

(c) COOPERATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall determine the format of biometric information, including fingerprints, acceptable for usage under subsection (a). The Secretary of Defense, or any other official having custody of the biometric information, including fingerprints, referred to in subsection (a), shall—

(1) make such prints available, without charge, to the Secretary of Homeland Security for the purpose described in subsection (a); and

(2) otherwise cooperate with the Secretary of Homeland Security to facilitate the processing of applications for naturalization under subsection (a).

(d) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, implement procedures that will ensure the rapid electronic transmission of biometric information, including fingerprints, from existing repositories of such information needed for military personnel applying for naturalization as described in subsection (a) and that will safeguard privacy and civil liberties.

(e) CENTRALIZATION AND EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—

(1) CENTRALIZATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall centralize the data processing of all applications for naturalization filed by members of the United States Armed Forces on active duty serving abroad.

(2) EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence shall take appropriate actions to ensure that applications for naturalization by members of the United States Armed Forces described in paragraph (1), and associated background checks, receive expedited processing and are adjudicated within 180 days of the receipt of responses to all background checks.

SEC. 3. PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON MILITARY NATURALIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the effective date of any modification to a regulation related to naturalization under section 328 or 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439, 1440), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall make appropriate updates to the Internet sites maintained by the Secretary to reflect such modification.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Homeland Security, not later than 180 days after each effective date described in subsection (a), should make necessary updates to the appropriate application forms of the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 4. REPORTS.

(a) ADJUDICATION PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the entire process for the adjudication of an application for naturalization filed pursuant to section 328 or 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439, 1440), including the process that—

(A) begins at the time the application is mailed to, or received by, the Secretary, regardless of whether the Secretary determines that such application is complete; and

(B) ends on the date of the final disposition of such application.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include a description of—

(A) the methods used by the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of De-

fense to prepare, handle, and adjudicate such applications;

(B) the effectiveness of the chain of authority, supervision, and training of employees of the Federal Government or of other entities, including contract employees, who have any role in such process or adjudication; and

(C) the ability of the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Defense to use technology to facilitate or accomplish any aspect of such process or adjudication and to safeguard privacy and civil liberties

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States and the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall conduct a study on the implementation of this Act by the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Defense, including an assessment of any technology that may be used to improve the efficiency of the naturalization process for members of the United States Armed Forces and an assessment of the impact of this Act on privacy and civil liberties.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits the report required under subsection (a), the Comptroller General and the Inspector General shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the study required by paragraph (1) that includes recommendations for improving the implementation of this Act.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(5) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(6) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

SA 4178. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 25, line 16, increase the amount by \$703,000,000.

On page 25, line 17, increase the amount by \$387,000,000.

On page 25, line 21, increase the amount by \$316,000,000.

On page 27, line 16, decrease the amount by \$703,000,000.

On page 27, line 17, decrease the amount by \$387,000,000.

On page 27, line 21, decrease the amount by \$316,000,000.

SA 4179. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 58, line 17, insert “(including specially adapted housing grants)” after “disability benefits”.

SA 4180. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 9, line 13, increase the amount by \$65,000,000.

On page 9, line 14, increase the amount by \$32,000,000.

On page 9, line 18, increase the amount by \$26,000,000.

On page 9, line 22, increase the amount by \$5,000,000.

On page 27, line 16, decrease the amount by \$65,000,000.

On page 27, line 17, decrease the amount by \$32,000,000.

On page 27, line 21, decrease the amount by \$26,000,000.

On page 27, line 25, decrease the amount by \$5,000,000.

SA 4181. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of Title III, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR SCIENCE PARKS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide grants and loan guarantees for the development and construction of science parks to promote the clustering of innovation through high technology activities, by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2008 through 2018.

SA 4182. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After “data” on page 64, line 6, strike “,” and add the following:

“and activities by the Department of Health and Human Services to foster the use of electronic health record data at Community Health Centers.”

SA 4183. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of Sec. 302, insert the following:
(b) The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would improve student achievement during secondary education, including middle school completion, high school graduation and preparing students for higher education and the workforce, by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2008 through 2018.

SA 4184. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE ADOPTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY.

It is the sense of the Senate that—
(1) sufficient resources should be provided for Federal agencies to exploit broadband technologies that—

(A) have the capability to electronically connect all Americans; and

(B) achieve greater applications and efficiencies for the economy, health care, public safety, and education;

(2) the United States Government should assess broadband deployment and adoption rates throughout the Nation to ensure that Federal initiatives are not redundant and are applicable to 21st Century requirements;

(3) the deployment and adoption of broadband technology has resulted in—

(A) enhanced economic development and public safety for communities across the Nation;

(B) improved health care and educational opportunities; and

(C) a better quality of life for all Americans;

(4) continued progress in the deployment and adoption of broadband technology is vital to ensuring that our Nation remains competitive and continues to create business and job growth;

(5) improving Federal data on the deployment and adoption of broadband service will assist in the development of broadband technology across all regions of the Nation;

(6) the Federal Government should—

(A) recognize and encourage complementary efforts by States to improve the quality and usefulness of broadband data; and

(B) encourage and support the partnership of the public and private sectors in the continued growth of broadband services and information technology for the residents and businesses of the Nation; and

(7) Federal broadband policies shall—

(A) continue to promote openness, competition, innovation, and affordable, ubiq-

uitous broadband service for all individuals in the United States; and

(B) maintain the freedom to use for lawful purposes broadband networks without unreasonable interference from, or discrimination by, network operators.

SA 4185. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 56, line 12, after “transit” insert “, broadband technology.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on the United States Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2009 and the future years defense program.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. STABENOW. 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 March 11, 2008, at 10 a.m., in order to conduct a hearing entitled the “Condition of Our Nation’s Infrastructure and Proposals For Needed Improvements.”

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday March 11, 2008, at 10 a.m., room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing.

At this hearing, the subcommittee will explore the importance of basic research to U.S. competitiveness. The hearing will examine research and development budgets at agencies in the Committee’s jurisdiction, particularly the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Science Foundation, as well as inter-agency science programs addressing climate change, nanotechnology, and information technology.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing.

At this hearing, the Committee will conduct an oversight hearing on the Department of Transportation’s current Cross-Border Truck Pilot Program. This pilot program, administered by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, provides temporary operating authority to a limited number of motor carriers domiciled in Mexico and the United States for cross-border commercial operation.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in order to hold a hearing entitled, “Examining the President’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2009 Budget for the Civil Works Program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Implementation of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 10:15 a.m. in order to hold a hearing on U.S. policy options on the Horn of Africa.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. in order hold a hearing on NATO enlargement and effectiveness.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “The Broken Pipeline: Losing Opportunities in the Life Sciences” on Tuesday, March 11, 2008. The hearing will commence at 11 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorization to meet during the session of