

(6) RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and is deemed to be part of the rules of each House, respectively but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of bill under this section, and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as they relate to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

**SA 3257.** Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 352, line 8, strike “50” and insert “500”.  
On page 352, line 13, strike “50” and insert “500”.  
On page 352, line 16, strike “50” and insert “500”.  
On page 352, line 20, strike “50” and insert “500”.

**SA 3258.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 869, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

**SEC. 3143. FLOOR ON AREA WAGE INDEX.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning with discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2009, for purposes of section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)), the area wage index applicable under such section to hospitals with Medicare provider numbers 300001, 300003, 300005, 300011, 300012, 300014, 300017, 300018, 300019, 300020, 300023, 300029, and 300034 shall not be less than the post-reclassification area wage index applicable to the hospital for purposes of determining payments during the period beginning on or after October 1, 2006, and before October 1, 2007.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall make a proportional adjustment in the standardized amounts determined under section 1886(d)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)) to assure that the provisions of this section do not result in aggregate payments under section 1886 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww) that are greater or less than those that would otherwise be made. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of making adjustments under this subsection, the Secretary shall not further

adjust the wage index or standardized amounts for any area, State, or region within the United States.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, at 11:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 10 a.m.

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

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 3 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Judicial Nominations.”

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

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009.

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICES, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs’ Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be au-

thorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, “Tools to Combat Deficits and Waste: Enhanced Rescission Authority”.

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Law of the Land: U.S. Implementation of Human Rights Treaties.”

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

**HONORING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN**

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 376, 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. 376) honoring the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the 10th anniversary of the accession to the throne of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. INOUYE. Madam President, today, I am supporting this resolution to honor the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, as well as to honor the 10th anniversary of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein’s accession to the throne. I am pleased to be joined in this endeavor by Senator GREGG.

Since establishing diplomatic relations, Jordan has worked together with the U.S. towards the mutual goal of peace in the Middle East. In 1994, King Hussein and Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, signed the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, ending nearly 50 years of war between the two countries. The government of Jordan has been an instrumental partner in the fight against al-Qaida and terrorism. As a result, the people of Jordan have also suffered devastating losses at the hands of terrorists.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor to this legislation.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to,

the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 376) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 376

Whereas the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan achieved independence on May 25, 1946;

Whereas the United States recognized Jordan as an independent state in a White House announcement on January 31, 1949;

Whereas diplomatic relations and the American Legation in Jordan were established on February 18, 1949, when United States diplomat Wells Stabler presented his credentials as Chargé d'Affaires in Amman;

Whereas, for 60 years, the United States and Jordan have enjoyed a close relationship and have worked together to advance issues ranging from the promotion of Middle East peace to advancing the socio-economic development of the people of Jordan, as well as the threat to both posed by al Qaeda and violent extremism;

Whereas, from 1952 to 1999, King Hussein charted a moderate path for his country;

Whereas, for decades, the United States has been Jordan's strongest international partner;

Whereas, throughout his reign, King Hussein looked for opportunities to realize his dream of a more peaceful Middle East by working to solve intra-Arab disputes and engaging successive Prime Ministers of Israel in the search for peace;

Whereas King Hussein and Prime Minister of Israel Yitzhak Rabin signed the historic Jordan-Israel peace treaty in 1994, ending

nearly 50 years of war between the neighboring countries;

Whereas the United States lost a close friend and a crucial partner when King Hussein passed away in 1999;

Whereas King Hussein was succeeded by his son, King Abdullah II, who has continued his father's work to improve the lives of the people of Jordan while also seeking to bring peace to the region;

Whereas, in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the Government of Jordan has been an instrumental partner in the fight against al Qaeda, has provided crucial assistance in Iraq, and has shouldered a heavy burden in providing refuge to a significant portion of the Iraqi refugee population;

Whereas, through his 2004 Amman Message, King Abdullah II has been a leading Arab voice in trying to reaffirm the true path of Islam;

Whereas, in November 2005, al Qaeda terrorists struck three hotels in Amman, Jordan, thereby uniting the people of Jordan and the United States in grief over the lives lost at this act of terrorism; and

Whereas King Abdullah II begins his second decade on the Hashemite throne by redoubling his efforts for peace in the region as the Jordan-United States partnership enters its seventh decade: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 60th anniversary of the close relationship between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;

(2) expresses its profound admiration and gratitude for the friendship of the people of Jordan;

(3) congratulates His Majesty King Abdullah II on 10 years of enlightened and progressive rule; and

(4) shares the hope of His Majesty King Abdullah II and the people of Jordan for a more peaceful Middle East.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 17, 2009

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, December 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of the House message with respect to H.R. 3326, the Department of Defense appropriations bill, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; provided further that the first hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the second half.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:21 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, December 17, 2009, at 10 a.m.