

On page 321, line 11, strike “(1)” and insert “(2)”.

On page 321, line 12, strike “(2)” and insert “(3)”.

SA 347. Mr. SESSIONS proposed an amendment to amendment SA 275 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill S. 4, to make the United States more secure by implementing unfinished recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to fight the war on terror more effectively, to improve homeland security, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE FUNDING OF FENCING AND VEHICLES BARRIERS ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On May 17, 2006, by a vote of 83 to 16, the Senate approved amendment 3979 sponsored by Senator Sessions to Senate Bill 2611 (109th Congress), the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006, which required the Secretary of Homeland Security to construct at least 370 miles of fencing and 500 miles of vehicle barriers along the southwest border of the United States.

(2) On August 2, 2006, by a vote of 94 to 3, the Senate approved amendment 4775 sponsored by Senator Sessions to House Bill 5631 (109th Congress), the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007, which included a provision to appropriate \$1,829,000,000 for the construction of 370 miles of fencing and 461 miles of vehicle barriers along the southwest border of the United States.

(3) On September 20, 2006, by a vote of 80 to 19, the Senate approved House Bill 6061 (109th Congress), the Secure Fence Act of 2006, which mandates the construction of fencing and border improvements along the southwest border.

(4) On October 26, 2006, the President signed the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-367; 120 Stat. 2638), which mandates that “[n]ot later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take all actions the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate to achieve and maintain operational control over the entire international land and maritime borders of the United States,” including “physical infrastructure enhancements to prevent unlawful entry by aliens into the United States” into law.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Congress should—

(1) appropriate funds in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2008 to fund, at a minimum, the strong commitment to border security represented in the President’s budget request for fiscal year 2008, which is consistent with the congressional intent expressed in amendment 3979 sponsored by Senator Sessions to Senate Bill 2611 (109th Congress), amendment 4775 sponsored by Senator Sessions to House Bill 5631 (109th Congress), and the Secure Fence Act of 2006; and

(2) appropriate funds in Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts for fiscal years after fiscal year 2008 in a manner consistent with the congressional intent expressed in such amendment 3979, such amendment 4775, and the Secure Fence Act of 2006.

SA 348. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BOND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 4, to make the United States more secure by implementing unfinished recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to fight the war on terror more effectively, to improve homeland security, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . AVAILABILITY OF THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REPORT ON CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ACCOUNTABILITY REGARDING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.

(a) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency shall prepare and make available to the public a version of the Executive Summary of the report entitled the “Office of Inspector General Report on Central Intelligence Agency Accountability Regarding Findings and Conclusions of the Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001” issued in June 2005 that is declassified to the maximum extent possible, consistent with national security.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director of the Central Intelligence Agency shall submit to Congress a classified annex to the redacted Executive Summary made available under subsection (a) that explains the reason that any redacted material in the Executive Summary was withheld from the public.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Monday, March 5, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. for a hearing entitled, A Review of the Transportation Security Administration Personnel System.

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

HONORING THE EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 94, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 94) honoring the employees of the Department of Homeland Security on the 4th anniversary of the Department.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 94) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 94

Whereas the United States must remain vigilant against all threats to the homeland, including acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies;

Whereas the Department of Homeland Security marks its 4th anniversary on March 1, 2007;

Whereas the more than 208,000 employees of the Department work tirelessly to carry out the complex mission of securing the Nation from terrorism and natural hazards through protection, prevention, response, and recovery as well as serving the public effectively by facilitating lawful trade, travel, and immigration;

Whereas the Department’s employees sacrifice time with their families to work long hours to fulfill the Department’s vital mission; and

Whereas the Nation is indebted to the Department’s employees for their labors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the employees of the Department of Homeland Security for their substantial contributions to protecting the Nation on the 4th anniversary of the Department.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 761

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 761, introduced earlier today by Senators REID of Nevada, MCCONNELL, and others, is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 761) to invest in innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of the United States in the global economy.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I will briefly comment on this action. It was a good occasion today. A press conference was held, led by myself and Senator MCCONNELL, with a good bipartisan group of excellent Senators, regarding legislation that would improve America’s competitiveness. It is important legislation. It has been worked on by a number of bipartisan Senators, including Senator BINGAMAN. The person who worked on it, from my perspective, more than anybody else is the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, Mr. ALEXANDER, as did Senator ENSIGN and Senator LIEBERMAN. It is totally bipartisan.

