

“(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any quarter of coverage earned by an individual who, at such time such quarter of coverage is earned, satisfies the criterion specified in subsection (c)(2).

“(e) Not later than 180 days after the date of this Act the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security to provide such information as the Commissioner determines necessary to carry out the limitations on crediting quarters of cover under subsection, (d), however, this provision shall not be construed to establish an effective date for purposes of this section.”.

(2) BENEFIT COMPUTATION.—Section 215(e) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4159e)) is amended—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (1);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting “and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) in computing the average indexed monthly earnings of an individual who is assigned a social security account number on or after the date of enactment of this Act, there shall not be counted any wages or self-employment income for which no quarter of coverage may be credited to such individual as a result of the application of section 214(d).”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall be effective as of the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2359. Mr. COLEMAN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ____. **INNOCENT CHILD PROTECTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any authority, military or civil, of the United States, a State, or any district, possession, commonwealth or other territory under the authority of the United States, to carry out a sentence of death on a woman while she carries a child in utero.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “child in utero” means a member of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of development, who is carried in the womb.

SA 2360. Mr. GRAHAM proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

Strike section 701 of the Higher Education Access Act of 2007, relating to student eligibility.

SA 2361. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2341 submitted by Mr. SUNUNU to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

In the amendment strike all after the first word and insert the following:

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should provide tax relief to help families afford the cost of higher education, including making tuition deductible against taxes, and eliminate wasteful spending, such as spending on unnecessary tax loopholes, in order to

fully offset the cost and avoid forcing taxpayers to pay substantially more interest to foreign creditors; and that such relief should be provided on an appropriate legislative vehicle that won’t jeopardize legislation providing greater access and affordability to higher education for millions of students by subjecting the bill to a “blue slip” by the House.

SA 2362. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. **REPEAL OF APPLICABILITY OF SUNSET OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2001 WITH RESPECT TO ADOPTION CREDIT AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**

Section 901 of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to the amendments made by section 202 (relating to expansion of adoption credit and adoption assistance programs).”.

SA 2363. Ms. LANDRIEU proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2362 proposed by Mr. DEMINT to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should permanently extend the adoption tax credit and eliminate wasteful spending, such as spending on unnecessary tax loopholes, in order to fully offset the cost and avoid forcing taxpayers to pay substantially more interest to foreign creditors; and that such relief should be provided on an appropriate legislative vehicle that won’t jeopardize legislation providing greater access and affordability to higher education for millions of students by subjecting the bill to a “blue slip” by the House.

SA 2364. Mr. KERRY proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2353 submitted by Mr. KYL to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should provide relief from the Alternative Minimum Tax to prevent the expansion of the AMT to nearly 23 million taxpayers in 2007 and eliminate wasteful spending, such as spending on unnecessary tax loopholes, in order to fully offset the cost of such repeal and avoid forcing taxpayers to pay substantially more interest to foreign creditors; and that such relief should be provided on an appropriate legislative vehicle that won’t jeopardize legislation providing greater access and affordability to higher education for millions of students by subjecting the bill to a “blue slip” by the House.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks.

The hearing will be held on August 2, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1253, a bill to establish a fund for the National Park Centennial Challenge, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to, rachel_pasterнак@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863 or Rachel Pasternack at (202) 224-0883.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on July 26, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: S. 300, to authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for other purposes; S. 1258, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to authorize improvements for the security of dams and other facilities; S. 1477, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Jackson Gulch rehabilitation project in the State of Colorado; S. 1522, to amend the Bonneville Power Administration portions of the Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2014, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1025, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a water supply and conservation project to improve water supply reliability, increase the capacity of water storage, and improve water management efficiency in the Republican River Basin between Harlan County Lake in Nebraska and Milford Lake in Kansas.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural

Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Gina_Weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Michael Connor at (202) 224-5479 or Gina Weinstock at (202) 224-5684.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 19, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a vote on the nominations of the Honorable Bijan Rafiekian, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Ms. Diane G. Farrell, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Mr. William Herbert Heyman, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation; Mr. William S. Jasien, of Virginia, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation; and Mr. Mark S. Shelton, of Kansas, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. Immediately following the vote, the Committee will conduct a hearing on “The Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress.”

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 19, 2007, immediately following the first rollcall vote at 12 p.m., to conduct a vote on the nominations of the Honorable Bijan Rafiekian, of California, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Ms. Diane G. Farrell, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Mr. William Herbert Heyman, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation; Mr. William S. Jasien, of Virginia, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation; and Mr. Mark S. Shelton, of Kansas, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to hold a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this meeting will be to consider and approve the following bills: S. 1492, S. 1769, S. 1780, S. 1582, S. 1771, S. 1778, and to consider nominations for promotion in the United States Coast Guard (PN 609 and PN 610).

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 9:45 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1634, a bill to implement further the act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 2:15 p.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hear testimony on “Aviation Financing: Industry Perspectives.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Iraq.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled “The Military’s Role in Disaster Response: Progress Since Hurricane Katrina.”

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a business meeting to consider pending business, to be followed immediately by a hearing on discussion draft legislation to amend and reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 10 a.m. in Dirksen room 226.

Agenda

I. Bills: S. 1145, Patent Reform Act of 2007 (Leahy, Hatch, Schumer, Cornyn, Whitehouse), S. __, School Safety and Law Enforcement Improvements Act (Chairman’s mark); S. 1060, Recidivism Reduction & Second Chance Act of 2007 (Biden, Specter, Brownback, Leahy, Kennedy, Schumer, Whitehouse, Durbin).

II. Nominations: William Lindsay Osteen, Jr. to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina; Martin Karl Reidinger to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina; Timothy D. DeGiusti to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma; Janis Lynn Sammartino to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California; Roslyn Renee Mauskopf to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York; Joe W. Stecher to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska; and Rosa Emilia Rodriguez-Velez to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico.

III. Resolutions: S. Res. 248, Honoring the life and achievements of Dame Lois Browne Evans (Brown); S. Res. 236, Supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project (Bayh, Craig, Kennedy, Cardin, Durbin); S. Res. 261, Honoring the educational contributions of Donald Jeffrey Herbert, “Mr. Wizard” (Coleman, Klobuchar, Feingold, Durbin).

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Judicial Nominations” on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 2:45 p.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building room 226.

Witness list

Panel I: The Honorable Thad Cochran, United States Senator [R-MS]; The Honorable Trent Lott, United States Senator [R-MS]; The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senator [D-WA]; The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, United States Senator [R-TX]; and The Honorable John Cornyn, United States Senator [R-TX].

Panel II: Jennifer Walker Elrod to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Panel III: Richard A. Jones to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington; Sharion Aycock to be United States