

during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, for a joint hearing with the House of Representatives' Committee on Veterans Affairs, to hear the legislative presentations of the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The hearing will take place in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building at 9:30 a.m.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, from 9 a.m.–12 p.m., in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, at 2:30 p.m., in open and closed session to receive testimony on the weapons of mass destruction threat from Iraq.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, at 10 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on Department of Defense acquisition policy.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SPACE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, at 2 p.m., on digital divide and minority serving institutions.

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

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—H.R. 2356

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 2356 is at the desk and is due for its second reading.

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

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2356) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 2356 be read for a second time, and I would object to any further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the rule, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 211, and that 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 senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. 211) designating March 2, 2002, as "Read Across America Day."

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 211) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 211

Whereas reading is a basic requirement for quality education and professional success, and a source of pleasure throughout life;

Whereas Americans must be able to read if the Nation is to remain competitive in the global economy;

Whereas Congress, through the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110) and the new Reading First, Early Reading First, and Improving Literacy Through School Libraries programs, has placed great emphasis on reading intervention and additional resources for reading assistance; and

Whereas more than 40 national associations concerned about reading and education have joined with the National Education Association to use March 2, the anniversary of the birth of Theodor Geisel, also known as Dr. Seuss, to celebrate reading: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 2, 2002, as "Read Across America Day";

(2) honors Theodor Geisel, also known as Dr. Seuss, for his success in encouraging children to discover the joy of reading;

(3) encourages parents to read with their children for at least 30 minutes on Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss and in a celebration of reading; and

(4) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 699, 700, and 701, and the nominations placed on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, any statements thereon be printed in the RECORD, and the Senate return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Steven R. Polk, 0000.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. John R. Baker, 0000.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. Lance W. Lord, 0000.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AIR FORCE

PN1312 Air Force nomination of David E. Blum, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of December 20, 2001

PN1313 Air Force nominations (2) beginning JAMES C. COOPER, II, and ending JOHN J. KUPKO, II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of December 20, 2001

PN1349 Air Force nominations (2) beginning LINDA F. JONES, and ending Robert J. King, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1350 Air Force nomination of Dan Rose, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1351 Air Force nominations (3) beginning DOUGLAS W. KNIGHTON, and ending ROBERT J. SEMRAD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1352 Air Force nominations (5) beginning RICHARD E. HORN, and ending MARK A. WEINER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1358 Air Force nominations (10) beginning VINCENT G. DEBONO, JR., and ending AMY M. ROWE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1360 Air Force nominations (41) beginning KATHRYN L. AASEN, and ending JUSTIN N. ZUMSTEIN, which nominations were

received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1362 Air Force nominations (155) beginning MELISSA A. AERTS, and ending RICHARD M. ZWIRKO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1353 Air Force nominations (295) beginning TODD E. ABBOTT, and ending STEPHEN J. ZIMMERMANN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1369 Air Force nominations (56) beginning KIRBY D. AMONSON, and ending DALTON P. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1377 Air Force nominations (2) beginning SANDRA G. MATHEWS, and ending MARGARET M. NONNEMACHER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

PN1378 Air Force nominations (2) beginning REBECCA A. DOBBS, and ending MAX S. KUSH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

PN1379 Air Force nominations (11) beginning ERNEST H. BARNETT, and ending RONALD W. SCHMIDT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

PN1380 Air Force nominations (16) beginning SANDRA H. ALFORD, and ending FRANCIS C. ZUCCONI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

PN1381 Air Force nominations (14) beginning RAUL A. AGUILAR, and ending GILBERT L. WERGOWSKIE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

PN1382 Air Force nominations (143) beginning LARRY W. ALEXANDER, and ending CLAUDIA R. ZIEBIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 29, 2002

ARMY

PN1299 Army nomination of LESLIE C. SMITH, II, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of December 18, 2001

PN1353 Army nominations (8) beginning FRANKLIN E. LIMERICK, JR., and ending GARY J. THORSTENSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1354 Army nominations (7) beginning DARLENE S. COLLINS, and ending MICHAEL J. WAGNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 23, 2002

