project will be implemented in consultation with relevant wildlife management authorities and other appropriate government officials with jurisdiction over the resources addressed by the project;

(5) demonstrates sensitivity to local historic and cultural resources and complies with applicable laws;

(6) describes how the project will promote sustainable, effective, long-term programs to conserve neotropical migratory birds; and

(7) provides any other information that the Secretary considers to be necessary for evaluating the proposal.

(d) **PROJECT REPORTING.**—Each recipient of assistance for a project under this Act shall submit to the Secretary such periodic reports as the Secretary considers to be necessary. Each report shall include all information required by the Secretary for evaluating the progress and outcome of the project.

(e) **COST SHARING.**—

(1) **FEDERAL SHARE.**—The Federal share of the cost of each project shall be not greater than 25 percent.

(2) **NON-FEDERAL SHARE.**—

(A) **SOURCE.**—The non-Federal share required to be paid for a project shall not be derived from any Federal grant program.

(B) **FORM OF PAYMENT.**—

(1) **PROJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES.**—The non-Federal share required to be paid for a project carried out in the United States shall be paid in cash.

(2) **PROJECTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**—The non-Federal share required to be paid for a project carried out in a foreign country may be paid in cash or in kind.

SEC. 6. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

In carrying out this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) develop guidelines for the solicitation of proposals for projects eligible for financial assistance under section 5;

(2) encourage submission of proposals for projects eligible for financial assistance under section 5, particularly proposals from relevant wildlife management authorities;

(3) select proposals for financial assistance that satisfy the requirements of section 5, giving preference to proposals that address conservation needs not adequately addressed by existing efforts and that are supported by relevant wildlife management authorities; and

(4) generally implement this Act in accordance with its purposes.

SEC. 7. COOPERATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) support and coordinate existing efforts to conserve neotropical migratory bird species, through—

(A) facilitating meetings among persons involved in such efforts;

(B) promoting the exchange of information among such persons;

(C) developing and entering into agreements with other Federal agencies, foreign, State, and local governmental agencies, and nongovernmental organizations; and

(D) conducting such other activities as the Secretary considers to be appropriate; and

(2) coordinate activities and projects under this Act with existing efforts in order to enhance conservation of neotropical migratory bird species.

(b) **ADVISORY GROUP.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—To assist in carrying out this Act, the Secretary may convene an advisory group consisting of individuals representing public and private organizations actively involved in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

(2) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**—

(A) **MEETINGS.**—The advisory group shall—

(i) ensure that each meeting of the advisory group is open to the public; and

(ii) provide, at each meeting, an opportunity for interested persons to present oral or written statements concerning items on the agenda.

(B) **NOTICE.**—The Secretary shall provide to the public timely notice of each meeting of the advisory group.

(C) **MINUTES.**—Minutes of each meeting of the advisory group shall be kept by the Secretary and shall be made available to the public.

(3) **EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the advisory group.

SEC. 8. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than October 1, 2002, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results and effectiveness of the program carried out under this Act, including recommendations concerning how the Act might be improved and whether the program should be continued.

SEC. 9. NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACCOUNT.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Multinational Species Conservation Fund of the Treasury a separate account to be known as the “Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Account”, which shall consist of amounts deposited into the Account by the Secretary of the Treasury under subsection (b).

(b) **DEPOSITS INTO THE ACCOUNT.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit into the Account—

(1) all amounts received by the Secretary in the form of donations under subsection (d); and

(2) other amounts appropriated to the Account.

(c) **USE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may use amounts in the Account, without further Act of appropriation, to carry out this Act.

(2) **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**—Of amounts in the Account available for each fiscal year, the Secretary may expend not more than 3 percent or up to \$80,000, whichever is greater, to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this Act.

(d) **ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.**—The Secretary may accept and use donations to carry out this Act. Amounts received by the Secretary in the form of donations shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit into the Account.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Account to carry out this Act \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005, to remain available until expended, of which not less than 75 percent of the amounts made available for each fiscal year shall be expended for projects carried out outside the United States.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, the Migratory Bird Conservation Act which I introduced with the Minority Leader, Senator DASCHLE, and our late colleague Senator Chafee, is designed to protect the habitat of the over 90 endangered species of migratory birds which spend the spring and summer months in the United States and the winter months in other Western Hemisphere nations.

This will be the third time this bill has passed the Senate. It previously cleared the Senate in 1998 and early 1999, but, until Monday's 384-22 House vote, the legislation was stalled in the other chamber.

Despite taking almost three years, this legislation remains very timely. Many bird species of birds are threatened despite the growing popularity of birdwatching.

Every year approximately 25 million Americans travel to observe birds, and 60 million American adults watch and feed birds at home. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, bird watching and feeding generates fully \$20 billion every year in revenue across America.

