

America's Treasures and Preserve America for the first time.

Nearly 10 years ago, I helped create Save America's Treasures to preserve and promote historic sites and artifacts across our country. On February 2, 1998, President Clinton established Save America's Treasures by Executive Order 13072. Save America's Treasures was originally founded as the centerpiece of the White House National Millennium Commemoration and as a public-private partnership that included the White House, the National Park Service, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Save America's Treasures was envisioned as a 2-year commemorative project that would illuminate the problem of our neglected heritage and inspire Americans to help save the important treasures in their own communities. Almost 10 years later and Save America's Treasures is still going strong. This model public-private partnership has provided critical support of bricks and mortar preservation projects in every State and territory. These sites include such icons as the Star Spangled Banner, the Old North Church, Mesa Verde, Valley Forge and the last remaining architectural model of the World Trade Center. The list also includes the Founding Father's Papers, the Acoma Pueblo, President Lincoln's Cottage, and the Sewall Belmont House.

To help ensure that future generations will have an opportunity to experience our past and understand our identity as a community and as a nation, Save America's Treasures has educated the public on preservation problems facing the buildings, sites, monuments, objects and documents that represent America's diverse cultural legacy, and it has supported preservation of historic collections and properties.

The program also supports and advances the purposes and policies of the national historic preservation program set forth by the Congress in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The President and First Lady Bush have continued to keep the historic preservation effort alive in America. President Bush announced the Preserve America initiative through Executive Order 13287 on March 3, 2003 to promote the preservation of America's heritage by actively advancing the protection, enhancement, and contemporary use of the historic properties.

Through the Preserve America initiative, Americans gain greater knowledge about our Nation's past, strengthened regional identities, increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of our communities.

The legislation that Senator DOMENICI and I have introduced will formally authorize Preserve America and Save America's Treasures. Both of these programs have relied solely on the will of

the appropriations process and lack the long-term viability provided by formal authorization. Both programs have demonstrated significant on-the-ground results and are clearly worthy of authorized legislation to institutionalize them for future generations.

Our legislation will authorize a competitive Save America's Treasures grant program within the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

It will also authorize a competitive Preserve America grant program within the Department of the Interior in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and other Federal agencies.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation that will help ensure that future generations will have an opportunity to experience our past and understand the identity of our Nation. I thank Senator DOMENICI for his leadership, and I hope my colleagues will join with me in approving the Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act.●

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 360—OFFERING CONDOLENCES REGARDING THE TRAGIC FIRE IN OCEAN ISLE BEACH, NORTH CAROLINA, WHICH KILLED 6 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA STUDENTS AND 1 STUDENT FROM CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ON OCTOBER 28, 2007.

Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 360

Resolved, That the Senate offers its heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families regarding the tragic fire on October 28, 2007, in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, which killed 6 University of South Carolina students and 1 student from Clemson University, and to the students, faculty, administration, and staff and their families who have been deeply affected by these tragic events.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3490. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3490. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place add the following:

SEC. 224. PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL SUBSIDIES FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE.

Federal funds may not be used by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to subsidize food and beverage service on Amtrak trains until Amtrak is in compliance with section 24305(c)(4) of title 49, United States Code.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on whether domestic energy industry will have the available workforce—crafts and professional—to meet our Nation's growing energy needs and if gaps exist, what policies the Congress should take to address these gaps.

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 it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by email to rosemarie_calabro@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Epstein at (202) 228-3031 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977: Policy Issues Thirty Years Later.

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 it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to gina_weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Patty Beneke at 202-224-5451 or Gina Weinstock at (202) 224-5684.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, November 1, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office

Building in order to conduct an oversight hearing on the Impact of the Flood Control Act of 1944 on Indian Tribes along the Missouri River.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 30, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

During the Executive Session, Committee members will markup the following agenda items: S. 2045, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Reform Act of 2007; S. 2096, Do-Not-Call Improvement Act of 2007; S. 1580, the Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2007; S. 1853, Community Broadband Act of 2007; S. 1675, Local Community Radio Act of 2007; H. Con. Res. 225, Honoring the 50th anniversary of the dawn of the Space Age, and the ensuing 50 years of productive and peaceful space activities; and the nomination of Mr. Todd J. Zinser, Inspector General—Designate, United States Department of Commerce (PN 908).

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 30, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to hold a nomination hearing.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to hold a hearing entitled "Protecting the U.S. From Drug Resistant Tuberculosis: Reinvesting in Control and New Tools Research" during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 30, 2007 at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 30, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled "The Role of Local Law Enforcement in Countering Violent Islamist Extremism."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Section 2 (b) of Public Law 98-183, as amended by Public Law 103-419, appoints Gail Heriot, of California, to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, for a term of 6 years.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT—SENATE REPORT 110-208

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senate Report 110-208 be star printed with the changes at the desk.

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

CONDOLENCES REGARDING THE TRAGIC FIRE IN OCEAN ISLE BEACH, NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to consideration of S. Res. 360, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 360) offering condolences regarding the tragic fire in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina which killed 6 University of South Carolina students and 1 student from Clemson University on October 28, 2007.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 360) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 360

Resolved, That the Senate offers its heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families regarding the tragic fire on October 28, 2007, in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, which killed 6 University of South Carolina students and 1 student from Clemson University, and to the students, faculty, administration, and staff and their families who have been deeply affected by these tragic events.

EXTENDING ELIGIBILITY FOR ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed

to the consideration of S. 2265, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2265) to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2008.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be read three times, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 2265) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2265

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 409 of the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (49 U.S.C. 41731 note) is amended by striking "September 30, 2007" and inserting "September 30, 2008".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 29, 2007, and shall apply with respect to any final order issued under subsection (c) of section 409 of such Act that was in effect on such date.

ANDREW LAROCHELLE GOD, FAMILY AND COUNTRY ACT OF 2007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 430, S. 2198.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2198) to require the Architect of the Capitol to permit acknowledgment of God on flag certificates.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 2198) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2198

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "The Andrew Larochelle God, Family, and Country Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. FLAG CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL.

The Architect of the Capitol shall permit the acknowledgment of God on flag certificates that are issued at the request of a Member of the United States House of Representatives or of the United States Senate.