

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 9 a.m. in room SR-328A of the Russell Senate Office building. The Committee will continue its markup of the 2007 farm bill.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to conduct a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 25, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

At this hearing, the subcommittee will examine sweatshop conditions in Chinese factories where toys and other children's products are manufactured.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 25, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, in order to hear testimony on "Small Business Health Insurance: Building a Gateway to Coverage."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to conduct an Executive Business Meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2007, at 10 a.m. in room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The agenda is attached.

*Agenda*

*I. Bill*

S. 1946, Public Corruption Prosecution Improvements Act (Leahy, Cornyn).

*II. Resolutions*

S. Res. 347, Designating May 2008 as "National Be Bear Aware and Wildlife Stewardship Month" (Baucus, Tester).

S. Res. 346, Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the

States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. (Coleman, Durbin, Grassley, Feingold, Kohl).

*III. Nomination*

John Daniel Tinder, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 25, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in order to hold a closed hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICE, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 25, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled, "Single Audits: Are They Helping to Safeguard Federal Funds?"

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION SAFETY, INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY, AND WATER QUALITY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in order to conduct a hearing on effectiveness of Federal drunk driving programs.

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

**PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I ask unanimous consent that Michael F. Burke, a fellow in the office of Senator CARDIN, be granted the privileges of the floor during consideration of S. 294, the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2007.

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

**MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2233, S. 2234, H.R. 505, H.R. 3963**

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I understand there are four bills at the desk,

and I ask for their first reading, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bills by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2233) to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

A bill (S. 2234) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses.

A bill (H.R. 505) to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

A bill (H.R. 3963) to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

**ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2007**

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Friday, October 26; that on Friday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate then resume consideration of Calendar No. 158, S. 294, Amtrak authorization; that at 10 a.m., the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; that during morning business, Senator DODD be recognized for up to 20 minutes, Senator DORGAN up to 30 minutes, and Senator INHOFE up to 2 hours.

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

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW**

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, if there is no further business, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:45 p.m., adjourned until Friday, October 26, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.