

emergency declaration under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191), or in connection with any procurement of property or services related to any emergency or major disaster declaration as a prime contractor with the United States or as a subcontractor or supplier on a contract in which there is a prime contract with the United States, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 30 years, or both.

“(b) A circumstance described in this subsection is any instance where—

“(1) the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of the benefit is in or affects interstate or foreign commerce;

“(2) the benefit is transported in the mail at any point in the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of that benefit; or

“(3) the benefit is a record, voucher, payment, money, or thing of value of the United States, or of any department or agency thereof.

“(c) In this section, the term ‘benefit’ means any record, voucher, payment, money or thing of value, good, service, right, or privilege provided by the United States, a State or local government, or other entity.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1040. Fraud in connection with major disaster or emergency benefits.”.

(b) INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ENGAGING IN WIRE, RADIO, AND TELEVISION FRAUD DURING AND RELATION TO A PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.—Section 1343 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting: “occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit authorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in connection with, a presidentially declared major disaster or emergency (as those terms are defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)), or” after “If the violation”.

(c) INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ENGAGING IN MAIL FRAUD DURING AND IN RELATION TO A PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.—Section 1341 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting: “occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit authorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in connection with, a presidentially declared major disaster or emergency (as those terms are defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)), or” after “If the violation”.

(d) DIRECTIVE TO SENTENCING COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this subsection, the United States Sentencing Commission forthwith shall—

(A) promulgate sentencing guidelines or amend existing sentencing guidelines to provide for increased penalties for persons convicted of fraud or theft offenses in connection with a major disaster declaration under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) or an emergency declaration under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191); and

(B) submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives an explanation of actions taken by the Commission pursuant to subparagraph (A) and any additional policy recommendations the Com-

mission may have for combating offenses described in that subparagraph.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Sentencing Commission shall—

(A) ensure that the sentencing guidelines and policy statements reflect the serious nature of the offenses described in paragraph (1) and the need for aggressive and appropriate law enforcement action to prevent such offenses;

(B) assure reasonable consistency with other relevant directives and with other guidelines;

(C) account for any aggravating or mitigating circumstances that might justify exceptions, including circumstances for which the sentencing guidelines currently provide sentencing enhancements;

(D) make any necessary conforming changes to the sentencing guidelines; and

(E) assure that the guidelines adequately meet the purposes of sentencing as set forth in section 3553(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code.

(3) EMERGENCY AUTHORITY AND DEADLINE FOR COMMISSION ACTION.—The Commission shall promulgate the guidelines or amendments provided for under this subsection as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than the 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1987, as though the authority under that Act had not expired.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, April 11, 2007, at 10 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on the Smithsonian Institution.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Howard Gantman at the Rules and Administration Committee on 224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a Roundtable Discussion during the session of the Senate on Monday, March 26, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the Roundtable is to discuss the progress of the European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme and to receive information on lessons learned for policymakers who want to better understand how a market-based trading program could operate efficiently and effectively in the United States.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Mon-

day, March 26, 2007, at 2 p.m., to receive a briefing on the reorganization of the office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law be authorized to meet on Monday, March 26, 2007, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on “Legal Options to Stop Human Trafficking,” in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Grace Chung Becker, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC; Katherine Kaufka, Supervising Attorney, Counter-Trafficking Services Program, National Immigrant Justice Center, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, Chicago, IL; Martina E. Vandenberg, Attorney, Jenner & Block, Washington, DC; and Holly J. Burkhalter, Vice President, International Justice Mission, Washington, DC.

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

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

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 26, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing entitled, Understanding the Realities of REAL ID: A Review of Efforts to Secure Drivers' Licenses and Identification Cards.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Yvonne Stone, a detailee from the Department of Veterans Affairs, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on H.R. 1591, the emergency war supplemental.

