

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to close or relocate a county or local Farm Service Agency office unless or until the Secretary of Agriculture has determined the cost effectiveness and enhancement of program delivery of the closure or relocation, and report to the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture and Appropriations.

SA 1764. Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 85, line 15, strike "\$128,072,000" and insert "\$116,072,000".

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. In addition to other amounts made available by this Act, \$12,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for the provision of specialty crop block grants under section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-465; 7 U.S.C. 1621 note), of which not more than 5 percent shall be available for administrative expenses.

SA 1765. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. 90 days before initiating any structural change in a mission area of the Department, the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide notice of the change to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SA 1766. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 154, line 10, insert ", Cleburne County, Arkansas," after "Montana".

SA 1767. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall initiate an inquiry into the retail prices of natural gas and gasoline to determine if the prices of natural gas and gasoline (both before and after Hurricane Katrina), including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is being arti-

ficially manipulated by reducing refinery capacity, by speculation in oil market, or by any other form of manipulation.

(b) Not later than 14 days after the initiation of the inquiry required under subsection (a), the Federal Trade Commission shall report to Congress the results of the inquiry.

(c) Not later than 14 days after issuing the report required under subsection (b), the Federal Trade Commission shall hold a public hearing for the purpose of presenting the results of the inquiry.

(d)(1) If the Federal Trade Commission determines that the increase in natural gas and gasoline prices, including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is a result of market manipulation, the Federal Trade Commission shall, in cooperation with the attorney general of any affected State, take appropriate action.

(2) If the Federal Trade Commission determines that the increase in natural gas and gasoline prices, including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is not the result of market manipulation, the Federal Trade Commission shall notify the Secretary of Energy. The Secretary shall, not later than 14 days after receiving such notification, decide if expanded use of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve should be implemented to assure adequate supplies of gasoline.

(e) This section shall cease to apply on—

(1) the date the Federal Trade Commission makes its determination described in subsection (d); or

(2) if applicable, the date of the decision of the Secretary of Energy under paragraph (2) of such subsection.

SA 1768. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Section 1502 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7982) is amended in subsections (f) and (g)(1) by striking "2005" each place it appears and inserting "2007".

SA 1769. Mr. DAYTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out section 508A(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508A(c)) in a manner that applies the term "crop year" in a manner that fails to take into account the varying climates of different regions of the United States.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Ms. SNOWE, Mr. President, the Chair wishes to inform Members that the

Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship will hold a public hearing entitled, "The Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Small Businesses" on Thursday, September 22, 2005, at 10 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. BENNETT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry be authorized to conduct a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 10 a.m. in SR-328A, Russell Senate Office Building. The purpose of this meeting will be to markup S. 1582, a bill to reauthorize the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT, 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 September 20, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. Emil Henry Jr., of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; Ms. Scottie Theresa Neese, of Oklahoma, to be Director of the United States Mint; and Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Minnesota, to be Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing, Department of the Treasury.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BENNETT, 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, September 20 at 10 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony regarding the current state of climate change scientific research and the economics of strategies to manage climate change. Issues to be discussed include: the relationship between energy consumption and climate change, and the potential effects on the U.S. economy of climate change and strategies to control greenhouse gas emissions.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BENNETT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations' Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, and Narcotics Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on China's Role in Latin America.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to meet to conduct a hearing on "The Kelo Decision: Investigating Takings of Homes and other Private Property" on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 10 a.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226. The tentative witness list is attached.

Panel I: The Honorable John Cornyn, United States Senator [R-TX].

Panel II: Ms. Susette Kelo, New London, CT; Fred Jenkins, Pastor, St. Luke's Pentecostal Church, North Hempstead, NY; The Honorable Eddie A. Perez, Mayor, Representing the National League of Cities, Hartford, CT; Hilary O. Shelton, Director, NAACP Washington Bureau, Washington, DC; Thomas Merrill, Charles Keller Beekman Professor of Law, Columbia University, New York City, NY; Steven J. Eagle, Professor of Law, George Mason University, Arlington, VA.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREDICTION

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention and Prediction be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, at 3 p.m., on Review of the Prediction of Hurricane Katrina.

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1718

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1718) to provide special rules for disaster relief employment under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 for individuals displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 21. I further ask consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for up to 60

minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee and the final 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee; provided that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2744, the Agriculture appropriations bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, tomorrow, the Senate will return to the consideration of the Agriculture appropriations bill. Under a previous order, there is a filing deadline of 4 p.m. for first-degree amendments. I urge Senators to come forward early with their amendments so we can finish the bill tomorrow night. Rollcall votes will occur throughout the day tomorrow, and I announce on behalf of the majority leader that a late night may be necessary in order to finish the bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:36 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 21, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.