

IN HONOR OF NEIL DESENA

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2003*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Neil DeSena for his years of dedicated leadership throughout the community of Bayonne, New Jersey. Mr. DeSena was unanimously selected as the Grand Marshall for this year's Bayonne Columbus Committee parade to be held on Sunday, October 12, 2003.

Mr. DeSena has been a devoted member of the Bayonne community for over thirty years. His exemplary work in local organizations and his understanding of the needs of Bayonne residents have provided a great service to the entire community. First elected as the Third Ward Councilman in 1970, Mr. DeSena served four consecutive four year terms. In 1986, Mr. DeSena was re-elected to the City Council as a Councilman-at-Large. He currently serves as a personal aide to Mayor Joseph V. Doria, Jr.

A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, Mr. DeSena fought on behalf of his country with great honor and valor, receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

A licensed broker, Mr. DeSena opened his own insurance company in 1982. His natural leadership qualities led him to serve as the president of the Local 164 Insurance Workers International Union, and as a member of the Union's General Executive Board.

Mr. DeSena has received several awards from various community and business organizations, including the Patriots Award for God, Country, and Home from the Catholic War Veterans Post 1612 and the Ladies Auxiliary.

He recently received the 2003 Honor Citizen Award from the New Jersey Honor Legion Police, and is a recipient of the Rudy DeAngelo Foundation Award and the Boy Scout Distinguished Award.

Mr. DeSena pursued professional studies at the Professional School of Business, St. Peter's College, Seton Hall University and Fairleigh Dickinson University. He and his wife Marie are the proud parents of Robert, Julianne, and Neil, and the grandparents of Jessica and Robert Thomas.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Neil DeSena for his years of service and dedication to the citizens of Bayonne.

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TRIBUTE TO C. DIXON OSBURN,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SLDN

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2003*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, this November marks 10 years since our Nation imposed the discriminatory law known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" on the lesbian, gay and bisexual patriots of our Nation. During the past decade, almost 10,000 men and women have been fired from our armed forces simply because of their sexual orientation.

Many of those men and women have sought the assistance and advocacy of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), the Nation's only legal aid and advocacy organization for those harmed by the military's gay ban. In August, SLDN's Executive Director, C. Dixon Osburn, commemorated 10 years of service to the organization he founded and the brave Americans it

serves. Mr. Osburn co-founded the organization in 1993 with former Army Captain Michelle Benecke.

Under Mr. Osburn's leadership, SLDN has provided legal services to 5,000 service members and obtained 35 changes in military policy and practice related to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass." Also under his leadership, SLDN's policy efforts have included obtaining new Pentagon and Service policies on anti-gay harassment, an Executive Order on hate crimes in the military and an Executive Order providing, for the first time, a limited psychotherapist privilege in the armed forces.

Due in large part to Mr. Osburn's work, The Boston Globe has said "[SLDN] knows far more than the Pentagon about what reality is like in the military and helps individuals caught in the mess." Deb Price of The Detroit News also commended their work, noting that: "SLDN has repeatedly forced the Pentagon not just to take notice, but to change." And The Nation reports, "It's amazing how much this small legal-aid group has accomplished already."

Mr. Osburn received the 1994 GAYLAW Distinguished National Service Award, and the 1998 Kevin Larkin Award for Public Service from the Massachusetts Lesbian and Gay Bar Association. In 1998, Mr. Osburn was named by The Advocate magazine as one of the Top 10 National Gay Leaders. In 2000, under Mr. Osburn's leadership, SLDN received "Organization of the Year" awards from both the District of Columbia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and the International Lesbian & Gay Museum of History. I am honored today to recognize his decade of leadership at the helm of SLDN and his unparalleled advocacy for our men and women in uniform.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 30, 2003 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## OCTOBER 1

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings to examine climate change.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 1643, to exempt certain coastal barrier property from financial assistance and flood insurance limitations under the Coastal Barriers Resources Act and the National Flood Act of 1968, S. 1066, to correct a technical error from Unit T-07 of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, S. 1663, to replace certain Coastal Barrier Resources System maps, S. 994, to protect human health and the environment from the release of hazardous substances by acts of terrorism, proposed legislation providing for the reauthorization of the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, and the nomination of Michael O. Leavitt, of Utah, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the need for federal real property reform.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Finance

Business meeting to consider an amendment in the nature of a substitute to S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/

ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dora L. Irizarry to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert B. Charles, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), and H. Douglas Barclay, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador.

SD-430

## OCTOBER 2

Time to be announced

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nomination of C. Suzanne Mencer, of Colorado, to be the Director of the Office for Domestic Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security.

Room to be announced

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine media ownership.

SR-253

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the implementation of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (Public Law 107-204) and restoring investor confidence.

SD-538

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Energy and Commerce to examine National Institutes of Health management of biomedical research to prevent and cure disease in the 21st Century.

SD-106

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 524, to expand the boundaries of the Fort Donelson National Battlefield to authorize the acquisition and interpretation of lands associated with the campaign that resulted in the capture of the fort in 1862, S. 1313, to establish the Congaree Swamp National Park in the State of South Carolina, S. 1472, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide a grant for the construction of a statue of Harry S. Truman at Union Station in Kansas City, Missouri, and

S. 1576, to revise the boundary of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1438, to provide for equitable compensation of the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation in settlement of claims of the Tribe concerning the contribution of the Tribe to the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam.

SR-485

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine Amtrak.

SR-253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine challenges for U.S. policy to Cuba.

SD-419

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## OCTOBER 15

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 550, to amend the Indian Land Consolidation Act to improve provisions relating to probate of trust and restricted land.

SR-485

## OCTOBER 16

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Missouri River Master Manual.

SR-485

## OCTOBER 21

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1565, to reauthorize the Native American Programs Act of 1974.

SR-485

## OCTOBER 22

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by a hearing on the Tribal Self Governance Act Amendments of 2003.

SR-485

## OCTOBER 30

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1097, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement the Calfed Bay-Delta Program.

SD-366