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

Mr. COCHRAN. I also ask unanimous consent that Earl Rilington and Eric Perritt, Fellows serving in my office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on H.R. 1591, the fiscal year 2007 emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

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

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Adam Morrison and Tad Gallion be granted floor privileges during the debate on this measure.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent that my State Department fellow, Mike Stanton, and my Marine Corps fellow, Mark Carlton, be granted floor

privileges for the duration of debate on H.R. 1591 supplemental appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE-
MENT—NOMINATION OF GEORGE
WU

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that tomorrow at 11:50 a.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of George Wu to be a U.S. district judge, Calendar No. 38; that there be 20 minutes for debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee; that at the conclusion of or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination; that following the vote, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

CONGRATULATING THE EUROPEAN
UNION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 124 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. 124) congratulating the European Union on the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome/creating the European Economic Community among 6 European countries and laying the foundations for peace, stability, and prosperity in Europe.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 124) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 124

Whereas after a half century of war and upheaval, and in the face of economic and political crises and the threat of communism, European visionaries began a process to bring the countries of Europe into closer economic and political cooperation to help secure peace and prosperity for the peoples of Europe;

Whereas, on March 25, 1957, 6 European countries—the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg—signed the Treaty of Rome, creating the European Economic Community;

Whereas the Treaty of Rome established a customs union between the signatory countries, but also did much more, creating a

framework that has broadened and deepened over time into the European Union, promoting the free movement of people, services, and capital, and common policies among the countries in important areas, and that has helped secure the spread of peace and stability in Europe;

Whereas the European Economic Community expanded to bring more European countries into closer union, with the United Kingdom, Denmark, and Ireland joining in 1973, Greece joining in 1981, and Spain and Portugal joining in 1986;

Whereas the member countries of the European Economic Community agreed to the Single European Act in 1987, paving the way for a single European market, and on February 7, 1992, the member countries of the European Community signed the Treaty of Maastricht, furthering the economic and political ties among the member countries and creating the European Union;

Whereas the European Union has continued to grow so that the European Union now comprises 27 countries with a population of over 450,000,000, after the successful unification of Germany in 1990 and the joining of Austria, Finland, and Sweden in 1995, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia in 2004, and Bulgaria and Romania in 2007, and the European Union continues to consider expanding to include other countries central to the history and future of Europe;

Whereas the European Union has developed a broad *acquis communautaire* covering policies in the economic, security, diplomatic, and political areas, has established a single market, has built an economic and monetary union, including the Euro currency, and has built an area of freedom, security, peace, and justice, extending stability to its neighbors;

Whereas the European Union played a key role at the end of the Cold War in helping to spread free markets, democratic institutions and values, and respect for human rights to the former central European communist states;

Whereas the United States and the European Union have shared a unique partnership based on a common heritage, shared values, and mutual interests, and have worked together to strengthen international cooperation and institutions, to create a more open international trading system, to ensure transatlantic and global security, to preserve and promote peace, freedom, and democracy, and to advance human rights; and

Whereas the United States has supported the European integration process and has consistently supported the objective of European unity and the enlargement of the European Union to promote prosperity, peace, and democracy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the European Union and the member countries of the European Union on the 50th anniversary of the historic signing of the Treaty of Rome;

(2) commends the European Union for the critical role it and its predecessor organizations have played in spreading peace, stability, and prosperity throughout Europe; and

(3) affirms the desire of the United States to strengthen the transatlantic partnership with the European Union and with all of its member countries.

PERMITTING USE OF THE
ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 66.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 66) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 66) was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 27,
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 27; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, 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, the first 30 minutes under the control of the Republicans, and the final 30 minutes under the control of the majority; that at the close of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1591; that on Tuesday, following the vote on the judicial nomination, the Senate stand in recess until 2:15 p.m. in order to accommodate the respective party conference work periods. I further ask unanimous consent that Members have until 2:30 to file first-degree amendments for the matter pending.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. REID. If there is no further business today, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 27, 2007, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 26, 2007:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

R. LYLE LAVERTY, OF COLORADO, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE, VICE HAROLD CRAIG MANSON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JANET E. GARVEY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF