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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2007

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HARRY REID, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Memorial Day approaches, we pause to thank You for those who have laid down their lives for our country. Thank You for heroes and the heroines proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life. Use our lawmakers to honor the sacrifices of those who have given the last full measure of devotion.

May our Senators dedicate themselves to the great task of perfecting Your kingdom of peace and righteousness among all nations. Endue the Members of this body with the courage to be faithful in their work that they may not break faith with those who have fallen on distant battlefields.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HARRY REID led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the immigration bill. We have the two managers of the bill here. There will be two amendments from each side to be offered today.

Mr. President, in anticipation of coming back the week after our break, which starts this afternoon, we are going to finish the immigration bill. I hope that we will not have to file cloture. There have been enough amendments offered. I hope we can have a final vote on passage. If things are not going well on Tuesday and Wednesday

when we get back, I will consider filing cloture. I will certainly discuss this in detail with the Republican leader, Senator MCCONNELL.

We have made a lot of progress on this bill. It is according to whose view you have as to whether it is forward or backward. As far as I am concerned, the bipartisan agreement that was reached by Democrats and Republicans has put us on a path for resolving one of America's big problems, immigration.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S.J. RES. 14

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that S.J. Res. 14 is at the desk and is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 14) expressing the sense of the Senate that Attorney General Alberto Gonzales no longer holds the confidence of the Senate and of the American people.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to further proceeding at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION
REFORM ACT OF 2007

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1348, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1348) to provide for comprehensive immigration reform, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reid (for Kennedy/Specter) amendment No. 1150, in the nature of a substitute.

Grassley/DeMint amendment No. 1166 (to amendment No. 1150), to clarify that the revocation of an alien's visa or other documentation is not subject to judicial review.

Cornyn modified amendment No. 1184 (to amendment No. 1150), to establish a permanent bar for gang members, terrorists, and other criminals.

Dodd/Menendez amendment No. 1199 (to amendment No. 1150), to increase the number of green cards for parents of United States citizens, to extend the duration of the new parent visitor visa, and to make penalties imposed on individuals who overstay such visas applicable only to such individuals.

Menendez amendment No. 1194 (to amendment No. 1150), to modify the deadline for the family backlog reduction.

McConnell amendment No. 1170 (to amendment No. 1150), to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require individuals voting in person to present photo identification.

Feingold amendment No. 1176 (to amendment No. 1150), to establish commissions to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans, European Latin Americans, and Jewish refugees during World War II.

Durbin/Grassley amendment No. 1231 (to amendment No. 1150), to ensure that employers make efforts to recruit American workers.

Sessions amendment No. 1234 (to amendment No. 1150), to save American taxpayers up to \$24 billion in the 10 years after passage of this act, by preventing the earned income tax credit, which is, according to the Congressional Research Service, the largest anti-poverty entitlement program of the Federal Government, from being claimed by Y temporary workers or illegal aliens given status by this act until they adjust to legal permanent resident status.

Sessions amendment No. 1235 (to amendment No. 1150), to save American taxpayers up to \$24 billion in the 10 years after passage of this act, by preventing the earned income tax credit, which is, according to the Congressional Research Service, the largest anti-poverty entitlement program of the Federal Government, from being claimed by Y temporary workers or illegal aliens given status by this act until they adjust to legal permanent resident status.

Lieberman amendment No. 1191 (to amendment No. 1150), to provide safeguards against faulty asylum procedures and to improve conditions of detention.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, as this bill has progressed through the week, there has been, in my view, significant progress made. It has truly been a tribute to the leadership on both sides, and I acknowledge the leadership of the majority leader, HARRY REID, in terms of holding people's feet to the fire to get us moving forward with immigration.

We hope to be able to bring this to a conclusion the week after we get back from the Memorial Day break. I understand that this morning we will have about four amendments, two on the Republican side, and two on the Democratic side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 1189 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1150

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senator from Colorado, Senator ALLARD, I believe there is an amendment at the desk, No. 1189.

I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendments be set aside and ask for the immediate consideration of that amendment, No. 1189.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CORNYN], for Mr. ALLARD, proposes an amendment numbered 1189 to amendment No. 1150.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To eliminate the preference given to people who entered the United States illegally over people seeking to enter the country legally in the merit-based evaluation system for visas)

In section 203(b)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(1)(A)), as amended by section 502, in the table in that section, strike the items relating to the Supplemental schedule for Zs.

AMENDMENT NO. 1250 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1150

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, at this time, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment, No. 1189, and ask for the immediate consideration of my amendment No. 1250, which I believe is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) proposes an amendment numbered 1250 to amendment No. 1150.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To address documentation of employment and to make an amendment with respect to mandatory disclosure of information)

In section 601(i)(2)(C) (relating to other documents)—

(1) strike clause (VI) (relating to sworn affidavits);

(2) in clause (V), strike the semicolon at the end and insert a period; and

(3) in clause (IV), add "and" at the end.

Strike section 604 (relating to mandatory disclosure of information) and insert the following:

SEC. 604. MANDATORY DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, no Federal agency or

bureau, or any officer or employee of such agency or bureau, may—

(1) use the information furnished by the applicant pursuant to an application filed under section 601 and 602, for any purpose, other than to make a determination on the application;

(2) make any publication through which the information furnished by any particular applicant can be identified; or

(3) permit anyone other than the sworn officers, employees or contractors of such agency, bureau, or approved entity, as approved by the Secretary of Homeland Security, to examine individual applications that have been filed.

(b) REQUIRED DISCLOSURES.—The Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall provide the information furnished pursuant to an application filed under section 601 and 602, and any other information derived from such furnished information, to—

(1) a law enforcement entity, intelligence agency, national security agency, component of the Department of Homeland Security, court, or grand jury in connection with a criminal investigation or prosecution or a national security investigation or prosecution, in each instance about an individual suspect or group of suspects, when such information is requested by such entity;

(2) a law enforcement entity, intelligence agency, national security agency, or component of the Department of Homeland Security in connection with a duly authorized investigation of a civil violation, in each instance about an individual suspect or group of suspects, when such information is requested by such entity; or

(3) an official coroner for purposes of affirmatively identifying a deceased individual, whether or not the death of such individual resulted from a crime.

(c) INAPPLICABILITY AFTER DENIAL.—The limitations under subsection (a)—

(1) shall apply only until an application filed under section 601 and 602 is denied and all opportunities for administrative appeal of the denial have been exhausted; and

(2) shall not apply to the use of the information furnished pursuant to such application in any removal proceeding or other criminal or civil case or action relating to an alien whose application has been granted that is based upon any violation of law committed or discovered after such grant.

(d) CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, information concerning whether the applicant has at any time been convicted of a crime may be used or released for immigration enforcement and law enforcement purposes.

(e) AUDITING AND EVALUATION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary may audit and evaluate information furnished as part of any application filed under sections 601 and 602, any application to extend such status under section 601(k), or any application to adjust status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under section 602, for purposes of identifying fraud or fraud schemes, and may use any evidence detected by means of audits and evaluations for purposes of investigating, prosecuting or referring for prosecution, denying, or terminating immigration benefits.

(f) USE OF INFORMATION IN PETITIONS AND APPLICATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—If the Secretary has adjusted an alien's status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence pursuant to section 602, then at any time thereafter the Secretary may use the information furnished by the alien in the application for adjustment of status or in the applications for status pursuant to sections 601 or 602 to make a