I hope we can, on a bipartisan basis, move it out of here in the near future.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if I might add something, this is a classic example of the Senate at its best. It is a significant bipartisan measure put together, as the majority leader indicated, with leadership on his side of the aisle and on our side by Senators Alexander, Domenici, and Stevens. This is a significant piece of legislation that we

hope to be able to move in the very near future.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to the bill's second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 6; that on Tuesday, 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 there then be a period for morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority and the next 30 minutes under the control of the Republican leader or his designee; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 4; that at 12 noon the Senate resume consideration of amendment No. 314, and the majority leader be recognized; that on Tuesday, the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly conference work sessions.

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

ORDER TO ADJOURN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate today, and if the Republican leader has no further business, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order following a very brief statement I am going to make.

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

CONSIDERATION OF S. 4

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate is in the second week of consideration of the 9/11 bill. S. 4 was reported out during the recess and was available to all Members on Monday, February 26.

We had to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed last Tuesday. Once clo-

ture was invoked, there was a further delay in proceeding to the bill, and we were not allowed to begin consideration of the bill until Wednesday, February 28.

On Thursday of last week, Senator DEMINT offered his amendment to strike the TSA provision of the bill. We have been trying to get an agreement to vote on his amendment basically since that evening and on other amendments on the same subject matter as his amendment by Senators McCASKILL and LIEBERMAN.

Today, Senator COLLINS offered her TSA amendment. We are willing to add her amendment to the agreement. That was objected to.

As I indicated and the distinguished Republican leader indicated, tomorrow I will move to table the DeMint amendment.

I mention this because this is a good, very important piece of legislation. It has all the markings of being able to do something on a bipartisan basis, once we get over these few little humps. There are now 31 amendments pending to the bill. Most of the amendments do not deal with 9/11 recommendations. They are important funding issues that must be resolved and other 9/11 issues I would like to resolve before there is a cloture vote on this bill. We have all day tomorrow and we have Wednesday to finish this bill.

Accordingly, I am going to wait as long as I can to file cloture. We need to resolve this bill this week. Immigration amendments are going to have to wait until we deal with that bill later this year. It is not going to be too late because we are going to have to do immigration. I know the immigration people feel strongly about this issue. A number of the people who have been heavily involved in this immigration debate previously have offered immigration amendments on this bill. I think it is better we do the immigration legislation all at once and not piecemeal. I know how strongly the people feel who have offered these amendments, but this is not the vehicle to offer those amendments. If cloture is invoked, most of these amendments will fall. In fact, I think all of them will.

I have indicated to the distinguished Republican leader that we are willing to make sure we can dispose of the amendments that appear to be germane

prior to the cloture vote. We want to move this legislation as quickly as possible and as fairly as possible. So I hope the people who have amendments to offer will do it on this legislation. I hope they keep in mind that this is the 9/11 Commission recommendations and not an immigration bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me add briefly before we adjourn that I have asked my Members to come over, call up their amendments, and let's see how many we can get processed in the next couple of days. We are anxious to have amendments up and have amendments voted on and will be cooperating toward that end.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m., March 6.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:22 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 6, 2007, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 5, 2007:

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

MICHAEL E. BAROODY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2006, VICE HAROLD D. STRATTON, RESIGNED.

MICHAEL E. BAROODY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, VICE HAROLD D. STRATTON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DAVID GEORGE NASON, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE EMIL W. HENRY, JR.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PATRICK DENNIS DUDDY, OF MAINE, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate Monday, March 5, 2007:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CARL JOSEPH ARTMAN, OF COLORADO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.