PN1364 Army nominations (17) beginning GARY J. BROCKINGTON, and ending DONNA M. WRIGHT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1438 Army nominations (35) beginning MARIAN AMREIN, and ending STEVEN M. WALTERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 15, 2002

MARINE CORPS

PN1367 Marine Corps nominations (143) beginning ROBERT J. ABLITT, and ending CARL J. WOODS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1368 Marine Corps nominations (192) beginning DONALD A. BARNETT, and ending NICOLAS R. WISECARVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 28, 2002

PN1418 Marine Corps nominations (365) beginning ALBERT R. ADLER, and ending PETER D. ZORETIC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 11, 2002

NAVY

PN1391 Navy nominations (4) beginning GREGORY W. KIRWAN, and ending MATTHEW M. SCOTT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 5, 2002

PN1392 Navy nominations (9) beginning MICHAEL J. ADAMS, and ending SCOTT A. SUOZZI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 5, 2002

PN1419 Navy nomination John J. Whyte, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 11, 2002

PN1420 Navy nominations (33) beginning KELLY V. AHLN, and ending THOMAS A. WINTER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 11, 2002

PN1421 Navy nominations (262) beginning RENE V. ABADESCO, and ending MARK W. YATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 11, 2002

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORZINE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, perhaps one of the most moving anthems of this Nation was written by Katharine Lee Bates, "America The Beautiful." In the fourth verse, Ms. Bates wrote:

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears!

From the inception of our Nation, many Americans have given their lives in order that we may enjoy the freedom and prosperity of American society. Now where is that more apparent than in our military history.

As we celebrate Black History Month, it is fitting that we take time to remember those Americans who, undaunted by the confines of slavery, oppression, and segregation, fought valiantly to preserve our great Nation.

During the struggle for national independence during the Revolutionary

War, approximately 8,000 to 10,000 African-American soldiers served the cause for freedom. Of that number, 5,000 African Americans served in combat roles. These brave soldiers fought or provided labor in virtually every major action of the war, from the first exchange of fire at Lexington and Concord to the decisive victory at Yorktown.

When the war of 1812 broke out between the United States and Great Britain, once again African Americans offered their services to protect this country. For example, New York raised two 1,000-man African-American regiments and many White units included African-American soldiers.

In Philadelphia, 2,500 African Americans volunteered to erect fortifications on the outskirts of the city, and an estimated 10 percent of those serving on U.S. Navy ships in the Great Lakes were African Americans, who took part as seamen in Capt. Oliver Hazard Perry's victory over the British on Lake Erie in 1813. During the battle, an African-American soldier, Cytus Tiffany, used his body as a shield to protect Captain Perry during the battle.

Captain Perry later wrote:

I have yet to learn that the colour of a man's skin * * * can affect a man's qualifications or usefulness.

Similarly, many African Americans quickly volunteered their military services during the Civil War. In fact, many slaves escaped persecution to join the Union forces in order to end slavery in this country.

One such brave individual was Robert Smalls. Smalls, who was born into slavery, was "hired out" by his Master for various jobs, including that of sailor. While serving on a ship called the Planter, Smalls coordinated and carried out an escape with the Confederate vessel into Federal lines on May 13, 1862.

Following this heroic deed, Robert eventually was made captain of the vessel. Robert's courage and intelligence in delivering the Planter to the Union forces helped invalidate the theory that Blacks were inferior to whites and greatly influenced the 1862 debates over slavery and the Union's use of African-American soldiers.

One of the most distinguished and revered African-American military regiments in our Nation's history was the Buffalo Soldiers.

After the Civil war, the future of African Americans in the U.S. Army was in question. However, in July 1866, Congress passed legislation establishing two cavalry and four infantry regiments that were to be solely comprised of African Americans. The mounted regiments were the 9th and 10th Cavalries, soon nicknamed "Buffalo Soldiers" by the Cheyenne and Comanche Tribes.

Until the early 1890s, they constituted 20 percent of all cavalry forces on the American frontier. Their invaluable service on the Western frontier still remains one of the most exemplary services preformed by a regiment in the U.S. Army.