

authority to the Secretary of Commerce for the establishment and implementation of a regulatory system for offshore aquaculture in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike paragraph (4) of section 4(a) and insert the following:

(4) An offshore aquaculture permit holder shall be—

(A) a citizen or resident of the United States; or

(B) a corporation, partnership, or other entity organized and existing under the laws of a State or the United States.

**SA 767.** Mr. INOUE (for himself and Mr. STEVENS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1195, to provide the necessary authority to the Secretary of Commerce for the establishment and implementation of a regulatory system for offshore aquaculture in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 5(a) and insert the following:

(a) ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall consult as appropriate with other Federal agencies, the coastal States, and regional fishery management councils established under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) to identify the environmental requirements applicable to offshore aquaculture under existing laws and regulations. The Secretary shall establish additional environmental requirements for offshore aquaculture facilities in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, coastal States, regional fishery management councils, and the public needed to address any environmental risks and impacts associated with such facilities. Environmental requirements may include, but are not limited to, environmental monitoring, data archiving, and reporting by the permit holder, as deemed necessary or prudent by the Secretary. The environmental requirements shall address risks to and impacts on—

(1) natural fish stocks, including safeguards needed to conserve genetic resources and prevent or minimize the transmission of disease, parasites, or invasive species to wild stocks,

(2) marine ecosystems,

(3) biological, chemical and physical features of water quality and habitat,

(4) marine mammals, other forms of marine life, birds, and endangered species, and

(5) other features of the environment, as identified by the Secretary, in consultation as appropriate with other Federal agencies.

**SA 768.** Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. INOUE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1195, to provide the necessary authority to the Secretary of Commerce for the establishment and implementation of a regulatory system for offshore aquaculture in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike paragraph (8) of section 4(a).

**SA 769.** Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. INOUE) submitted an amend-

ment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1195, to provide the necessary authority to the Secretary of Commerce for the establishment and implementation of a regulatory system for offshore aquaculture in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_.** STATE OPT-OUT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, if Secretary receives notice in writing from the chief executive officer of a coastal State that the State does not wish to have the provisions of this Act apply in the State's seaward portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone, then—

(1) the provisions of sections 4 shall not apply in that portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone more than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the notice;

(2) no permit issued under this Act shall be valid in that portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone more than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the notice; and

(3) the Secretary may not utilize the personnel, services, equipment, or facilities of that State under section 7 more than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the notice.

(b) TERMINATION OF AQUACULTURE ACTIVITIES.—If the Secretary receives the notice described in subsection (a) after an offshore aquaculture facility has been established under this Act in the State's seaward portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone or permits have been granted under this Act with respect to that area, the Secretary shall—

(1) revoke any such permit or limit its application to areas not included in the State's seaward portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone;

(2) order the closure of the facility within a period of not more than 30 days and provide for an orderly phase out of any activities associated with the facility under this Act; and

(3) take any other action necessary to ensure that the provisions of this Act (other than this section) are not applied within that area.

(c) REVOCATION.—The chief executive officer of a State that has transmitted a notice to the Secretary under subsection (a) may revoke that notice at any time in writing.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) COASTAL STATE.—The term "coastal State" has the same meaning as given that term in section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

(2) STATE SEAWARD PORTION OF THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term "State's seaward portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone" shall be determined by extending the seaward boundary (as defined in section 2(b) of the Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1301(b))) of each coastal State seaward to the edge of the Exclusive Economic Zone.

(B) LIMITATION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to give a State any right, title, authority, or jurisdiction over that portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone described in paragraph (1).

**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 of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will hold a hearing on June 16, 2005, entitled "Civilian Contractors Who Cheat On Their Taxes And What Should Be Done About It." The June 16 hearing will be the second hearing the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations will hold on tax delinquency problems with Federal contractors. On February 12, 2004, the Subcommittee held a hearing entitled "DoD Contractors Who Cheat on Their Taxes And What Should Be Done About It" which examined the Department of Defense's (DoD) failure to levy contractor payments for unpaid taxes owed by contractors doing business with DoD and getting paid with taxpayers dollars. The February 2004 hearing also demonstrated that the problem of tax delinquent Federal contractors may not be confined to DoD. The Subcommittee requested that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) determine if Federal contractors at civilian agencies were tax delinquent. At the June 16th hearing, the Subcommittee will present the results of this expanded investigation. Additionally, the GAO will be releasing two reports which were requested by the Subcommittee on this matter. The first report covers the extent of tax debt among civilian contractors. The second report covers the extent to which the Federal Government and the states have entered into reciprocal agreements to collect delinquent Federal or State taxes.

