

(C) located only within the Walker River Paiute Indian Reservation.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations will hold a hearing entitled "The Container Security Initiative and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism: Securing the Global Supply Chain or Trojan Horse?" In light of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, concern has increased that terrorists could smuggle weapons of mass destruction in the approximately 9 million ocean going containers that arrive in the United States every year. As part of its overall response to the threat of terrorism, the Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (Customs) implemented the Container Security Initiative (CSI) to screen high-risk containers at sea ports overseas, thus employing screening tools before potentially dangerous cargoes reach our shores. Customs also implemented the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) to improve the security of the global supply chain in partnership with the private sector.

Both CSI and C-TPAT face a number of compelling challenges that impact their ability to safeguard our Nation from terrorism. The Subcommittee's April 26 hearing will examine how Customs utilizes CSI and C-TPAT in connection with its other enforcement programs and review the requirements for and challenges involved in transitioning CSI and C-TPAT from promising risk management concepts to effective and sustained enforcement operations. These important Customs initiatives required sustained Congressional oversight. As such, this will be the first of several hearings the Subcommittee intends to hold on the response of the Federal Government to terrorist threats.

The Subcommittee hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Raymond V. Shepherd, III, Staff Director and Chief Counsel to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the following nominations: (1) Honorable Gordon R. England to be Deputy Secretary of Defense; and (2) Admiral Michael G.

Mullen, USN, for reappointment to the grade of Admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. 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 April 19, 2005, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on "Proposals for Improving the Regulation of the Housing Government Sponsored Enterprises."

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. FRIST. 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, April 19, at 10 a.m. in room SD-366.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony concerning offshore hydrocarbon production and the future of alternate energy resources on the Outer Continental Shelf. Issues to be discussed include: recent technological advancements made in the offshore exploration and production of traditional forms of energy, and the future of deep shelf and deepwater production. Enhancements in worker safety, and steps taken by the offshore oil and gas industry to meet environmental challenges. Participants in the hearing will also address ways that the Federal Government can facilitate increased exploration and production offshore while protecting the environment. New approaches to help diversify the offshore energy mix will also be discussed.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at 10 a.m., to consider an original bill entitled, "Highway Reauthorization and Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2005" and, S. 661, "the United States Tax Court Modernization Act".

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, to mark up the nomination of Mr. Jonathan B. Perlin to be Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans' Affairs; and to hold a Committee hearing titled "Back from the Battlefield, Part II: Seamless Transition to Civilian Life."

The meeting will take place in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10:15 a.m.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing.

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

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMPETITION POLICY, AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy, and Consumer Rights be authorized to meet on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 to conduct a hearing on "SBC/ATT and Verizon/MCI Mergers: Remaking the Telecommunications Industry, Part II—Another View", at 2:30 p.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness List: Mr. Carl Grivner, CEO, XO Communications, Reston, VA.; Mr. Jeffrey Citron, CEO, Vonage, Edison, NJ.; Mr. Scott Cleland, CEO, Precursor Group, Washington, DC; and Mr. Gene Kimmelman, Director, Washington, DC. Office, Consumers Union, Washington, DC.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2005, at 3 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on United States Marine Corps Ground and Rotary Wing Program and Seabasing, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2006.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Water and Power be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 19 a 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 166, to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of

1996 to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes River Conservancy, and for other purposes; S. 251, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a water resource feasibility study for the Little Butte/Bear Creek subbasins in Oregon; S. 310, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Newlands Protect headquarters and maintenance yard facility to the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District in the State of Nevada; S. 519, to amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects and activities under that act, and for other purposes; and S. 592, to extend the contract for the Glendo Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project in the State of Wyoming.

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 839, S. 844, S. 845, S. 846, S. 847, S. 848, S. 851, H.R. 8

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I understand there are eight bills at the desk. I ask for their first reading, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time, en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 839) to repeal the law that gags doctors and denies women information and referrals concerning their reproductive health options.

A bill (S. 844) to expand access to preventive health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce the number of abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

A bill (S. 845) to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired servicemembers who have a service-connected disability to receive disability compensation and either retired pay or Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period with respect to such concurrent receipt.

A bill (S. 846) to provide fair wages for America's workers.

A bill (S. 847) to lower the burden of gasoline prices on the economy of the United States and circumvent the efforts of OPEC to reap windfall oil profits.

A bill (S. 848) to improve education, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 851) to reduce the budget deficits by restoring budget enforcement and strengthening fiscal responsibility.

A bill (H.R. 8) to make the repeal of the estate tax permanent.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR APRIL 20, 2005

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20. I further ask that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the Journal of the proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and there then be a period of morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee, and the final 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee; provided that following morning business the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1268, the Iraq-Afghanistan supplemental appropriations bill; provided further that notwithstanding morning business and the adjournment of the Senate, all time be counted against cloture under rule XXII.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I make this announcement: Tomorrow, following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Iraq-Afghanistan supplemental appropriations bill. We have invoked cloture on the bill, and therefore the only amendments that qualify under the cloture rule will be in order to the bill.

There are still quite a few germane amendments that are pending, and therefore we will need a number of roll-call votes prior to final passage. It is the leader's hope that we can finish tomorrow, and we can finish if we can show restraint and not require votes on each of these amendments. Senators should expect a late evening tomorrow as we try to finish the bill on Wednesday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. STEVENS. 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 7:42, p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 19, 2005:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ALEX AZAR II, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE CLAUDE A. ALLEN, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DAVID W. BARNO, 0000