

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on Wednesday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. to consider pending calendar business:

Agenda Item 1: The nomination of Suede Kelly to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Agenda Item 2: Nomination of Rick Dearborn to be Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Energy.

Agenda Item 3: S.J. Res. 16—Joint resolution to approve the “Compact of Free Association, as amended between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia”, and the “Compact of Free Association, as amended between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands”, and otherwise to amend Public Law 99-239, and to appropriate for the purposes of amended Public Law 99-239 for fiscal year ending on or before September 30, 2023, and for other purposes.

In addition, the Committee may turn to any other measures that are ready for consideration.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 10 a.m., to consider a Chairman's Mark entitled, Extension of Highway Trust Fund Provisions, and S. 1548, Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit Act of 2003 (VEETC) (as modified by the Chairman's Mark); and, a Chairman's Mark entitled, National Employee Saving and Trust Equity Guarantee Act; and H.R. 743, The Social Security Program Protection Act of 2003.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 17, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on U.S. Energy Security: West Africa & Latin America.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. for a hearing titled “U.S. Postal Service: What Can Be Done to Ensure Its Future Viability?”

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on S. 420, a bill to provide for the acknowledgement of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 10 a.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office building room 226 on “Judicial Nominations.”

Witness List:

Panel I: Senators.

Panel II: David W. McKeague to United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Panel III: Margaret Catharine Rogers to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida; Roger W. Titus to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland; George W. Miller to be Judge for the United States Court of Federal Claims.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 2 p.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office building room 226 on “Combating Gang Violence in America: Examining Effective Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement Strategies.”

Witness List:

Panel I: The Honorable Patrick Fitzgerald, United States Attorney, Northern District of Illinois, Chicago, IL; The Honorable Debra W. Yang, United States Attorney, Central District of California, Los Angeles, CA; The Honorable Christopher J. Christie, United States Attorney, District of New Jersey, Newark, NJ; Special Agent Grant Ashley, Assistant Director, FBI, Criminal Investigative Division, Washington, DC.

Panel II: The Honorable Robert P. McCulloch, President, National District Attorney Association, Alexandria, VA; Mr. Wes McBride, President, California Gang Investigators Association, Huntington Beach, CA; The Honorable Eddie J. Jordan, Jr., District Attorney, District of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent Larissa Sommer and Ron Hooper of my

staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of debate on the fiscal year 2004 Interior and Related Agencies Act.

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

COMMEMORATING DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND BULGARIA

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further action on S. Res. 225 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 225) commemorating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the amendment to the preamble be agreed to, and the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; further, that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and any statements regarding this matter appear in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 1738) was agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1738

(Purpose: To make a technical correction)

In the ninth whereas clause of the preamble, strike “2003, Bulgaria was invited to join” and insert “2002, Bulgaria was invited to accession talks with”.

The resolution (S. Res. 225) was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 225

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Bulgaria on September 19, 1903;

Whereas the United States acknowledges the courage of the Bulgarian people in deciding to pursue a free, democratic, and independent Bulgaria and the steadfast perseverance of the Bulgarian people in building a society based on democratic values, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas the Bulgarian people, including Bulgarian civil and religious leaders, bravely protected 50,000 Bulgarian Jews from deportation and extermination during the Holocaust;

Whereas Bulgaria has supported stability in the Balkans by rendering support to Operation Allied Force and Operation Joint Guardian led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and by providing peacekeeping troops to the Stabilisation Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to the Kosovo Force in Kosovo;

Whereas Bulgaria was among the very first countries to denounce terrorism and pledge active support to the United States in the fight against terrorism following the events of September 11, 2001;

Whereas Bulgaria provided overflight and basing rights at the town of Burgas for Operation Enduring Freedom and Bulgaria deployed a military unit to Afghanistan as

part of the International Security Assistance Force;

Whereas Bulgaria has stood firmly by the United States in the cause of advancing freedom worldwide during its tenure as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas Bulgaria met each request of the United States relating to overflight and basing rights as well as transit of United States and coalition forces, and deployed a 500-man infantry battalion as part of a stabilization force in Iraq;

Whereas in November 2002, Bulgaria was invited to accession talks with NATO and has shown determination in enacting the continued reforms necessary to be a productive, contributing member of the Alliance;

Whereas Bulgaria strongly supports the strengthening of trans-Atlantic relations and considers the relations to be a basis for NATO unity and cooperation in countering new threats to global security; and

Whereas in May 2003, the Senate gave its consent with 96 votes to 0 for the ratification of the accession protocols of Bulgaria and 6 other aspirant countries from Central and Eastern Europe to NATO, thereby welcoming their contribution to common trans-Atlantic security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 100 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria;