The Subcommittee hearing is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 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 ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 7, 2005 to conduct a Business Meeting on the following agenda:

**Resolutions**

To authorize alteration of the James L. King Federal Justice Building in Miami, FL.;

H.R. 483, to designate a United States courthouse in Brownsville, TX, as the "Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse";

S. 1140, to designate the State Route 1 Bridge in the State of Delaware as the "Senator William V. Roth, Jr. Bridge";

S. 1017 To reauthorize grants for the water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984;

S. 260 Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program;

S. 858 NRC Fees/Reform Bill;  
S. 865 Price Anderson;  
S. 864 Nuclear Security.  
The hearing will be held in SD 406.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday June 8, 2005, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on "The Tax Code and Land Conservation: Report on Investigations and Proposals for Reform".

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,  
AND PENSIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 9:50 a.m. in SD-430.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 8, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a briefing.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet, Wednesday, June 8, 2005 from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. in Dirksen G50 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Disaster be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., on Research and Development to Protect America's Communities from Disaster, in SR-253.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION  
AND COMPETITIVENESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. on Current Challenges that Confront American Manufacturers, in SR-253.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Bharat Ramamurti, a legal intern with my Senate Judiciary staff, be granted the privileges of the floor during consideration of the Brown nomination.

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

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to Kate Stephenson of my office staff today.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar: 57, 140, 143, 144, 145, 146, and 147. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Daniel R. Levinson, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Philip J. Perry, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Regina B. Schofield, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Paul D. Clement, of Virginia, to be Solicitor General of the United States.

Gretchen C. F. Shappert, of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Anthony Jerome Jenkins, of Virgin Islands, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands for the term of four years.

Stephen Joseph Murphy III, of Michigan, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan for the term of four years.

NOMINATION OF GRETCHEN C.F. SHAPPERT

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise in support of the nomination of Gretchen C.F. Shappert to be U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina.

Ms. Shappert has been an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District since 1990 and has served as Acting U.S. Attorney since 2004.

Ms. Shappert brings a wealth of experience to the position, and I am confident that she will continue to serve the President, the State of North Carolina, and the country with honor and distinction.

From 1983 to 1990, Ms. Shappert served as Assistant District Attorney and as Assistant Public Defender for Mecklenburg County, NC.

Before her career in public service, Ms. Shappert was an associate with the

law firm of Tucker, Hicks, Sentelle, Moon & Hodge in Charlotte, NC.

Ms. Shappert earned her bachelor's degree from Duke University and her J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where she earned the title of managing editor of the Washington and Lee Law Review.

I have no doubt that Ms. Shappert will continue to represent North Carolina well in the judicial branch of our Nation.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

NATIONAL HISPANIC MEDIA WEEK

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 163, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 163) designating June 5 through June 11, 2005, as "National Hispanic Media Week," in honor of the Hispanic Media of America.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I support this important resolution designating June 5 through June 11 as National Hispanic Media Week.

For nearly four centuries, Hispanic publishers, writers, and editors have made immeasurable contributions towards our national commitment to promote free speech and the free exchange of ideas. This group of hard working Americans has dedicated themselves to better informing our communities on the great political, economic, and social issues of the day. Hispanic publications serve a population of over 20 million people meaning that one in every eight Americans receives at least part of their news from a Hispanic media outlet.

The designation of a week to honor the Hispanic media of America will help affirm the importance of freedom of speech, civic engagement, and further development of the Hispanic media. This recognition of the Hispanic media will serve as a reminder of the valuable contributions made by Hispanic publishers, journalists and editors.

This resolution is important across the country, but I can personally speak to its importance in my home State of New Mexico. Forty-two percent of New Mexico's population is Hispanic. I know that many of those individuals rely on Hispanic media for news and entertainment. They tap into such New Mexico outlets as El Hispano newspaper, radio stations like KDCE in Española and KLVO in Albuquerque, Spanish-language television stations