

S. 2231, to increase Chapter 35 educational assistance benefits, and to increase funding to State Approving Agencies.

S. 2237, to enhance compensation for veterans with hearing loss.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 2, 2002, at 9:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Gas Prices: How Are They Really Set?"

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that David Roll, a fellow on my staff, be granted the privilege of floor.

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

Mr. BAUCUS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to Shara Aranoff, a fellow with the Senate Finance Committee trade staff, during the duration of the debate on the trade bill.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Sarah Lennon, a Department of Energy fellow in Senator CARNAHAN's office, be granted the privilege of the floor during today's session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination reported out earlier today by the Health, Education, and Labor Committee: Elias Adam Zerhouni, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health. I further ask that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, any statements be printed in the RECORD, and the Senate return to legislative session without any intervening action or debate.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Elias Adam Zerhouni, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Dr. Elias Zerhouni on his confirmation by the U.S. Senate as the new Director of the National Institutes of Health. I am pleased that his nomination was approved by the

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee this morning and that the Senate has approved his nomination today.

I am proud that Maryland is home to the National Institutes of Health, and some of the best and brightest researchers in the world. Now Maryland is the home of the National Institutes of Health's new Director, Dr. Zerhouni.

Dr. Zerhouni has spent his impressive career turning medical research into tools and treatments that improve patients' lives. He is an innovative thinker and a successful entrepreneur who has turned his scientific discoveries into successful businesses. He is also a talented administrator who will bring his leadership skills to bear on this challenging new role. His administrative skills will be especially important as Congress completes the bipartisan commitment to double NIH's budget this year.

I am pleased that the U.S. Senate has given Dr. Zerhouni this resounding show of support as he prepares to take the helm of the world's finest research institution. I look forward to working with Dr. Zerhouni in his new role as Director of the National Institutes of Health. The National Institutes of Health and the American people will be well served by Dr. Elias Zerhouni.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today the Senate is considering the nomination of one of the nation's most distinguished scientific leaders, Dr. Elias Zerhouni, to be the Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Zerhouni's life is a story about endless possibilities. He arrived from Algeria with little else but his medical training—and a desire to help his fellow human beings facing disease. From that humble beginning, he has explored the endless possibilities of medical research. His contributions have been extraordinary.

Dr. Zerhouni developed new methods for imaging living tissues that are in use in hospitals around the nation. As a skilled administrator, he has demonstrated leadership and vision time and time again at Johns Hopkins. He revitalized the Medical School's Clinical Practice Association. He worked skillfully with scientists, business leaders and elected officials to create a thriving biotechnology park.

Most recently, he established the groundbreaking Institute for Cell Engineering. At this remarkable new facility, scientists are exploring the potential of stem cells to alleviate some of the most deadly diseases we face as a nation. The stem cell research conducted at the new Institute is already providing new insights into therapies for Parkinson's Disease, spinal injury, diabetes, and other serious illnesses.

In many ways, the story of NIH is also a story about endless possibilities. NIH research has developed therapies to free millions of Americans from the limitations of disease and disability so that they, too, can explore the endless possibilities of an active and productive life.

Dr. Zerhouni will become the first NIH Director in this new century of the life sciences. Never have the possibilities for NIH been greater. The NIH budget will increase to more than \$27 billion this year. Those funds will support research and training in thousands of research institutions across the nation and around the world. Leading the NIH is an awesome responsibility that will determine the quality of life for millions and millions of Americans for many years to come.

NIH research ranges from studies of microscopic structures in living cells to investigations of patterns of disease in entire populations. NIH research not only gives us information about what keeps us healthy or makes us sick, but it reveals new insights into who we are as human beings.

The advances made by NIH research in just the first two years of this new century are extraordinary—and the future promises still greater wonders. Already in this century, NIH research has helped map the human genome. No less important than these basic genetic studies are recent findings from NIH scientists that structured lifestyle changes can significantly reduce the risk of diabetics, sparing millions of Americans from this deadly disease.

The impact of NIH research on human health is incalculable. Life expectancies have risen dramatically over the last century, and some scientists believe that the first human being to live to be a productive 150 year-old is already alive today.

