

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 10 a.m. in order to conduct a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

### Agenda

#### Legislation

S. 1257, District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2007;

S. 274, Federal Employee Protection of Disclosures Act;

H.R. 1254, Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2007;

S. Res. 22, a resolution reaffirming the constitutional and statutory protections accorded sealed domestic mail, and for other purposes;

S. 967, Federal Supervisor Training Act of 2007;

S. 1046, Senior Professional Performance Act of 2007;

S. 1099, a bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to make individuals employed by the Roosevelt Campobello International Park Commission eligible to obtain Federal health insurance;

S. 597, a bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years;

H.R. 1255/S. 886, Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007;

S. 381, Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act.

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

### COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations to the Federal Election Commission.

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

### COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 13, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in room 562 of the Dirksen Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Department of Labor, Department of Defense, VA cooperation, and collaboration to meet the employment needs of returning service members.

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

### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Colin Jones, a DOE fellow from the Idaho National Lab, be granted the privilege of the

floor during consideration of H.R. 6, the Energy bill before us.

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

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that T.J. Kim, with the Committee on Environment and Public Works, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the Energy bill.

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

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that David Hiller, of my staff, be given floor privileges during the remainder of the debate on H.R. 6.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the following fellows of my staff—Jonna Hamilton, Joseph De Maria, and Jack Gardner—be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the first session of the 110th Congress.

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

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 111; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Robert M. Couch, of Alabama, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

## APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the appointment of Sheryl B. Vogt, of Georgia, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

## NATIONAL HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of

S. Res. 234, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 234) designating June 15, 2007 as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day."

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

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I rise today to support a resolution designating June 15, 2007, as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day," a devastating disorder that affects an estimated 1 in every 10,000 persons. We need to raise awareness of Huntington's disease, which is a progressive degenerative neurological disease that causes total physical and mental deterioration over a 12-15 year period. Though Huntington's disease typically begins in midlife, between the ages of 30 and 45, onset may occur as early as the age of 2. The average lifespan after onset of Huntington's disease is 10 to 20 years. The younger a person contracts the disease, the more rapid the progression. Additionally, children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood, and a child of a Huntington's disease parent has a 50-50 chance of inheriting the Huntington's disease gene.

Since the discovery of the gene that causes Huntington's disease in 1993, the pace of Huntington's disease research has accelerated. Although scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs are forthcoming, no cures for this disease currently exist.

The need for heightened awareness of Huntington's disease was brought to my attention by constituents who suffer from this disease. For the benefit of these individuals and for the well-being of sufferers in your own State and around the Nation, I ask you to join me in this effort to raise awareness of Huntington's disease.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 234) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 234

Whereas Huntington's Disease is a progressive degenerative neurological disease that causes total physical and mental deterioration over a 12 to 15 year period;

Whereas each child of a parent with Huntington's Disease has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the Huntington's Disease gene;

Whereas Huntington's Disease typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 45, though onset may occur as early as the age of 2;

Whereas children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood;

Whereas the average lifespan after onset of Huntington's Disease is 10 to 20 years, and

the younger the age of onset, the more rapid the progression of the disease;

Whereas Huntington's Disease affects 30,000 patients and 200,000 genetically "at risk" individuals in the United States;

Whereas since the discovery of the gene that causes Huntington's Disease in 1993, the pace of Huntington's Disease research has accelerated;

Whereas, although no effective treatment or cure currently exists, scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the Nation are conducting important research projects involving Huntington's Disease; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of Huntington's Disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2007, as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of Huntington's Disease; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

**MEASURES INDEFINITELY POSTPONED:** S. CON. RES. 10, S. 261, S. 624, H. CON. RES. 118

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following calendar items be indefinitely postponed: Calendar No. 61, S. Con. Res. 10; Calendar No. 87, S. 261; Cal-

endar No. 100, S. 624; and Calendar No. 130, H. Con. Res. 118.

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

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2007

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 14; that on Thursday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 6, the comprehensive energy legislation.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate today, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:24 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 14, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate June 13, 2007:

##### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

LISA E. EPIFANI, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS), VICE JILL L. SIGAL, RESIGNED.

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

GAIL DENNISE MATHIEU, OF NEW JERSEY, 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 REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA.

##### THE JUDICIARY

JOSEPH N. LAPLANTE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, VICE JOSEPH A. DICLERICO, JR., RETIRED.

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS PURYEAR IV, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE, VICE ROBERT L. ECHOLS, RETIRED.

##### ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

GRACIA M. HILLMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2009. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate Wednesday, June 13, 2007:

##### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ROBERT M. COUCH, OF ALABAMA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

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.