(2) commends the Republic of Bulgaria for developing increasingly friendly and broadly based relations with the United States, which are now the most favorable in the history of United States-Bulgaria relations;

(3) recognizes Bulgaria's continued contributions towards bringing peace, stability, and prosperity to the region of southeastern Europe, including the contributions of Bulgaria to regional security and democratic stability;

(4) salutes Bulgaria's willing cooperation and increasingly vital role as a valuable ally in the war against international terrorism;

(5) highlights the importance of Bulgaria's active participation in regional initiatives such as the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, the Southeast Europe Cooperative Initiative, and the Southeast Europe Cooperation Process, and the various projects of those initiatives, which are focused on fighting crime and corruption, increasing trade, improving the investment climate, and generally preparing Bulgaria and Southeast Europe as a whole for eventual membership in the European Union; and

(6) encourages opportunities for greater cooperation between the United States and Bulgaria in the political, military, economic, and cultural spheres.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAWRENCE EUGENE "LARRY" DOBY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 235 which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 235) celebrating the life and achievements of Lawrence Eugene "Larry" Doby.

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

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, the Senate is poised to pass H. Con. Res. 235, a measure that pays tribute to a legendary American pioneer and a long-time friend of mine, Larry Doby, who died on June 18. I appreciate the willingness of the majority and minority leaders to expedite Senate consideration of this measure, and I applaud the efforts of Congressman BILL PASCRELL of my home State of New Jersey, who introduced it in the House of Representatives.

I first met Larry when we were thirteen or fourteen. We went to school together at Eastside High in my hometown, Paterson, NJ. The first time I saw him, he was running track, doing the broad jump. And he was amazing. We stayed in touch over the many years that have passed since then.

Larry Doby was an exceptional athlete—one of our very best—and an exciting player to watch on the field. But he was much more than that; he was a great man and he was also a good man. He had so much dignity. Though Larry Doby has died, the path he blazed for African-Americans remains.

Few people realize that Larry began his groundbreaking athletic career in 1943—at the age of 18—as the first African-American to play in the American Basketball League for the Paterson Panthers. He then moved on to baseball, playing for the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League. After returning from his service to the Navy for 2 years, Larry hit .414 with 14 home runs in his final season in Newark.

It was on July 5, 1947, just 11 weeks after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in major league baseball, that Larry Doby signed a contract with the Cleveland Indians of the American league. He was the first African-American player in the American League. Larry had no intention or desire to become part of history. When Indians owner Bill Veeck predicted to Larry that he would "be part of history," Larry replied, "I had no notions about that. I just wanted to play baseball."

And play baseball he did, and quite well. Larry was an All-Star seven times in his 13-year career. In the 1948 World Series between Cleveland and the Boston Braves, his home run in Game 4 broke a 1-1 tie; Cleveland won 2-1 and went on to win the Series in six games. He hit at least 20 home runs in eight straight seasons and was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998.

Larry became the second African-American manager of a major league team when he took over as skipper of the Chicago White Sox in 1978. He was also the director of community relations for the New Jersey Nets in the late 1970s, encouraging the development of youth programs in urban New Jersey.

Larry was a superb athlete, but things didn't come easy for him. When he joined the Indians, he was harassed by opposing players and fans. He was forced to eat in separate restaurants,

to sleep in separate hotels. Some of his own teammates wouldn't even shake his hand. But he pressed on, and we're a better country for it.

At the memorial service for Larry, Newark Star-Ledger sports columnist Jerry Izenberg recalled the day that Larry entered the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. The two of them paused in front of a large photo snapped immediately after Game 4 of the 1948 World Series—the game Larry won with his home run. The photo showed Larry and winning pitcher Steve Gromek hugging each other. Larry reminisced that the photo appeared on the front pages of a lot of newspapers the next day and said to Jerry, "That was the first time you could see a black and white person embrace on the first page of papers." "At the time," Jerry said, "America needed that picture. And Larry was so proud to have played a part in giving America what it needed."

Larry said it best in a speech he gave after his career had ended. He said, "We can see that baseball helped make this a better country. We hope baseball has given (children) some idea of what it is to live together and how you can get along, whether you are black or white."

By this resolution Congress is showing its appreciation on behalf of all Americans to Larry Doby for his role in breaking down racial barriers in baseball and in America. I'll say here what I said at his memorial service: "When we stand every day for the things we believe in, we'll be standing for Larry Doby." His family will miss him. I will miss him. America will miss him.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent 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, without intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 235) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 49

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 49 which was just received from the House is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the title of the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 49) to permanently extend the moratorium enacted by the Internet Tax Freedom Act, and for other purposes.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.