Protecting the various species of birds benefits the nation in a variety of ways. The increased popularity of birdwatching is increasingly reflected in the new tourist dollars being spent in small, rural communities. Healthy bird communities also prevent crop failures and infestations by controlling insect populations, thus saving hundreds of millions of dollars in economic losses each year to farming and timber interests. And yet, despite the enormous benefits we derive from our bird populations, many of them are struggling to survive.

In my own State we are working to bring the Kirtland's Warbler back from the brink of extinction. A few years ago, the population of this distinctive bird has been estimated at approximately 200 nesting pairs. Since then, a great deal of work has been done by

Michigan DNR employees to preserve the Kirtland's Warbler habitat in the Bahamas, where they winter. Thanks in large part to this effort, the number of breeding pairs has recently increased to an estimated 800.

The problem we face in Michigan is simple. Since the entire species spends half of the year in the Bahamas, the significant efforts made by Michigan's Department of Natural Resources and concerned residents of Michigan will not be enough to save this bird if its winter habitat is destroyed. The same story is likely true for at least one bird species in every other state.

Because migratory birds range across a number of international borders every year, we must work to establish safeguards at both ends of their migration routes, as well as at critical stop-over areas along their way. Only in this case can conservation efforts prove successful.

That is why Senator DASCHLE, Senator Chafee, and I introduced the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. This legislation will protect bird habitats across international boundaries by teaming businesses with conservation groups, thus combining capital with know-how.

These entities will then partner with local organizations in countries where bird habitat is endangered to help teach the local people how to preserve and maintain their critical natural habitat.

The 5 year demonstration project created by this Act will provide \$5 million each year to help establish cost-sharing, habitat conservation programs in the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean.

This legislation is proactive, avoids complicated and expensive bureaucratic structures and will bring needed focus and expertise to areas now receiving relatively little attention in the area of environmental degradation. And it has wide support in the environmental and conservation communities.

This legislation is endorsed by the National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, the Nature Conservancy, the American Bird Conservancy, Defenders of Wildlife, the American Forest and Paper Association and the Conservation Fund. These organizations agree that establishing partnerships between business, government and nongovernmental organizations both here and abroad can greatly enhance the protection of migratory bird habitat.

I want to thank the distinguished minority leader, my original partner for the past two and one half years, for his hard work and efforts on behalf of this legislation. His involvement and perseverance—long with those of Peter Hanson and Eric Washburn of his staff—helped us overcome a variety of obstacles and pave the way for this bill to become law.

I also want to thank Senator BOB SMITH, Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, for his efforts to move this legislation for-

ward. The continuing commitment of the Senate Environment Committee was essential to bringing this bill to the finish line.

And let me recognize the efforts of Kevin Kolevar of my staff, who began the work on this bill back in February of 1998.

Finally, Mr. President, I want to recognize the efforts of our former colleague and friend, Senator John Chafee, who passed away earlier this year. As chairman of the Environmental Committee, Senator Chafee was a driving force behind this legislation. Senator Chafee and his committee staffer, Jason Patlis, shepherded this bill through the Senate twice.

This legislation is yet another addition to the long list of contributions made by Senator John Chafee to protect our natural resources for generations.

I can think of no better tribute to Senator Chafee than to send this bill to the President with a resounding bipartisan vote by the Senate.

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent the Senate agree to the amendment of the House.

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

AUTHORIZING TESTIMONY, DOCUMENT PRODUCTION, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. ELLEN ROSE HART

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 331, submitted earlier by Senator LOTT and Senator DASCHLE.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 331), to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in United States v. Ellen Rose Hart.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for testimony in a criminal action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. In a federal indictment, the defendant has been charged with making a false statement on a passport application and possessing a false identification document in violation of federal law.

In connection with the passport application that is the subject of the indictment, the defendant sought constituent casework assistance from the offices of Senator BARBARA BOXER and Senator DIANE FEINSTEIN. At the request of the U.S. attorney who is prosecuting this case, this resolution authorizes employees in both Senators' offices who worked on this constituent casework matter to testify and produce documents at trial, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be

agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 331) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 331

Whereas, in the case of United States v. Ellen Rose Hart, CR-F 99-5275 AWI, pending in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, testimony has been requested from Eric Vizcaino, an employee in the office of Senator Boxer, and Monica Borvice, an employee in the office of Senator Feinstein;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Eric Vizcaino, Monica Borvice, and any other employee of the Senate from whom testimony or document production may be required are authorized to testify and produce documents in the case of United States v. Ellen Rose Hart, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Eric Vizcaino, Monica Borvice, and any Member or employee of the Senate in connection with the testimony and document production authorized in section one of this resolution.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 4680

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 4680 is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4680) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize the Medicare Program, and for other purposes.

Mr. STEVENS. I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will receive its second reading on the following legislative day.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2000

Mr. STEVENS. I now ask unanimous consent when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment