

by the Commandant in time of war or a national emergency; and

(D) to hold the Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from use of the vessel by the Government under subparagraph (C);

(2) to have funds available that will be committed to operate and maintain the vessel conveyed in good working condition—

(A) in the form of cash, liquid assets, or a written loan commitment; and

(B) in an amount of at least \$700,000; and

(3) to agree to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(d) **MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.**—Prior to conveyance of a vessel under this section, the Commandant may, to the extent practical, and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, make every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery. The Commandant shall deliver a vessel conveyed under this section at the place where the vessel is located, in its present condition, and without cost to the Government. The conveyance of a vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

(e) **OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.**—The Commandant may convey to the recipient of a vessel under this section any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the vessel's operability and function as an historical display.

SEC. 404. KOSS COVE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or existing policy, the cove described in subsection (b) shall be known and designated as "Koss Cove", in honor of the late Able Bodied Seaman Eric Steiner Koss of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel RAINIER who died in the performance of a nautical charting mission off the coast of Alaska.

(b) **COVE DESCRIBED.**—The cove referred to in subsection (a) is—

(1) adjacent to and southeast of Point Elrington, Alaska, and forms a portion of the southern coast of Elrington Island;

(2) $\frac{3}{4}$ mile across the mouth;

(3) centered at 59 degrees 56.1 minutes North, 148 degrees 14 minutes West; and

(4) 45 miles from Seward, Alaska.

(c) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference in any law, regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to the cove described in subsection (b) is deemed to be a reference to Koss Cove.

SEC. 405. DECLARATION OF NON-NAVIGABILITY FOR PORTION OF THE WATEREE RIVER.

For purposes of bridge administration, the portion of the Wateree River, in the State of South Carolina, 100 feet upstream and downstream of the railroad bridge at approximately mile marker 10.0, is declared to not be navigable waters of the United States for purposes of the General Bridge Act of 1946 (33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.).

SEC. 406. CORRECTION OF 2002 COASTWISE TRADE AUTHORIZATION PROVISION.

Section 213(b) of the Maritime Policy Improvement Act of 2002 is amended by striking "transport and launch" and inserting "transport or launch".

SEC. 407. INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATIVES.

The Commandant of the Coast Guard may consult with the Office of Naval Research and other Federal agencies with research and development programs that may provide in-

novative construction alternatives for the Integrated Deepwater System.

SEC. 408. BRIDGE ADMINISTRATION.

Section 325(b) of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1983 (Pub. L. 97-369; 96 Stat. 1765) is amended by striking "provides at least thirty feet of vertical clearance Columbia River datum and at least eighty feet of horizontal clearance, as" and inserting "is so".

SEC. 409. NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 98. National Coast Guard Museum

"(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may establish a new National Coast Guard Museum on Federal lands administered by the Coast Guard at a location specified by the Commandant.

"(b) **FUNDING.**—The National Coast Guard Museum should be supported with nonappropriated Federal funds or nonfederal funds to the maximum extent practicable and that the priority for appropriated funds should be to preserve and protect historic Coast Guard artifacts and to promote the purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

"(c) **LOCATION.**—The National Coast Guard Museum may be located at, or in close proximity to, the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut or at a location with a comparable historic connection to the Coast Guard that will similarly enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of the Coast Guard's maritime history.

"(d) **FUNDING PLAN.**—Before the date on which the Commandant establishes a museum under subsection (a), the Commandant shall provide to the Committees on Commerce of the Senate and on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a plan for constructing, operating and maintaining such a museum, including—

"(1) estimated planning, engineering, design, construction, operation, and maintenance costs;

"(2) the extent to which appropriated, nonappropriated, and nonfederal funds would be used for such purposes; and

"(3) a certification by the Inspector General of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating that the estimates provided pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) are reasonable and realistic."

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The chapter analysis for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 98. National Coast Guard Museum."

SA 2955. Mr. ALEXANDER (for Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2443, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2004, to amend various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read A Bill To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 for the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the National Park Service concessions program, including implementation of the National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998.

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Sarah Creachbaum at (202) 224-6293.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., in closed session to receive testimony on the Second Interim Report of the Iraq Survey Group.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 2 p.m., to conduct a vote on the nomination of the Honorable Alphonso R. Jackson, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and to conduct a markup of S. 2238, "The Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004."

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. on the nominations of Theodore W. Kassinger, to be Deputy Secretary of DOT, Deborah Hersman to be a Member of the NTSB, Thomas Moore to be a Commissioner of the CPSC, Joseph Brennan, to be a Commissioner of the FMC, Paul Anderson to be a Commissioner of the FMC, and Jack McGregor to be a Member of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, in SR253.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ENZI. 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 Tuesday, March 30, at 10 a.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, to consider favorably reporting the nomination of Donald Korb, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 9 a.m., in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office building to conduct an oversight hearing on the Inter-Tribal Timber Council's Indian Forest Management Assessment Team Report. Immediately following the close of that hearing, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing on S. 868, a bill to amend the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Restoration Amendments Act of 2003.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2004, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on Army aviation programs, in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005 and the future years Defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Aviation Sub-

committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. for a closed hearing on Aviation Security, in SR-253.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, THE BUDGET, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing entitled, "The Federal Government's Role In Empowering Americans To Make Informed Financial Decisions."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 30, 2004, at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of this hearing is to conduct oversight on National Heritage Areas, including findings and recommendations of the General Accounting Office, the definition of a National Heritage Area, the definition of National Significance as it relates to national heritage areas, recommendations for establishing national heritage areas as units of the national park system, recommendations for prioritizing proposed studies and designations, and options for developing a national heritage area program within the National Park Service.

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

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2443 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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. 2443) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2004, to amend various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate has favorably considered the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2003, and will pass by unanimous consent the Senate manager's amendment to H.R. 2443. We look forward to working with the House to quickly reach agreement on a final bill for passage in both houses.

Senator HOLLINGS and I have agreed to work with the House through a bal-

anced, bipartisan conference committee. The Senate members would include five majority and four minority members of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. We plan to work together in a bipartisan manner to support the provisions of the Senate bill, while working with the House conference members to reach a final bill acceptable to all conferees. We will also include one majority and one minority member of the Environment and Public Works Committee to work with us on provisions in the bill that amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I am likewise pleased that the Senate will pass this important authorization bill for the Coast Guard. I look forward to working with Senator MCCAIN and the other members of the conference committee to reach a final consensus bill that we can adopt in both houses.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the McCain amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read for a third time and passed, the title amendment be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The amendment (No. 2954) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The amendment (No. 2955) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read A Bill To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 for the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

The bill (H.R. 2443) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I further ask that the Senate insist upon its amendments, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, and that the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees at a ratio of 5-4 on the Commerce Committee and 1-1 on the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

The Presiding officer (Mr. TALENT) APPOINTED MR. MCCAIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LOTT, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BREAU, and Mr. WYDEN; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Mr. INHOFE and Mr. JEFFORDS, conferees on the part of the Senate.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Helping to Enhance the Livelihood of People (HELP) Around the Globe Commission: Eric G. Postel of Wisconsin.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 108-199,