

III. Matters:

Senate Judiciary Committee Rules.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005, for a committee hearing to receive testimony on various healthcare-related bills pending before the Committee.

The hearing will take place in Room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BIOTERRORISM AND PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness, be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 2 p.m. in SD-430.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Dan Stevens of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted for the remainder of this session to Ken Valentine, a detailee from the Secret Service who is serving on my staff.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—PRINTING OF STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be directed to prepare a revised edition of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and that such standing rules be printed as a Senate document. I further ask unanimous consent that beyond the usual number, 2,500 additional copies of this document be printed for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING OF A COLLECTION OF THE RULES OF SENATE COMMITTEES

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 166, 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. 166) to authorize the printing of the collection of rules of the committees of the Senate.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 166) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 166

Resolved, That a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate, together with related materials, be printed as a Senate document, and that there be printed 500 additional copies of such document for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF SUN SAFETY

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 167, 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. 167) recognizing the importance of sun safety, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 167) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 167

Whereas Americans of all ages cherish the pleasures of outdoor activities, and too few recognize that overexposure to the sun and its ultraviolet radiation, classified by the Department of Health and Human Services as a known carcinogen, is the leading cause of skin cancer;

Whereas it is critically important to be safe in the sun because skin cancer is the fastest growing cancer in our country today, affecting 1 in 5 Americans during their lifetimes and killing 1 person every hour of every day;

Whereas more than 1,000,000 new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed in the United States this year, accounting for nearly half of all new cases of cancer and exceeding the incidence of breast, prostate, lung, and colon cancer combined;

Whereas most people receive approximately 80 percent of their lifetime sun exposure by age 18, setting the stage for skin cancer later in life;

Whereas skin cancer is highly preventable by taking simple precautions when engaged in outdoor activities;

Whereas research demonstrates that practicing good sun safety has the potential to significantly reduce the risk of skin cancer;

Whereas the Sun Safety Alliance and its members have dedicated themselves to promoting sun safety, eliminating skin cancer from excessive sun exposure, and encouraging sun protection practices, especially among children; and

Whereas the Sun Safety Alliance has designated the week of June 5, 2005, to June 11, 2005, as National Sun Safety Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes

(A) the importance of sun safety; and

(B) the need for school-based sun safety education programs;

(2) encourages all Americans to protect themselves and their children from the dangers of excessive sun exposure;

(3) congratulates the Sun Safety Alliance for its efforts to promote sun safety and prevent skin cancer; and

(4) supports the goals and ideas of National Sun Safety Week.

THANKING THE SPRING 2005 PAGES

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, before we leave I want to give a final thanks to the page class of the spring of 2005. Tomorrow is a special day. They will be receiving their certificates and will be leaving us to return home. We rarely take that opportunity to say thank you for your service, and thus we do so tonight. They have done a tremendous job over the past several weeks. We thank them for their hard work.

I ask unanimous consent their names be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Caroline Cannon, Luke Combellick, Preston Eldridge, Mimi Faller, Geraldine Flanagan, Mary Kathryn Flanagan, Trevor Garrett, Kyle Kilroy, Meg Lavin, Andrew Leciejewski, Natalie Nielson, Jimmy Peterson, Laura Sankovitch, Rylee Sommers-Flanagan, Will Sterling, Jared Tate, Natalie Walters, Don Willie, Kelly Bernero, Mark Hammons, Andrew Humphrey, Morandi Hurst, Heidi Klein, Tiffany Mason, Bryan Miller, Tyler Salisbury, Ellen Tyner, Emma Van Susteren.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2005

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, the Senate stand in adjournment until 2 p.m. Monday, June 13; 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 the Senate then return to executive session and begin consideration of the nomination of Tom Griffith to be a United States circuit court judge for the DC Circuit as under the order.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ISAKSON). The Democratic leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as I expressed to the distinguished majority leader personally, and I say so today, and I have said so publicly on a number of occasions, I wish this week we had been working on something else. The

fact is, we have now what I consider a bump in the road out of the way. I am glad we are now going to move on to legislative business. We have so much to do in the next few, literally, weeks we have remaining in this legislative session.

I appreciate very much the people on both sides of the aisle allowing us to move forward on the Energy bill. It is a big piece of legislation that is vitally important to the people of America. Of course, in a big piece of legislation such as this, there will be problems, and certainly there will be in this bill.

Again, as I said previously, I am grateful to Senators DOMENICI and BINGAMAN for getting the bill to us initially. It is a bill that is developed by consensus of the committee. That speaks well of both Senator DOMENICI and Senator BINGAMAN and the members of the committee. That is going to be some heavy lifting in legislative terms.

