

Whereas Dr. King was awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition for his efforts, and, at the age of 35, was the youngest man to receive the Nobel Peace Prize;

Whereas through his work and reliance on nonviolent protest, Dr. King was instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

Whereas the work of Dr. King created a basis of understanding and respect and helped communities, and the Nation as a whole, to act cooperatively and courageously to achieve tolerance, justice, and equality between people;

Whereas, on the evening of April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead sanitation workers in protest against low wages and intolerable working conditions;

Whereas in 1968 Representative John Conyers first introduced legislation to establish a national holiday honoring Dr. King;

Whereas Coretta Scott King led a massive campaign to establish Dr. King's birthday as a national holiday;

Whereas in 1983 Congress passed and President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

Whereas in 2007 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated in more than 100 countries;

Whereas in remembering Dr. King we also honor his wife and indispensable partner, Coretta Scott King, a woman of quiet courage and great dignity who marched alongside her husband and became an international advocate for peace and human rights;

Whereas Mrs. King, who had been actively engaged in the civil rights movement as a politically and socially conscious young woman, continued after her husband's death to lead the Nation toward greater justice and equality for all, traveling the world advocating for racial and economic justice, peace and nonviolence, women's and children's rights, gay rights, religious freedom, full employment, health care, and education until her death on January 30, 2006;

Whereas the values of faith, compassion, courage, truth, justice, and nonviolence that guided Dr. and Mrs. King's dream for the United States will be celebrated and preserved by the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial on the National Mall near the Jefferson Memorial and in the new National Museum of African American History and Culture that will be located near the Lincoln Memorial;

Whereas Dr. King's actions and leadership made the United States a better place and the people of the United States a better people;

Whereas the people of the United States should commemorate the legacy of Dr. King, so "that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal'"; and

Whereas Dr. King's voice is silenced today, but on the national holiday honoring Dr. King and throughout the year, the people of the United States should remember his message, recommit to his goal of a free and just nation, and consider each person's responsibility to other people; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) observes and celebrates the national holiday honoring Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.;

(2) honors Dr. King's example of nonviolence, courage, compassion, dignity, and public service;

(3) pledges to advance the legacy of the Dr. King; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to celebrate—

(A) the national holiday honoring Dr. King; and

(B) the life and legacy of Dr. King.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 2 through 5 and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Karl W. Eikenberry

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C. section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. George J. Smith

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C. section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Eugene G. Payne, Jr.

Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Stone

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AIR FORCE nomination of Wally G. Vaughn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN117 AIR FORCE nomination of James E. Powell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN118 AIR FORCE nomination of Jean M. Eagleton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN119 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeffrey R. Colpitts, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN127 AIR FORCE nominations (8) beginning GAYANNE DEVRY, and ending NEIL R. WHITTAKER, which nominations were received by the Senate appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN152 AIR FORCE nomination of Laura S. Barchick, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN153 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning PAUL T. CORY, and ending ROD L. VALENTINE, which nominations were re-

ceived by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN154 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning BEATRICE Y. BREWINGTON, and ending DEIRDRE M. MCCULLOUGH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN155 AIR FORCE nomination of Anthony M. Durso, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN156 AIR FORCE nomination of William L. Tomson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN157 AIR FORCE nominations (6) beginning STEVEN H. HELM, and ending DONALD C. TIGCHELAAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN158 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning ROBERT E. DUNN, and ending WALTER L. SMITH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN159 AIR FORCE nominations (6) beginning RICARDO E. ALIVILLAR, and ending MEHDY ZARANDY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN160 AIR FORCE nominations (7) beginning ROBERT R. BAPTIST, and ending CHRISTOPHER H. WILKIN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN161 AIR FORCE nominations (246) beginning ROBIN MARK ADAM, and ending RANDALL J. ZAK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN162 AIR FORCE nominations (32) beginning SHARON A. ANDREWS, and ending DONNA M. F. WOIKE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN163 AIR FORCE nominations (19) beginning MICHAEL P. ADLER, and ending BERT A SILICH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN164 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning MARK HUGH ALEXANDER, and ending MARGARET D. WEATHERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN165 AIR FORCE nominations (10) beginning LUISA YVETTE CHARBONNEAU, and ending SEFERINO S. SILVA JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN168 AIR FORCE nominations (108) beginning MAIYA D. ANDERSON, and ending JEFFREY L. WISNESKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN173 AIR FORCE nominations (14) beginning CHRISTINE LYNN BARBER, and ending CHUNG R. YEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

IN THE ARMY

PN120 ARMY nominations (3) beginning STEPHEN D. HOGAN, and ending PHILLIP H. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN121 ARMY nomination of Laurence W. Gebler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN122 ARMY nomination of John E. Markham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN123 ARMY nominations (3) beginning ARIEL P. ABUEL, and ending SCOTT C. SHELTZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN124 ARMY nomination of David W. Laflam, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN125 ARMY nomination of Thomas P. Flynn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN126 ARMY nomination of Earl W. Shaffer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN128 ARMY nomination of Orsure W. Stokes, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN129 ARMY nomination of Alvis Dunson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN130 ARMY nominations (4) beginning JEFFREY W. WEISER, and ending LEONARD J. GRADO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN131 ARMY nominations (3) beginning KURT G. BULLINGTON, and ending JASON M. CATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN132 ARMY nominations (2) beginning ALTON J. LUDER JR., and ending DOUGLAS J. MOUTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN133 ARMY nomination of Gary L. Brewer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN134 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MICHAEL J. FINGER, and ending ROBERT T. RUIZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN135 ARMY nomination of Philip Sundquist, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN136 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CARRIE G. BENTON, and ending CAROL A. MACGREGORDEBARBA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN137 ARMY nomination of Marivel Velazquezrespo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN138 ARMY nominations (4) beginning GRACE NORTHUP, and ending MARY L. SPRAGUE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN139 ARMY nominations (15) beginning FRANCIS M. BELUE, and ending CARL S. YOUNG JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN140 ARMY nominations (398) beginning JAMES W. ADAMS, and ending X0393, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN141 ARMY nominations (30) beginning EDWARD E. AGEE JR., and ending CEDRIC T. WINS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN142 ARMY nominations (30) beginning TIMOTHY K. BUENNEMEYER, and ending D060262, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN143 ARMY nominations (62) beginning PHILIP K. ABBOTT, and ending JEFFREY

S. WILTSE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN144 ARMY nominations (31) beginning CHERYL E. BOONE, and ending FRANCISCO A. VILA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN170 ARMY nomination of Thomas F. King, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN171 ARMY nomination of Mary P. Whitney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN172 ARMY nominations (5) beginning JAMES W. HALIDAY, and ending DIMITRY Y. TSVETOV, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN190 MARINE CORPS nominations (8) beginning JAMES D. BARICH, and ending GORDON B. OVERY JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 16, 2007.

IN THE NAVY

PN145 NAVY nomination of Timothy M. Greene, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN146 NAVY nominations (19) beginning DAVID J. ADAMS, and ending CHIMI I. ZACOT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2007.

PN174 NAVY nomination of Donald S. Hudson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN175 NAVY nomination of Jeffrey N. Saville, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN176 NAVY nomination of Steven M. Dematteo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. January 29; that on Monday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, except that Senator DORGAN be recognized for up to 45 minutes and Senator SPECTER be recognized for up to 30 minutes; that at 3:30 p.m., the Senate resume H.R. 2 for debate only until 5 p.m.; at 4 p.m., Senator SESSIONS be recognized for up to 1 hour; that Members have until 3 p.m. today to file any first-degree amendments. Provided further that the live quorum under rule XXII with respect to cloture motions be waived.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that following the remarks of Senators Burr and Harkin, the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

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

The Senator from North Carolina.

MINIMUM WAGE AMENDMENT

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, on this brisk day in Washington, weatherwise, we have had a refreshing debate about minimum wage. I have listened to the majority leader say that those who have minimum wage amendments and would like to have votes are, in fact, against raising the minimum wage. I introduced my amendment yesterday. I highlighted the wonderful work of Senator KENNEDY and Senator ENZI, the managers of the bill, the fact that we were long overdue for a minimum wage increase, and that, as a Member of the Senate, I thought it was important we explore, as we do this, if we can make some changes that allow us to address other areas.

Now, I happen to be the Senator who offered the amendment—and I thank my colleagues Senator COBURN and Senator DEMINT who are cosponsors—who suggested this—that with the \$2.10 increase we make in minimum wage, we allow an employer to determine if they want to provide that increase in wages or in health care benefits.

We have had a debate in this country for years, over the 13 years I have been here, about the uninsured population and what we need to do. Here is an opportunity to do something. Here is a real opportunity to give employers the incentive to provide to the most at-risk minimum wage workers a health care benefit that can be covered under the umbrella of health coverage that we, as Members of the Senate and those of us who work for the Federal Government, actually have that protects us.

All Americans should have access to quality and affordable health care. Under our current system, many get health care from their employer. Let's increase the number of Americans under that umbrella of coverage and take the opportunity, as we increase the minimum wage rate, to allow employers to be the ones to do it.

The majority leader has filed a cloture motion on S. 2. Let me explain exactly what that means. We are going to cut off the ability to offer amendments on anything non-germane. Anyone listening to the description of my amendment would have to say, clearly, that is germane. You will use the \$2.10 increase in the minimum wage to allow employers to offer health care with that \$2.10. Now, this is not a shot at the Parliamentarian of the Senate, but this amendment is not germane. In filing cloture without an agreement, we