

to help our nation prosper. One of these companies, R.J. Nathe & Sons of Dade City, Florida is celebrating their fiftieth anniversary this year. As one of the outstanding corporate citizens in Pasco County, the Nathe family deserves recognition for fifty years of giving back to the community.

In October of 1957, cousins R.J. Nathe and Walter Gude decided to go into the land clearing business, naming the company Nathe and Gude Landclearing. Using an initial family loan to start the company, the cousins went out and put a down payment on two used bulldozers and two old pickup trucks. Reaching out to the growing citrus crop industry in Central Florida, they had plenty of proposed work until a bad freeze stopped their growing business in its tracks.

Once the cousins got back on their feet, they soon realized that while land clearing would make them money, the real business potential came from logging the timber that came off of the land they cleared. Over the years the business diversified even further to include extensive cattle and citrus operations.

When they incorporated the firm in 1980, the cousins decided to shorten the name to Nathe & Gude, Inc. in 1993 the Nathe family split with Gude, allowing Gude to take the cattle operation and the Nathe family keeping the original logging and land clearing part. The following year J.R. brought his five sons into the business and changed the name to R.J. Nathe & Sons, Inc. A very important part of the growing business is J.R.'s wife, Patsy, who keeps everyone coordinated and productive.

Over the years R.J. Nathe & Sons, Inc. has been recognized for its involvement in business and community activities. They have received numerous awards including Florida Logger of the Year in 1996, continuing on to win the Southeastern title and runner up for National Logger of the Year in 1997.

Along with timber harvesting and land clearing, Nathe & Sons now offers demolition and

custom sawmilling. The business has strived to build strong customer relationships based on fairness, honesty and quality service. With a company motto of, "Treating everyone's land as if our own," it is clear that Nathe & Sons has a commitment to customers that is necessary to maintain an outstanding reputation in the Dade City community. I congratulate Patsy and J.R. and the entire family on their first fifty years of service in Pasco County and look forward to working with them over the next fifty years.

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CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT AND
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO
TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RE-
SPOND TO AND PREVENT RAPE
AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN
DARFUR, SUDAN, EASTERN CHAD
AND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUB-
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SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 726, to prevent and respond to acts of rape and sexual violence in the Darfur conflict region. This resolution calls on the President and the international community to recognize and respond to the horrific acts of sexual violence that are being committed by the Sudanese armed forces, the associated Janjaweed militia, and other armed combatants with alarming regularity. Women and girls in the crisis-affected region currently lack the medical and psychological services necessary to survive and recover from these personal atrocities.

Today, Congress seeks to provide them with these basic services, and states our belief that the U.S. and the international community must continue applying pressure to the government in Khartoum to stop the use of rape and sexual violence as a tool of war.

The United Nations has recognized that rape is being used as a systematic weapon of war and that combatants are encouraged to employ it as yet another way to brutally terrorize a population. The impact on the individual, however, must not be forgotten. Rape not only brutalizes the woman, it can also rob her of her dignity and privacy, often leading to her being shunned by her family and community. The international community has thus far been unable to prevent sexual violence from becoming an almost daily event in many conflicts, including the one in Darfur. So when Congress has an opportunity to protect and aid the victims of these attacks, we must do so.

This bill calls on the President and international community to develop the Women and Girls of Darfur Initiative that would provide health care services, medical supplies, and psychological counseling to women in the conflict-affected region. The resolution also calls for preventative measures such as ensuring that a hybrid United Nations-African Union peacekeeping force is deployed to protect women and girls from acts of rape and sexual violence. Since the Sudanese Government refuses to provide its own women this protection, the hybrid peacekeeping force must be accorded all the necessary resources, including the \$724 million that the U.S. has pledged to fund the U.N.'s mission in Darfur.

I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me and over 100 other cosponsors of this bill in fulfilling our moral obligation to protect the basic human rights of the women and girls in Darfur and the surrounding region.

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, November 6, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 7

9:30 a.m.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, "Small Business Contracting Revitalization Act of 2007".

SR-428A

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the performance and structure of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

SD-562

2 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the United States government enforcement of intellectual property rights.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine carbon sequestration technologies.

SR-253

NOVEMBER 8

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 2191, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine localism, diversity, and media ownership.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine ways to protect the employment rights of those who protect the United States.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert D. Jamison, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for National Protection and Programs, and W. Ross Ashley, III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency,

both of the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 2135, to prohibit the recruitment or use of child soldiers, to designate persons who recruit or use child soldiers as inadmissible aliens, to allow the deportation of persons who recruit or use child soldiers, S. 2248, to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act, and the nominations of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Joseph N. Laplante, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire, Reed Charles O'Connor, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Thomas D. Schroeder, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, and Amul R. Thapar, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

SD-226

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SH-216

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine outstanding issues relating to the 1992-1995 conflict in Bosnia, focusing on violent ethnic cleansing, and how they shape politics, society, and economic development in Bosnia.

B-318-RHOB

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Near East and South and Central Asian Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Syria, focusing on options and implications for Lebanon and the surrounding region.

SD-419

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 86, to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers, S. 1365, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with any of the management partners of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, S. 1449, to establish the Rocky Mountain Science Collections Center to assist in preserving the archeological, anthropological, paleontological, zoological, and geologic artifacts and archival documentation from the Rocky Mountain region through the construction of an on-site, secure collections facility for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver, Colorado, S. 1921, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, S. 1941, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 1961, to expand the boundaries of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in the State of Alabama, S. 1991, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a

study to determine the suitability and feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, S. 2098, to establish the Northern Plains Heritage Area in the State of North Dakota, S. 2220, to amend the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963 to authorize certain appropriations, and H.R. 1191, to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services rendered by subcontractors under a General Services Administration Indefinite Deliver Indefinite Quantity Contract issued for work to be completed at the Grand Canyon National Park.

SD-366

Intelligence

Meeting of conferees on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community.

S-407, Capitol

NOVEMBER 13

10 a.m.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Small Business Administration, focusing on preventing loan fraud and improving regulation of lenders.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (Public Law 95-87), focusing on policy issues thirty years later.

SD-366

NOVEMBER 14

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup pending legislation; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael W. Hager, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources and Management).

SD-562

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership relating to the United States policy on nuclear fuel management.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine sovereign wealth fund acquisitions and other foreign government investments in the United States, focusing on economic and national security implications.

SD-538

NOVEMBER 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the state of the United States Army.

SH-216

CANCELLATIONS

NOVEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution.

SR-301