The distinguished majority leader has set a very high mark for the Senate before we leave here. He wants to finish at least two appropriations bills. I think it is possible we can do three appropriations bills. I hope we can do that. If we can get rid of—I say that in a most positive sense—the Homeland Security, the Energy, water, and Interior bill, and it does not matter what order, that would be good work for this work period.

I also express to the distinguished majority leader my appreciation for his hard work. We are not there yet. But we hope we can arrive at some agreement on stem cell research during that work period. It would make everything move a little more quickly if we do that. The leader is working on that. I am working on that. I hope we can, maybe in the next week, agree on something that will allow us to do that so we do not have a lot of hurdles thrown up in other legislation because of that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator withdraw his reservation?

Mr. REID. I do.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, briefly in response—really in agreement—as we heard from the Democrat leader, we have a lot to do. We have an ambitious agenda with a superb piece of legislation that we bring to the Senate early next week, the Energy bill, which addresses gasoline prices, energy independence, a move toward energy independence, issues important to the American people.

In addition to appropriations bills, the Democratic leader mentioned stem cell research. I add to that the Department of Defense authorization which is ready for consideration. Asbestos—the distinguished Senator from Pennsylvania who was just here, Senator SPENCER, has worked so hard on that particular bill. That is important to job creation, to health care, to getting benefits to people who need it. We have

a lot to do. I look forward to beginning that process.

Next week, we have one more judge, Thomas Griffith, on Monday. Then we can go to the Energy legislation. So we have an ambitious agenda, but we are working together and we have made a huge amount of progress in the last week.

Mr. REID. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. FRIST. I yield.

Mr. REID. It has been brought to my attention that we also have to do in the next few weeks the Native Hawaiian legislation we talked about that we would help Senator AKAKA on; also, we have a couple of hours the Majority Leader has agreed to set aside for the China trade issue with Senator SCHUMER. Those things I am sure we can work in, but those are things we have to keep in mind that we have to do.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as you can see, the list is huge. We are going about it systematically, in discussion on a regular basis with the Democratic leader. That is the way we will continue as we address many issues important to the American people.

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILIES WEEK

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to consideration of H. Con. Res. 159 which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 159) recognizing the sacrifices being made by the families and members of the Armed Forces and supporting the designation of a week as National Military Families Week.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 159) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. On Monday, the Senate will consider the Griffith nomination to the D.C. Circuit. There will be up to 4 hours of debate on the nomination on Monday afternoon. Then we will set the nomination aside with a confirmation vote occurring on Tuesday morning at 10 a.m.

At 6:30 p.m. Monday evening, the Senate will proceed to S. Res. 39 relating to antilyncing. That resolution will not require a rollcall vote and therefore there will be no votes on Monday. On Tuesday, we will begin the Energy bill. Chairman DOMENICI and

Senator BINGAMAN will be ready to consider amendments on Tuesday in order to make headway on that important bill. I encourage Senators to come forward early with their amendments and to contact the managers of their intent to offer specific amendments.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator DEWINE for up to 15 minutes and Senator SALAZAR to follow Senator DEWINE for up to 10 minutes.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

FILIBUSTER AGREEMENT

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, we have just seen a major accomplishment in the Senate in the last several weeks: the confirmation of five nominees to serve on the Federal bench. These confirmations were achieved after a historic agreement was reached in the Senate, an agreement that allowed us to proceed.

We have seen five individuals confirmed by the Senate—Priscilla Owen, Janice Rogers Brown, William Pryor, David McKeague, and Richard Griffin. The majority leader has indicated that Thomas Griffith will be on the Senate floor shortly and we will take up that nomination.

This represents a major accomplishment and a major change in the way the Senate has been doing business. This shows bipartisanship. This is a step forward. It is progress.

As one of the 14 Senators involved in negotiating the recent compromise agreement on the use of filibusters to block judicial nominations, I am very pleased to see this progress and to see what has happened since this agreement was reached. As everyone knows, of these five nominations, several of them have been held up for years. Two I have a particular interest in come from the Sixth Circuit from the States of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee. These two come from the State of Michigan but are part of the Sixth Circuit which has had vacancies for many years. Now we have these two positions filled.

I am pleased to see this progress we have been making the last 2 weeks on nominations but also the progress we have been making in the Senate on other matters, as well. I think it is good for the country.

The agreement that we entered into not only cleared the field for the President's judicial nominations, some of whom, as I have said, have been waiting for over 4 years, but by avoiding confrontation it also allowed the people's agenda to move forward. And that is a very important matter.

Already, since the agreement was reached, the Senate Judiciary Committee has passed out of the committee