

in large measure, depend on our level of preparedness and the amount of resources we are willing to immediately commit to deal with this looming crisis.

Over the last few months, we have seen alarming reports from countries all over Asia—Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Thailand, and Russia, just to name a few—about deaths that have resulted from the avian flu.

The situation has turned so ominous that Dr. Julie Gerberding, the Director of the CDC, said that an avian flu outbreak is “the most important threat that we are facing [today].”

International health experts say that two of the three conditions for an avian flu pandemic in Southeast Asia already exist.

First, a new strain of the virus, called H5N1, has emerged, and humans have little or no immunity to it. Second, this strain has demonstrated the ability to jump between species.

The only thing preventing a full blown pandemic is a lack of efficient transmission of this strain from human to human. Once that happens, as a consequence of international travel and commerce, there is not going to be any way to effectively contain this pandemic.

Moreover, the news on this last point is not good. In recent months, the virus has been detected in mammals that have never previously been infected, including tigers, leopards and domestic cats. This suggests that the virus is mutating and could eventually emerge in a form that is readily transmittable among humans.

Mr. President, Senator REID and Senator DURBIN both outlined some of the measures that have to be put in place here domestically to protect our population. We have to drastically ramp up our stockpiles of Tamiflu, which, if taken properly, could act as a treatment from the avian flu once a person is infected. Right now, we only have a couple of million doses. We need 80 million to 100 million doses in order to be adequately prepared. That is going to cost us significant amounts of money, as the cost of Tamiflu is approximately \$20 per dose.

In addition, we are going to have to develop flu vaccines of a sort we have not seen in the past. In order to create sufficient quantities, we are going to have to go push the boundaries of existing technologies and science—going beyond the agricultural mechanisms of developing vaccines that we have used in the past.

Third, we are going to make sure that local and State governments understand how urgent this is. We have to ensure there are clear plans, coordination mechanisms, and lines of authority—that will stand up in a time of crisis. Right now, we do not have sufficient plans in place to make sure local and State agencies are able to generate the kinds of rapid responses that are going to be necessary in the case of a flu outbreak.

After Katrina, I hope that local and State governments understand they have to work with the Federal agencies more effectively to deal with these kinds of emergencies.

Another issue I would mention is that we are going to have to establish international protocols to ensure we can alert ourselves rapidly if we have confirmed cases of human-to-human transmission of the avian flu anywhere in the world. Why do I mention this? If we detect efficient human-to-human transmission, it is likely that we are going to have only weeks before we are going to see those first cases in the United States.

This means placing effective trigger mechanisms in all these countries to make sure everyone is cooperating and providing rapid information, which could mean the difference in terms of tens or hundreds of thousands of lives.

Now I don't want to suggest that nothing is being done. For example, months ago, Congress, on a bipartisan basis including myself, Senator LUGAR, Senator MCCONNELL, and Senator LEAHY—included \$25 million as part of the Iraq supplemental to make contribute to an urgent WHO appeal on this issue. Today, this money is making a difference in the field trying to set up some of the international measures I just described.

I, along with Senators LUGAR, DURBIN and others, introduced legislation, S. 969, to enhance our ability to deal with this potential crisis. But that was months ago, and we need to broaden the number of people involved in this effort.

Moreover, these is are modest first steps. Going forward, we are going to need significantly more resources. I am eager to work with leaders on health issues, including Senator HARKIN and Senator REID, as well as others across the aisle.

I hope we can work not only to make sure we have an effective international regime to deal with this problem overseas but that we also invest the time, the energy, and the resources needed to put in place effective measures well before we have a full blown crisis on our hands.

An outbreak of the avian flu could occur in a year, 5 years, 10 years, or if we were incredibly lucky not happen at all. But the one good thing about investing in measures to deal with this looming crisis is—and I will end on this point—if we spend the money now, it will pay dividends, even if this particular strain of the avian flu outbreak does not occur.

Why is this the case? The risk of some sort of pandemic, and the mutations of flus for which we have no immunity, is almost inevitable. The H5N1 strain may not be the strain that leads to a full blown pandemic. But, another strain could easily come along a cause serious damage in the future.

Presently, we simply do not have the public health infrastructure to deal adequately with this contingency.

