

On page 352, line 3, strike “either—” and all that follows through line 15, and insert “meets the requirements of section 312(a) (relating to English proficiency and understanding of United States history and Government).”.

On page 614, after line 5, insert the following:

SEC. 766. ENGLISH AS NATIONAL LANGUAGE

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 4, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“CHAPTER 6—LANGUAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT

“Sec.

“161. Declaration of national language

“162. Preserving and enhancing the role of the national language

“§ 161. Declaration of official language

“English is the national language of the United States

§ 162. Preserving and enhancing the role of the national language

“The Government of the United States shall preserve and enhance the role of English as the national language of the United States of America. Unless specifically stated in applicable law, no person has a right, entitlement, or claim to have the Government of the United States or any of its officials or representatives act, communicate, perform or provide services, or provide materials in any language other than English. If exceptions are made, that does not create a legal entitlement to additional services in that language or any language other than English. If any forms are issued by the Federal Government in a language other than English (or such forms are completed in a language other than English), the English language version of the form is the sole authority for all legal purposes.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for title 4, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “6. Language of the Government 161”.

SEC. 767. REQUIREMENTS FOR NATURALIZATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1). Under United States law (8 U.S.C. 1423 (a)), lawful permanent residents of the United States who have immigrated from foreign countries must, among other requirements, demonstrate an understanding of the English language, United States history and Government, to become citizens of the United States.

(2). The Department of Homeland Security is currently conducting a review of the testing process used to ensure prospective United States citizens demonstrate said knowledge of the English language and United States history and government for the purpose of redesigning said test.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section only, the following words are defined:

(1) KEY DOCUMENT.—The term “key documents” means the documents that established or explained the foundational principles of democracy in the United States, including the United States Constitution and the amendments to the Constitution (particularly the Bill of Rights), the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and the Emancipation Proclamation.

(2) KEY EVENTS.—The term “key events” means the critical turning points in the history of the United States (including the American Revolution, the Civil War, the world wars of the twentieth century, the civil rights movement, and the major court decisions and legislation) that contributed to extending the promise of democracy in American life.

(3) KEY IDEAS.—The term “key ideas” means the ideas that shaped the democratic

institutions and heritage of the United States, including the notion of equal justice under the law, freedom, individualism, human rights, and a belief in progress.

(4) KEY PERSONS.—The term “key persons” means the men and women who led the United States as founding fathers, elected officials, scientists, inventors, pioneers, advocates of equal rights, entrepreneurs, and artists.

(c) GOALS FOR CITIZENSHIP TEST REDESIGN.—The Department of Homeland Security shall establish as goals of the testing process designed to comply with provisions of [8 U.S.C. 1423 (a)] that prospective citizens:

1. demonstrate a sufficient understanding of the English language for usage in everyday life;

2. demonstrate an understanding of American common values and traditions, including the principles of the Constitution of the United States, the Pledge of Allegiance, respect for the flag of the United States, the National Anthem, and voting in public elections;

3. demonstrate an understanding of the history of the United States, including the key events, key persons, key ideas, and key documents that shaped the institutions and democratic heritage of the United States;

4. demonstrate an attachment to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and the well being and happiness of the people of the United States; and

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the United States.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall implement changes to the testing process designed to ensure compliance with [8 U.S.C. 1423 (a)] not later than January 1, 2008.

SA 4065. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On Page 295, strike lines 14 through 16 and insert the following:

“(B) by the alien, if—

“(i) the alien has maintained such non-immigrant status in the United States for a cumulative period of not less than 4 years of employment;

“(ii) the Secretary of Labor determines and certifies that there are not sufficient United States workers who are able, willing, qualified, and available to fill the job position, and

“(iii) an employer attests that the employer will employ the alien in the offered job position; or

“(iv) the alien shall submit at least 2 of the following documents for current employment, which shall be considered evidence of such current employment:

“(aa) Records maintained by the Social Security Administration.

“(bb) Records maintained by an employer, such as pay stubs, time sheets, or employment work verification.

“(cc) Records maintained by Internal Revenue Service.

“(dd) Records maintained by any other government agency, such as worker compensation records, disability records, or business licensing records.”

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the infor-

mation of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2006, at 10 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony regarding the outlook for growth of coal fired electric generation and whether sufficient supplies of coal will be available to supply electric generators on a timely basis both in the near term and in the future.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Kellie Donnelly, John Peschke, or Shannon Ewan.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that S. 2788, a bill to direct the exchange of certain land in Grand, San Juan and Uintah Counties, Utah, and for other purposes has been added to the agenda of the hearing scheduled before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366. This will replace S. 1135 which has been removed from the agenda.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Frank Gladics, Dick Bouts, or Sara Zecher.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry be authorized to conduct a full committee hearing during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. in SR-328A, Russell Senate Office Building. The purpose of this hearing will be to review the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Broadband Program.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on May 17, 2006, at 4 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the roles and missions of the National Guard in support of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2006, at 4:30 p.m., in close session to receive a briefing from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to hold a hearing on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to consider the following pending nominations: Dale Klein to be a Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Molly O'Neill to be an Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hear testimony at a hearing entitled, "Physician-Owned Specialty Hospitals: Profits before Patients?"

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Iran's Political/Nuclear Ambitions and U.S. Policy Options.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, 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. SESSIONS. 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, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m. to consider the nomination of Robert J. Portman to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Suicide Prevention Programs and their Application in Indian Country.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Understanding the Benefits and Costs of Section 5 Pre-Clearance" on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9 a.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness List

Panel I: Fred Grey, Senior Partners, Gray, Langford, Sapp, McGowan, Gray and Nathanson, Montgomery, Alabama; Drew S. Days III, Alfred M. Rankin, Professor of Law, Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut; Abigail M. Thernstrom, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute, New York, New York; Armand Derfner, Attorney, Derfner, Altman and Wilborn, Charleston, South Carolina; Nate Persily, Professor Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed Business Meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. for a hearing entitled, Progress or More Problems: Assessing the Federal Government's Security Clearance Process.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress: the Honorable PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont and the Honorable RON WYDEN of Oregon.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the following Senators to the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress: the Honorable CHARLES GRASSLEY of Iowa, the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD of Colorado, the Honorable JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama, the Honorable GEORGE VOINOVICH of Ohio, and the Honorable NORM COLEMAN of Minnesota.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2810

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2810) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate months in 2006 from the calculation of any late enrollment penalty under the Medicare part D prescription drug program and to provide for additional funding for State health insurance counseling programs and area agencies on aging, and for other purposes.

Mr. McCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, May 18. 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 resume consideration of S. 2611, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Today we continue to make considerable progress on the immigration bill. We will be starting early tomorrow. We have Senator KENNEDY's and Senator INHOFE's amendments lined up, next up in the queue. Members can expect early votes