

In light of the recent spill in San Francisco Bay, this hearing will examine the oil spill threats, risks, and vulnerabilities posed by large nontank vessels. Topics will include the prevalence and environmental impact of nontank vessel spills, the adequacy and enforcement of vessel response plans, the status of Coast Guard rulemakings, the adequacy of nontank liability limits, and the allocation of Coast Guard and other Federal resources toward oil spill prevention, preparedness, and oil spill research and development in a post-9/11 world.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 18, 2008, at 10:30 a.m., in room SD366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. At this hearing, the Committee will hear testimony regarding the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the term expiring June 30, 2013. (Reappointment).

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 18, 2007, in room S-216 of the Capitol at a time to be determined in order to hold a business meeting to consider the following items: pending General Services Administration Resolutions; S. 862, a bill to designate the Federal building located at 210 Walnut Street in Des Moines, Iowa, as the "Neal Smith Federal Building," S. 1189, a bill to designate the Federal building and U.S. Courthouse located at 100 East 8th Avenue in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as the "George Howard, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; and H.R. 735, a bill to designate the Federal building under construction at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building". Pending nominations: Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mrs. BOXER. 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, December 18, 2007, at 3:30 p.m. in order to consider the nomination of Steven H. Murdock to be Direc-

tor, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mrs. BOXER. 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 a hearing entitled "Executive Branch Nominations" on Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness List

Ondray T. Harris, to be Director, Community Relations Service, Department of Justice; David W. Hagy, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice; Scott M. Burns, to be Deputy Director of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President; Cynthia Dyer, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice; and Nathan J. Hochman, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, Department of Justice.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a fellow in my office, Louis Bervid, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this session.

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

STATEMENTS IN TRIBUTE TO SENATOR LOTT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the tributes to Senator LOTT in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD be printed as a Senate document and that Senators be permitted to submit statements for inclusion in the RECORD until January 30, 2008.

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

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 61, the adjournment resolution.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 61) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

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

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the

motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 61) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 61

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate adjourns on any day from Tuesday, December 18, 2007, through Monday, December 31, 2007, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Tuesday, December 18, 2007, through Saturday, December 22, 2007, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 2. When the Senate recesses or adjourns on Thursday, January 3, 2008, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it shall stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, January 3, 2008, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it shall stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 3. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify Members of the Senate and the House, respectively, to reassemble at such a place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1882 TREATY OF PEACE, AMITY, COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 279 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 279) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 125th anniversary of the 1882 Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States.

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

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble,

as amended, be agreed to, that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 3880) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To strike a reference to the 2007 Free Trade Agreement and to add environmental protection to the list of bilateral goals that should be addressed by the United States and the Republic of Korea)

On page 4, strike lines 4 through 10 and insert the following:

“(2) the economic relationship, highlighting the vibrancy and diversity of the common interests of the United States and the Republic of Korea, should be broadened and deepened;”

On page 5, lines 4 and 5, strike “and support for peacekeeping” and insert “, support for peacekeeping, and protection of the environment”.

The resolution (S. Res. 279), as amended, was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3883) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 3, strike “Whereas the Free Trade Agreement” and all that follows through “both countries;”.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 279), as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

(The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

CONDEMNING THE KIDNAPPING OF THREE UNITED STATES CITIZENS BY THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 53 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 53) condemning the kidnapping and hostage-taking of 3 United States citizens for over 4 years by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and demanding their immediate and unconditional release.

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

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; the amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD without further intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 53) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3881) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike “on July 25, 2003” and all that follows in the eighth whereas clause of the preamble and insert “in a videotape seized by the Government of Colombia and aired on November 30, 2007;”.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:
S. CON. RES. 53

Whereas the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) is designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the Department of State;

Whereas the FARC utilizes kidnappings for ransom, extortion, and the drug trade to finance its activities;

Whereas the FARC has consistently committed atrocities against citizens of both Colombia and the United States, kidnapped at least 36 United States citizens since 1980, and killed 10 United States citizens;

Whereas an aircraft carrying United States citizens crashed over territory controlled by the FARC on February 13, 2003;

Whereas Keith Stansell, Thomas Howes, and Marc Gonsalves, 3 United States citizens on the aircraft, were taken hostage by the FARC on February 13, 2003;

Whereas the FARC murdered Tom Janis, another United States citizen on the downed aircraft;

Whereas 3 United States citizens on a subsequent search mission also lost their lives;

Whereas the 3 hostages were last shown alive in a videotape seized by the Government of Colombia and aired on November 30, 2007;

Whereas a police officer from Colombia who escaped from the FARC in April 2007 claims he saw the 3 United States hostages alive in April 2007;

Whereas at least 50 FARC leaders have been indicted in the United States for drug trafficking; and

Whereas Ricardo Palmera, the most senior FARC leader to be tried in the United States, was convicted of conspiring to take the United States citizens hostage in Colombia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) condemns the kidnappings of Keith Stansell, Thomas Howes, and Marc Gonsalves by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and calls for their immediate and unconditional release;

(2) condemns the FARC for holding these hostages for more than 4 years and demands to know their health and status;

(3) condemns the FARC for the murder of Tom Janis;

(4) condemns the FARC for its use of kidnapping for ransom, extortion, and drug trafficking and for supporting and spreading terror within Colombia;

(5) expresses sympathy to the relatives of the hostages who have been unsure of the fates of their family members for more than 4 years;

(6) reconfirms that the United States Government does not make concessions to terrorists; and

(7) reiterates that the United States Government supports efforts to secure the safe return of the hostages to the United States.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—RESOLUTIONS EN BLOC

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, and 416.

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

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

RACE DAY IN AMERICA

The resolution (S. Res. 410) designating February 17, 2008, as “Race Day in America” and highlighting the 50th running of the Daytona 500 was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 410

Whereas the Daytona 500 is the most prestigious stock car race in the United States;

Whereas the Daytona 500 annually kicks off the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) Sprint Cup Series, NASCAR’s top racing series;

Whereas millions of racing fans have spent the 3rd Sunday of each February since 1959 watching, listening to, or attending the Daytona 500;

Whereas the purse for the Daytona 500 is typically the largest in motor sports;

Whereas winning the prestigious Harley J. Earl Trophy is stock car racing’s greatest prize and privilege;

Whereas nearly 1,000,000 men and women in the Armed Forces in nearly 180 countries worldwide listen to the race on the radio via the American Forces Network;

Whereas Daytona International Speedway is the home of “The Great American Race”—the Daytona 500;

Whereas fans from all 50 States and many foreign nations converge on the “World Center of Racing” each year to see the motor sports spectacle;

Whereas Daytona International Speedway becomes one of the largest cities in the State of Florida by population on race day, with more than 200,000 fans in attendance;

Whereas well-known politicians, celebrities, and athletes take part in the festivities surrounding the Daytona 500; and

Whereas, on February 17th, 2008, the Daytona 500 celebrates its historic 50th running: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 50th running of the Daytona 500, “The Great American Race”, on February 17, 2008; and

(2) designates February 17, 2008, as “Race Day in America” in honor of the Daytona 500.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA

The resolution (S. Res. 411) honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of Texas civil rights pioneer Dr. Hector P. Garcia was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 411

Whereas, Hector P. Garcia was born on January 17, 1914, in Llera, a small town in south central Tamaulipas, Mexico;

Whereas, Hector P. Garcia was brought to Mercedes, Texas, as a small child when his parents fled the Mexican Revolution in 1917;