My point is this: undertaking these measures is going to be a wise investment that will help protect the lives of millions of people here in the United States and across the globe.

Mr. President, I appreciate your patience very much and look forward to working with you on this issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I thank the Senator.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:37 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 29, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 28, 2005:

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

JENDAYI ELIZABETH FRAZER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (AFRICAN AFFAIRS), TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 27, 2009. VICE CONSTANCE BERRY NEWMAN.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

HORACE A. THOMPSON, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 27, 2011. VICE JAMES M. STEPHENS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KENT D. TALBERT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE BRIAN JONES, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CAROL E. DINKINS, OF TEXAS, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD. (NEW POSITION)

ALAN CHARLES RAUL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD. (NEW POSITION)

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE FOLLOWING FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.

To be lieutenant junior grade

MELISSA M. FORD

To be ensign

MADELEINE M. ADLER
CAROL N. ARSENAULT
JAMES L. BRINKLEY
JOHN E. CHRISTENSEN
SEAN M. FINNEY
LAUREL K. JENNINGS
GUINEVERE R. LEWIS
ALLISON R. MARTIN
JASON R. SAXE
PAUL M. SMIDANSKY
DAVID A. STRAUSS
REBECCA J. WADDINGTON
JAMIE S. WASSER

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATE FOR PERSONNEL ACTION IN THE REGULAR COMPONENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS:

1. FOR APPOINTMENT:

To be assistant surgeon

LEAH HILL

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR PERSONNEL ACTION IN THE REGULAR COMPONENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS:

1. FOR APPOINTMENT:

To be medical director

GREGORY A. ABBOTT

To be senior surgeon

WANDA DENISE BARFIELD
RUTHANN M. GIUSTI
SONJA S. HUTCHINS

SUSAN A. MALONEY
PATRICIA M. SIMONE
PAMELA STRATTON

To be surgeon

MARTA-LOUISE ACKERS
PAUL MATTHEW ARGUIN
ULANA R. BODNAR
WILLIAM ALFRED BOWER
JOSEPH S. BRESNA
DAVID BOSWELL CALLAHAN
JOHN R. MACARTHUR
JEFFREY W. MCFARLAND
KATHERINE G. MULLIGAN
ROBERT DAVID NEWMAN
KEVIN ANDREW PROHASKA
WILLIAM RESTO-RIVERA
THERESA LOUISE SMITH
JEREMY SOBEL
KAY M. TOMASHEK
MICHELLE S. WEINBERG

To be senior assistant surgeon

MEI LIN CASTOR
EILEEN F. DUNNE
SCOTT ALLEN HARPER
MATTHEW ROBERT MOORE
THOMAS M. WEISER
SARA JEANNE WHITEHEAD
HUI-HSING WONG

To be senior dental surgeon

STEVEN D. FLORER
JOHN W. KING
STEPHEN P. TORNA

To be dental surgeon

WILLIAM DENZELL CAVANAUGH
RENEE JOSKOW
HSIAO P. PENG
DARLA DIANNE WHITFIELD

To be senior assistant dental surgeon

MAYRA ARROYO-ORTIZ
RAYMOND A. DAILEY
KIM NANCY HORT
MARY BETH JOHNSON
ROBERT C. LLOYD, JR.
WILLIAM B. PARRISH
TANYA M. ROBINSON
CURTIS D. SPANN
VANESSA F. THOMAS
EARLENA R. WILSON

To be senior nurse officer

KATHERINE A. COINER
SHEILA F. MAHONEY

To be nurse officer

HELGA C. BACA
NANCY F. BARTOLINI
KATHERINE MARIE BERKHOUSEN
SUSAN KATHRYN BROWN
JUANITA M. FOX
MARGARET K. GRISMER
LISA M. HOGAN
EDECIA ALEXANDRIA RICHARDS
KONSTANTINE K. WELD
ADOLFO ZORRILLA

