

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, at 11:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hear testimony on "Funding Social Security's Administrative Costs: Will the Budget Meet the Mission?"

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing entitled "Rising Crime in the United States: Examining the Federal Role in Helping Communities Prevent and Respond to Violent Crime" on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness list

Ted Kamatchus, President, National Sheriffs Association; Russ Lane, Vice President, International Association of Chiefs of Police; Tom Nee, President, National Association of Police Organizations; Douglas Palmer, Mayor of Trenton, NJ, President, United States Conference of Mayors, Trenton, NJ; James Alan Fox, Criminologist, Northeastern University; Rick Gregory, Chief of Police, New Castle, DE.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing entitled "Ending Taxation without Representation: The Constitutionality of S. 1257" on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness list

Panel I: The Honorable Chris Cannon, United States Representative, R-UT, Washington, DC; The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, United States Representative, D-DC Delegate, Washington, DC.

Panel II: Representative from the Department of Justice, Washington, DC, Richard P. Bress, Partner, Latham &

Watkins, LLP, Washington, DC; Charles J. Ogletree, Jesse Climenko Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA; Kenneth R. Thomas, Congressional Research Service, Washington, DC; Jonathan Turley, Professor, George Washington University Law School, Washington, DC; The Honorable Patricia Wald, Former Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 to hold a hearing on pending health legislation. The hearing will take place in room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Joint Economic Committee be authorized to conduct a hearing entitled, "Is Market Concentration in the U.S. Petroleum Industry, Harming Consumers?", in Room 215 of the Hart Senate Office Building, Wednesday, May 23, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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

SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 23, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "U.S. Economic Relations With China: Strategies and Options on Exchange Rates and Market Access."

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 23, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. to hold a closed markup.

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

STRATEGIC FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 11:30 a.m., in closed session, to mark up the Strategic Forces Programs and Provisions contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a staff member in my office, Lauren Weeth, be granted the privileges of the floor during the pendency of this bill.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Amy Meyers and Adam Zimmerman of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

TRIBUTES TO SENATOR STEVENS

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the deadline for Senators to submit tributes on Senator STEVENS for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD be extended until close of business on Monday, June 4, 2007.

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

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT—S. 60

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 60 be star-printed with the changes at the desk.

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

AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF COMMEMORATIVE DOCUMENT IN
MEMORY OF THE LATE PRESIDENT GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 128, just received from the House, and which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, Gerald Rudolph Ford.

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

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

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) was agreed to.

CALENDAR

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the Senate to proceed en bloc to the consideration of the following calendar items: Calendar No. 161, S. 1352; Calendar No. 162, H.R. 414; Calendar No. 163, H.R. 437; Calendar No. 164, H.R. 625;

Calendar No. 165, H.R. 988; and Calendar No. 166, H.R. 1402.

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

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that the consideration of these items appear separately in the RECORD; and that any statements related to the measures be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

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

DR. FRANCIS TOWNSEND POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (S. 1352) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, as the "Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1352

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

SECTION 1. DR. FRANCIS TOWNSEND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building".

MIGUEL ANGEL GARCIA MENDEZ POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 414) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 60 Calle McKinley, West in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, as the "Miguel Angel Garcia Mendez Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LINO PEREZ, JR. POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 437) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Eisenhower Street in Rio Grande City, Texas, as the "Lino Perez, Jr. Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ATANACIO HARO-MARIN POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 625) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4230 Maine Avenue in Baldwin Park, California, as the "Atanacio Haro-Marin Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LIEUTENANT TODD JASON BRYANT POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 988) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5757 Tilton Avenue in Riverside, California, as the "Lieutenant Todd Jason Bryant Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SERGEANT DENNIS J. FLANAGAN LECANTO POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 1402) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 South Lecanto way in Lecanto, Florida, as the "Sergeant Dennis J. Flanagan Lecanto Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 24; that on Thursday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half; that at the close of morning business the Senate resume consideration of S. 1348, the immigration bill.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, if there is no further business, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned, following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS.

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

The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I thank Senator SALAZAR for his courtesy. I want to share a few thoughts tonight. In particular, I wish to talk about the Grassley amendment that deals with the granting of visas, which, by error or inadvertence, could in fact involve individuals who are very dangerous, who would get into our country on a valid visa, and then it be determined that they should never have been issued that visa.

That happens quite often. The State Department is concerned about it. The

FBI is concerned about it. The Grassley amendment would help fix that in a significant way. In any comprehensive immigration reform, it is my view that should be a part of it.

We have talked about this for a number of years, but somehow we never got around to getting it done. I am glad he has offered it. If we are going to pass immigration reform, it certainly should be a part of it.

I think one of the problems we have had in our thinking throughout this process is an insufficient understanding that we as Senators should place our national interests first, and we should set policy that serves our laws, that serves our financial interests, and should validate those who follow the law properly and have consequences for those who do not follow the law.

In 1986, there was this discussion that led to immigration reform. It was admitted to be amnesty, and it was supposed to be the last amnesty of all time, a one-time amnesty, and we are going to enforce the law in the future. They promised.

Of course, the amnesty took place immediately and the promises of enforcement and funding and enough Border Patrol agents and all the things necessary to have enforcement never occurred for two main reasons. No President of the United States cared to do anything about lawlessness at the border, and the Congress didn't. Congress, every now and then, would rise up and suggest that something should be done, and some Congressman or Senator would talk about it, but nothing ever really got done.

Now we are at a point where we have perhaps 12, maybe 20 million people here illegally, and they desire amnesty. What will happen next? How many years will it be until the next time?

I have a simple view that goes to the core of what this bill fails to do, and that is to affirm the rule of law. My view is that a compassionate and kind and very generous thing to do for persons who came into our country illegally, who have not been forced to stay here but stay here because they choose to stay here—presumably the life and the pay and the benefits they have here are sufficient that they would choose to stay here rather than where they came from—that those persons, as a result of coming here illegally and of their own volition, should not be given every single benefit that we would give to persons who come to America legally. That is just it. We said that in 1986 and this will be a defining moment about whether we mean it.

We could take two positions. One is, this is not amnesty and maybe we can go on and the same thing would be prepared to happen a few years from now, 15 years from now. Or we can say: No, sir, nobody from 1986 and forever hereafter who comes to our country illegally will be given the full panoply of benefits we give to persons who come to our country legally.