

I have seen many advances in medicine since my childhood on the ranch in Conejos County, CO. These advances have opened up opportunities for people living with disabilities and debilitating disease. People are living longer and healthier lives, even as they face debilitating diseases.

One such disease is Cystic Fibrosis, a genetic disease that leads to life-threatening lung infections. Through advances in medication and other treatments, people with CF are living longer lives. In the 1950s, people with CF rarely lived to school age. Today, life expectancy for people with CF has reached into the thirties. That is an improvement—and as a result people with CF get many more years to spend with their families and to follow their dreams—but it is not good enough.

This resolution supports the CF Foundation's goal of increased screening of newborns for CF. The earlier the disease is detected, the more likely that treatments can extend life. It also applauds the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's work to create and maintain communication among researchers on Cystic Fibrosis across the nation. As a result of the CF Foundation's efforts, close to 200 centers across the nation are sharing information. That research and experience can improve lives.

Following the tradition of my predecessor and fellow Coloradan, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, I have submitted this resolution to send a clear signal to the country that we are dedicated to defeating this disease. The resolution has broad and deep bipartisan support, and I thank my colleagues for the dedication to health research on Cystic Fibrosis.

SENATE RESOLUTION 116—COMMEMORATING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF FREDERICK C. BRANCH

Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. SANTORUM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 116

Whereas Frederick C. Branch was born on May 31, 1922, in Hamlet, North Carolina, studied at Johnson C. Smith University, and graduated from Temple University with a degree in Physics;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch was drafted in May of 1943, and was one of 20,000 African American Marines to serve in World War II;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch was one of the original Montford Point Marines, having received training alongside other African American Marines during World War II at the Marine Barracks in New Point, North Carolina, which was separated by 5 miles from the training grounds for all other Marines at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch, after having served in the South Pacific during World War II, was offered the opportunity to receive officer training;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch excelled by making the dean's list as an officer trainee, and was the sole African American candidate in a class of 250 future officers;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch became the first African American to be commissioned as an officer of the United States Marine Corps, having earned the rank of second lieutenant on November 10, 1945;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch proudly served our nation during the Korean War, and left the service after having risen to the rank of Captain;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch established a science department at Dobbins High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he taught until his retirement in 1988;

Whereas in 1997 the United States Marine Corps recognized Frederick C. Branch's contributions to integration, and named a training facility in his honor at Marine Corps Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch was widowed upon the death of his wife and partner of 55 years, Camilla "Peggy" Robinson, and is survived by 2 brothers, William and Floyd, and a godson, Joseph Alex Cooper;

Whereas Frederick C. Branch passed away on April 10, 2005, having paved the way for the 1,700 African American Marine Officers serving our nation today; and

Whereas Frederick C. Branch was buried with full military honors at Marine Corps Base Quantico on April 20, 2005; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, achievements, and contributions of Frederick C. Branch; and

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to the family of Frederick C. Branch for the loss of a great, courageous, and pioneering man.

SENATE RESOLUTION 117—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2005, AS "NATIONAL HEPATITIS B AWARENESS WEEK"

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. SANTORUM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 117

Whereas hepatitis B is the most common serious liver infection in the world;

Whereas chronic hepatitis B infections cause 80 percent of all primary liver cancer cases worldwide;

Whereas 10,000,000 to 30,000,000 people will be infected with the hepatitis B virus worldwide in 2005;

Whereas approximately 100,000 people in the United States will become infected with hepatitis B virus this year alone;

Whereas fewer than 10 percent of diagnosed chronic hepatitis B patients in the United States are currently receiving treatment for their disease;

Whereas healthcare and work loss costs from liver disease and liver cancer-caused hepatitis B infections total more than \$700,000,000 annually;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 1,250,000 Americans are already infected with hepatitis B and nearly 6,000 will die of liver complication each year;

Whereas a person who has become infected with hepatitis B may not have symptoms for up to 40 years after the initial infection has occurred, and there is currently no routine screening in place for early detection;

Whereas the CDC has identified African-Americans, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders, as well as Native Americans and Alaskan Natives, as having higher rates of hepatitis B infection in the United States;

Whereas Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders account for more than half of the chronic hepatitis B cases and half of the

deaths resulting from chronic hepatitis B infection in the United States; and

Whereas there is need for a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign designed to help infected patients and their physicians identify and manage the secondary prevention of the disease and to help increase the length and quality of life for those diagnosed with chronic hepatitis B: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 9, 2005, as "National Hepatitis B Awareness Week";

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs and activities; and

(3) supports raising awareness of the consequences of untreated chronic hepatitis B and the urgency to seek appropriate care as a serious public health issue.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 563. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 563. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ The Secretary of Labor shall convey to the State of Michigan, for no consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property known as the "Detroit Labor Building" and located at 7310 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, to the extent the right, title, or interest was acquired through a grant to the State of Michigan under title III of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 501 et seq.) or the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.) or using funds distributed to the State of Michigan under section 903 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1103).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. 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 20, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "Regulatory Reform of the Housing Government-Sponsored Enterprises."

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing regarding the following nominations: Gregory B. Jaczko—Nominated by the President to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

Peter B. Lyons—Nominated by the President to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. SD 406.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development, be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled, "Solving the Small Business Health Care Crisis: Alternatives for Lowering Costs and Covering the Uninsured" on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 20, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a briefing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 20, 2005, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the readiness of military units deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Ending Freedom in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2006.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND SPACE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Science and Space be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 10 a.m., on International Space Station Research Benefits.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY, AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "A Review of the Material Support to Terrorism Prohibition Improvements Act" on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., in Dirksen 226.

Witness List

Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Mr. Barry Sabin, Chief of Counterterrorism Section, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; and Mr. Dan Meron, Deputy Assistance Attorney General, Civil Division, Department of Justice.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Douglas Thompson, a Navy fellow in my office, be granted the privileges of the floor during consideration of H.R. 1268, the emergency supplemental.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Thursday, April 21, at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination on the calendar: No. 69, John Negroponte to be Director of National Intelligence.

I further ask unanimous consent that there be 4 hours of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, and that the Democratic time be equally divided between Senators ROCKEFELLER and WYDEN; provided further that at the expiration or yielding back of that time the Senate proceed to a vote on confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate; provided further that immediately following the vote the President be notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 839, S. 844, S. 845, S. 846, S. 847, S. 848, S. 851, H.R. 8

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I understand that there are eight bills at the desk that are due for a second reading. I ask unanimous consent that they be read for a second time, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will read the bills for a second time by title.

The assistant 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 pregnancies, 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 profits.

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

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

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

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, in order to place the bills on the Calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 21. I further ask 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 there then be a period for morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee and the second 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee; provided that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the Negroponte nomination as provided under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. INHOFE. Tomorrow, following morning business, the Senate will consider the nomination of John