To be senior assistant nurse officer

AMY FRANCES ANDERSON
LISA A. BARNHART
ELIZABETH ANNE BOOT
ALICIA ANNE BRADFORD
REGINA D. BRADLEY
NICHOLE J. CHAMBERLAIN
ALAN RICHARD CONDON
DAVID ALLEN CROSS
JOHN W. DAVID, JR.
SUSIE PAPAIZIAN DILL
KIMBERLY JILL ELENBERG
BRADLEY JOHN ESPESETH
JOHN S. GARY, JR.
CHERYL LYNN CARZA
PATRICIA NOTTINGHAM GARZONE
GEORGE ROBERT GENTILE
WAYNE KEITH GRANT
WAYNE M. HALONEN
LORI A. HUNTER
CYNTHIA RENEE JAMES
NATALIE A. KEATING
NICOLE ANTOINETTE KNIGHT
AKUA O. KWATEMA
YVONNE TERESA LACOUR
YVETTE MARIA LACOUR-DAVIS
CAROL S. LINCOLN
SHERRY LEE LULU
JOHN THOMAS MALLIOS
ROSALIE A. MASHTALIER
CHRISTINE M. MATTSO
MAUREEN JANE MCARTHUR
TAMI LEE MCBRIDE
ALBERTA M. MCCABE
BRIAN M. MCDONOUGH
QUENTIN E. MOORE
VICTORIA LYNN OBOCZKY
DEAN B. PEDERSEN
ALBERT PERRINE, JR.
ALOIS P. PROVOST
JOSIE C. RICCI
KELLY DUANE RICHARDS
ABELARDO F. ROMAN
TIARA ROSE RUFF

ARTHUR S. TAICH
VINCENT M. THRUATCHLEY
HYOSIM S. TRAPP
AMY BETH WEBB
KELLIE LYNN WESTERBUHR
ANGEL L. WILSON
MARC E. WINOKUR

To be assistant nurse officer

DAVID ANDREW CAMPBELL
DARRELL LYONS
CHRISTINE MARIE MERENDA
GLORIA M. RODRIGUES

To be engineer officer

DAVID WILLIAM AUSDEMORE
DEREK W. CHAMBERS
SUSAN KAYE NEURATH
KENNETH TOM SUN

To be senior assistant engineer officer

MARK T. BADER
LORETTA B. BARRANGER
STEVEN J. DYKSTRA
DENNIS I. HAAG
KATHERINE ELIZABETH JACOBITZ
STEPHEN B. MARTIN, JR.
JOHN PAUL NICHOLS
JOHN B. PULSIPHER
MICHAEL B. REA
NICHOLAS R. VIZZONE
SHARI L. WINDT

To be senior scientist

JOSEPH L. DESPINS

To be scientist

JON RUSSELL DAUGHERTY
JOHN MOSELY HAYES
MELANIE FAITH MYERS
BENNIE D. WHEAT

To be senior assistant scientist

RACHEL NONKIN AVCHEN
ARTENSIE RENEE FLOWERS
PETER DAMIAN MCELROY
DIANA LOUISE SCHNEIDER
MARK JOSEPH SEATON

To be environmental health officer

JEAN ANN GAUNCE
DANIEL J. HEWETT
JOSELITO SANCHEZ IGNACIO
TIMOTHY M. RADTKE

To be senior assistant environmental health

DONALD STEWART ACKERMAN
CHARLES M. BLUE
MICHAEL GEORGE BOX
WILLIAM C. CRUMP
RONALD MATTHEW HALL
JAMES R. HOWELL
BOBBY T. VILLINES

To be senior veterinary officer

WALTER R. DALEY

To be veterinary officer

TRACEE A. TREADWELL

To be senior assistant veterinary officer

MARIANNE PHELAN ROSS
REGINA LORAIN TAN
VENTITA B. THORNTON
ALLISON M. WILLIAMS

To be senior pharmacist

M. CARLENE MCINTYRE

To be pharmacist

THOMAS RAYMOND BERRY
BARBARA J. FINNEGAN
BETH FABIAN FRITSCH
STEVEN DAVID MAZZELLA
ANGELA MADDREY PAYNE
ROBERT CHARLES STEYERT
JULIENNE M. VAILLANCOURT
PRESTON L. VANCUREN

To be senior assistant pharmacist

CHRISTOPHER KEITH ALLEN
DEMETRIA J. ARGIROPOULOS
WILLIAM H. BENDER
MARY A. BICKEL
KEVIN D. BROOKS
TAMMY L. BUNTJER
MARY CATHERINE BYRNE
BRIAN NEIL CAMPBELL
JASON FOSTER CHANCEY
JAMES MICHAEL CHAPPLE
KAI L. CHIU
CHAE UN CHONG
WILBERT DARWIN, JR.
CORNELIUS DIAL
DAVID TERWASE DIWA
RICHARD E. ERICKSON II
KRISTA SUE EVANS
JAMES B. GIBSON
STEVEN JOE GRAY
ANDREW STEPHEN HAFFER
JACQUELINE W. LEA
KAREN ELIZABETH MCNABB-NOON

GLENN A. LOUISE MEADE
ANDREW KEVIN MEAGHER
JEFFREY GLENN NEWMAN
CUTHBERT T. PALAT III
KRISTA MARIE SCARDINA
RANDY LEE SEYS
MARTIN H. SHIMER II
STEVEN C. SMALLEY
JACQUELINE KAREN THOMAS
KELLY ERIN VALENTE
SAMUEL YU-SHU WU
CHI-ANN YU WU
SHERRI A. YODER
CHARLA M. YOUNG
BRIAN KEITH JOHNSTON
RYAN LYNN STEVENS
ALICE SZE-MAN TSAO

To be dietitian

JEAN R. MAKIE
VANGIE R. TATE

To be senior assistant dietitian

SUZAN ELIZABETH DUNAWAY

To be senior therapist

SUSAN F. MILLER

To be therapist

MERCEDES J. BENITEZ-MCCRARY
LIZA M. FIGUEROA
KATHLEEN M. MANRIQUE

To be senior assistant therapist

DENISE M. BRASSEAU
ALEXEI A. DESATOFF
JEFFREY JOSEPH LAWRENCE
HENRY PAUL MCMILLAN
LORRIE LEA MURDOCH
SUE N. NEWMAN
ROBERT E. ROE, JR.
STEPHEN SHUMWAY SPAULDING
JULIE MARGARET VAN LEUVEN

To be health services director

DAVID C. KVAMME

To be senior health services officer

RICHARD A. MARCH

To be health services officer

CHRISTOPHER JOHN BERSANI
LINDA KAY BRANDT
KELLIE J. CLELLAND
GREGORY DALE CLIFT
PHILIP SIMMONS MCRAE
JUDY B. PYANT
RAFAEL ANGEL SALAS
JEANEAN DENISE WILLIS
ELISE SIU YOUNG

To be senior assistant health services officer

NOREEN K. ADAY
CLAYTON M. BELGARDE
DAVID J. BELLWARE
JEFFREY S. BUCKSER
GEORGE L. CARTER
KEITH WILLIAM CESPON
DIMITRUS CULBREATH
MICHAEL WILLIAM DAVIS
STEPHEN M. DEARWENT, JR.
LYNETTE R. DZIUK
NIMA N. FELDMAN
PATRICK M. FITZWATER
CELIA SYDONNE GABREL
STACEY R. GOODING
ROBERT T. HARRIS
DANIEL H. HESSELGESSER
ROBIN ANN JACKSON
TOBEY CANDICE MANN
JACK F. MARTINEZ
JOHN D. MAYNARD
FRANCES PAULA PLACIDE
PRISCILLA RODRIGUEZ
CLAUDINE MICHELE SAMANIC
ANGEL GUSTAVO SEINOS
FELICIA BINION WILLIAMS
JAMES F. ZINK

To be assistant health services officer

SHAWN DAVID BLACKSHEAR
SEAN RANDALL BYRD
WILLIAM LEVI COOPER
TORREY BETH DARKENWALD
DEBORAH ANN DOODY
CARL A. HUFFMAN III

THE JUDICIARY

TIMOTHY C. BATTEN, SR., OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VICE WILLIS B. HUNT, JR., RETIRED.
KRISTI DUBOSE, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, VICE CHARLES R. BUTLER, RETIRED.
THOMAS E. JOHNSTON, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA, VICE CHARLES H. HADEN, II, DECEASED.
VIRGINIA MARY KENDALL, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE SUSANNE B. CONLON, RETIRED.
W. KEITH WATKINS, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, VICE WILLIAM HAROLD ALBRITTON, III, RETIRED.