

to conduct a hearing entitled “Increasing Government Accountability and Ensuring Fairness in Small Business Contracting,” on Wednesday, July 18, 2007, beginning at 2 p.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 18, 2007 from 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be allowed floor privileges during today’s session of the Senate: Erin McGuire, Maureen McGuire, Owen Thal, Samantha Currier, and Sonia Russo.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jack Kammerer, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor during the remainder of the debate on the Defense authorization bill.

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

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator DODD, I ask unanimous consent that his fellow, Taniesha Woods, be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of the higher education reconciliation bill.

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

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ann Clough, a detailee in my office, be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of the debate on H.R. 2669.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Adam Ruiz of Kentucky.

AUTHORIZING SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 274 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. 274) to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in the case of Lewis v. Bayh.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a pro se civil action filed against Senator EVAN BAYH, in which plaintiff alleges, as best as can be pieced together from the complaint, which offers no factual support, that the Senator intervened in the processing of plaintiffs FOIA request to the Department of the Treasury to block access to documents in order to protect the identities of constituents whose names would have been revealed in the documents and who, according to plaintiff, had violated plaintiffs civil and constitutional rights.

This resolution authorizes the Senate Legal Counsel to represent Senator BAYH in this suit and to move for its dismissal on both threshold jurisdictional grounds and failure to state a claim on the merits.

I urge the Senate to approve this important legislation.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 274) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 274

Whereas, in the case of Lewis v. Bayh, Case No. 07-CV-0939 (D.D.C.), pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the plaintiff has named as defendant Senator Evan Bayh;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend the Senate and Members, officers, and employees of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Evan Bayh in the case of Lewis v. Bayh.

MAKING MINORITY PARTY APPOINTMENTS

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 275, and that the resolution 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. 275) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 275

Resolved, That the following be the minority membership on the Committee on Armed Services for the remainder of the 110th Congress, or until their successors are appointed:

Mr. McCain, Mr. Warner, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Sessions, Ms. Collins, Mr. Chambliss, Mr. Graham, Mrs. Dole, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Thune, Mr. Martinez, and Mr. Corker.

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House on S. 966, the Passport Backlog Reduction Act of 2007.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate a message from the House as follows:

S. 966

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 966) entitled “An Act to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel, and for other purposes”, do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Passport Backlog Reduction Act of 2007”.

SEC. 2. REEMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN SERVICE ANNUITANTS.

Section 824(g) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4064(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph—

“(C)(i) to provide assistance to consular posts with a substantial backlog of visa applications; or

“(ii) to provide assistance to meet the demand resulting from the passport and travel document requirements set forth in section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note), including assistance related to the investigation of fraud in connection with an application for a passport.”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “The authority” and inserting “(A) The authority”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(B) The authority of the Secretary to waive the application of subsections (a) through (d) for an annuitant pursuant to subparagraph (C)(i) of paragraph (1) shall terminate on September 30, 2008.

“(C) The authority of the Secretary to waive the application of subsections (a) through (d) for an annuitant pursuant to subparagraph (C)(ii) of paragraph (1) shall terminate on September 30, 2009.”.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Thursday, July 19; 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; and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 2669.

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

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW**

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, if there is no further business today, I

now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:09 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate July 18 (legislative day of July 17), 2007:

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT M. DOW, JR., OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE CHARLES P. KOCORAS, RETIRED.