

recycling buildings, water and wastewater treatment facilities, police substations, parks, a world class recreation center and many trails including the renowned Animas River trail. Programs started by Mr. Ledger include publicly accessible geographic information systems, recycling collection and processing, historic preservation efforts, planning and community development operations, broad-based public safety reorganization, and award-winning financial management and reporting. Bob Ledger has led the City of Durango in its efforts to build or expand public library facilities, public transit, wastewater facilities, airport infrastructure, and numerous recreational opportunities.

Mr. Ledger could not have accomplished all that was done in Durango over the last 25 years without the support of a strong staff, visionary city councils and the community of Durango as a whole. But without his drive, talents and skills many of the changes that have occurred in the Durango community would never have been realized. A man of passion and compassion, his legacy will live long. I salute Mr. Bob Ledger for his long and distinguished career of public service and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 50, THE MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS REAUTHORIZATION ACT AND H.R. 465, THE ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 23, 2007*

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 50, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Reauthorization Act, which reauthorizes the African Elephant Conservation Act and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act through 2012, and in support of H.R. 465, the Asian Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act. These conservation funds have a tremendous impact on the survival of threatened species.

The ivory and bushmeat trades, as well as competition from humans for space and resources, continue to threaten the survival of the African Elephant. Rhinos and tigers similarly fall victim to these black market trades. In addition, deforestation and overworking have had devastating impacts on Asian Elephant

populations. The grants awarded through the MSCF have proven to be effective in creating nature reserves, enhancing wildlife and ecosystem management, and developing antipoaching campaigns, helping to combat the practices that endanger these species the most.

As of January, the Department of Interior had approved 280 conservation grants in 23 African countries to assist African elephants, 321 grants for rhinos and tigers, and 171 grants for Asian elephants. By using \$17 million in federal funding, the African elephant program has leveraged \$72 million in private matching funds, and the rhino and tiger program has generated nearly \$20 million in private funds to match its federally allocated \$7.8 million. The Asian elephant program has been almost as successful, leveraging \$10 million in private matching funds from \$7.8 million in federal funding.

H.R. 50 and H.R. 465 would reauthorize the Multinational Species Conservation Fund to support three important international conservation laws and help to protect these animals on a federal level. I strongly urge their support.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 24, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

July 25

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine S. 732, to empower Peace Corps volunteers.

SD-419

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs health care funding.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of David H. McCormick, of Pennsylvania, to be an Under Secretary, and Peter B. McCarthy, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Treasury, Kerry N. Weems, of New Mexico, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Tevi David Troy, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Charles E. F. Millard, of New York, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 625, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, S. 1183, to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 898, to amend the Public Health Service Act to fund breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research while providing more help to caregivers and increasing public education about prevention, a bill entitled, "Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007", and the nominations of Diane Auer Jones, of Maryland, to be Assist-

ant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, David C. Geary, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences, and Miguel Campaneria, of Puerto Rico, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts, and other pending calendar business.

SD-106

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dennis R. Schrader, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Gulf Coast disaster loans, focusing on the future of the disaster assistance program.

SR-428A

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the national foreclosure crisis, focusing on subprime mortgage fallout.

SH-216

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 169, to amend the National Trails System Act to clarify Federal authority relating to land acquisition from willing sellers for the majority of the trails in the System, S. 278, to establish a program and criteria for National Heritage Areas in the United States, S. 289, to establish the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area, S. 443, to establish the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area in the State of Colorado, S. 444, to establish the South Park National Heritage Area in the State of Colorado, S. 471, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. certain Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska, to be used as an historical interpretive site along the trail, S. 637, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor in Alabama and Georgia, S. 645, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide an alternate sulfur dioxide removal measurement for certain coal gasification project goals, S. 647, to designate certain land in the State of Oregon as wilderness, S. 722, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona, S. 800, to establish the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area in the State of New York, S. 817, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide additional authorizations for certain National Heritage Areas, S. 838, to authorize funding for eligible joint ventures between United States and Israeli businesses and academic persons, to establish the International Energy Advisory Board, S. 955, to establish the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area, S. 1089, to amend the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act to allow the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation

Projects to hire employees more efficiently, S. 1148, to establish the Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration Commission and the Hudson-Fulton 400th Commemoration Commission, S. 1182, to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to increase the authorization of appropriations and modify the date on which the authority of the Secretary of the Interior terminates under the Act, S. 1203, to enhance the management of electricity programs at the Department of Energy, S. 1281, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain rivers and streams of the headwaters of the Snake River System as additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 1728, to amend the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 to reauthorize the Na Hoa Pili O Kaloko-Honokohau Advisory Commission, H.R. 85, to provide for the establishment of centers to encourage demonstration and commercial application of advanced energy methods and technologies, H.R. 247, to designate a Forest Service trail at Waldo Lake in the Willamette National Forest in the State of Oregon as a national recreation trail in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives, H.R. 356, to remove certain restrictions on the Mammoth Community Water District's ability to use certain property acquired by that District from the United States, H.R. 407, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing the Columbia-Pacific National Heritage Area in the States of Washington and Oregon, and H.R. 995, to amend Public Law 106-348 to extend the authorization for establishing a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor veterans who became disabled while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, and other pending calendar business.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Superfund and Environmental Health Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice programs.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Pakistan's future, focusing on the challenges of building a democracy.

SD-419

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States trade relations with China.

SR-253

3 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act. (Public Law 109-435).

SD-342

3:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Security and International Trade and Finance Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine reforming key international financial institutions for the 21st century.

SD-538

July 26

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine extraordinary rendition, extraterritorial detention, and treatment of detainees, focusing on restoring our moral credibility and strengthening our diplomatic standing.

SD-419

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Charles W. Grim, of Oklahoma, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Budget

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Jim Nussle, of Iowa, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD-608

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine preparation taken for digital television transition.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the case for the California waiver, including an update from the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1060, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, S. 453,

to prohibit deceptive practices in Federal elections, S. 1692, to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, an original bill entitled, "School Safety and Law Enforcement Act", and the nomination of Rosa Emilia Rodriguez-Velez, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

International Operations and Organizations, Democracy and Human Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the United Nations Human Rights Council, focusing on its shortcomings and prospects for reform.

SD-419

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To continue hearings to examine the Railroad Safety Enhancement Act.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 300, to authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, S. 1258, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to authorize improvements for the security of dams and other facilities, S. 1477, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Jackson Gulch rehabilitation project in the State of Colorado, S. 1522, to amend the Bonneville Power Administration portions of the Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2014, and H.R. 1025, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a water supply and con-

servation project to improve water supply reliability, increase the capacity of water storage, and improve water management efficiency in the Republican River Basin between Harlan County Lake in Nebraska and Milford Lake in Kansas.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

July 31

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ronald Spoehel, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, William G. Sutton, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Thomas J. Barrett, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, and Paul R. Brubaker, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine death and serious injury relating to oxycontin and defective products.

SD-226

9:30 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense education issues.

SD-562

August 2

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253