Never before have the challenges for NIH been greater. The anthrax attacks of last fall taught the nation what many of us knew already—that the powerful techniques of modern biology can be used not only to heal but to harm. Just this week, the Brookings Institute published a risk assessment showing that a million Americans could die in a major biological attack.

NIH must provide the leadership required to develop new medical weapons in the battle against bioterrorism. I know that good progress is already being made in the race to develop better vaccines against smallpox, anthrax, and other dangerous pathogens.

I would also like to extend my thanks, and the thanks of the entire Senate to Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, who has served so effectively as Acting Director since the departure of Dr. Harold Varmus. She has served in this important position with dedication and skill, to the great benefit of NIH and the nation.

Earlier this week, our committee received Dr. Zerhouni's nomination papers from the President. A few days ago, we listened to him explain his vision for meeting the challenges and seizing the opportunities of this new century of the life sciences as NIH Director. Earlier today, our committee approved his nomination unanimously. I hope my Senate colleagues will confirm his nomination quickly. I wish every good future to Dr. Zerhouni, and

I look forward to working with him closely in the years to come.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

PRINTING OF AMENDMENT 3386

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the Daschle substitute amendment No. 3386 be printed.

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

CLERGY HOUSING ALLOWANCE CLARIFICATION ACT

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4156.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4156) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that the parsonage allowance exclusion is limited to the fair rental value of the property.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 4156) was read the third time and passed.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 365, S. Res. 255.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 255) to designate the week beginning May 5, 2002, as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week."

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

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent the resolution and preamble be agreed to, en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, without further intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 255) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 255

Whereas the operation of correctional facilities represents a crucial component of our criminal justice system;

Whereas correctional personnel play a vital role in protecting the rights of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity;

Whereas correctional personnel are responsible for the care, custody, and dignity of the human beings charged to their care; and

Whereas correctional personnel work under demanding circumstances and face danger in their daily work lives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,
SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK.

That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning May 5, 2002, as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

PROGRAM

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I will inform my colleagues we will be in session on Tuesday for debate only to address the trade legislation. Senators will be welcome to offer amendments. They will be welcome, of course, to talk about the bill and, of course, if they have other matters to address, they would be welcome to do that as well in morning business. But we will come in at 3 o'clock on Monday, primarily to address for debate purposes only the trade bill.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 2646

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, May 7, at 9:30 a.m., the Senate proceed to the conference report to accompany the farm bill under the following limitations with the total time limit of 12 hours divided as follows: On Tuesday, May 7, there be 6 hours of debate equally divided under the control of the chairman and ranking member of the Agriculture Committee; further, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday May 8, there be 6 hours equally divided; and, finally, I ask unanimous consent that following the use or yielding back of that time on Wednesday, the Senate proceed to a vote on or in relation to the conference report without further intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—I will not object—let me withdraw the reservation and speak after we have gotten the agreement.

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

The minority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, thank you for the recognition. I thank Senator DASCHLE for agreeing to this time.

Obviously, the farm bill is a very important issue for our country, for our

trade, and for many farmers, as well as consumers who depend on agriculture in America.

There are a lot of concerns about this legislation. This is a very large piece of legislation. I think it is a 6-year program. It adds over \$73 billion to farm programs, as well as not only the commodities but conservation and nutrition and food stamps. This is a huge bill.

I think having adequate time to discuss the conference report is important.

The ranking member on our side of the aisle, Senator LUGAR, has a number of concerns which he needs to point out.

I think this is a fair way to get it done. It does take away time that we could be spending on other bills but we cannot just ignore the support or the opposition to a bill of this magnitude.

All things considered, this is the best way to proceed.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I will say one more time that I appreciate the help and leadership shown by the Republican leader in bringing this bill to the floor. I know sometimes you can't have everything you want. I wanted a shorter period of time, but we will live with this, and we will move on. I thank him for that.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. 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. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 6, 2002

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 o'clock on Monday, May 6; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of the trade bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, on Monday, we will then be on the trade bill with no votes. As I said a moment ago, the bill will be open to amendment.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 6, 2002, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now stand in adjournment under the previous order.