

licensed manufacturer, licensed collector, or special firearms event licensee who knowingly makes any false statement or representation with respect to the information required by this chapter to be kept in the records of a person licensed under this chapter, or violates section 922(m) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

“(B) If the violation described in subparagraph (A) is in relation to an offense—

“(i) under paragraph (1) or (3) of section 922(b), such person shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both; or

“(ii) under subsection (a)(6) or (d) of section 922, such person shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.”

SEC. 207. INCREASED PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS.

Section 924(a) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 203(b), is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking “subsection (s) or (t) of section 922” and inserting “section 922(s)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) Whoever knowingly violates section 922(t) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.”

SEC. 208. RULE OF INTERPRETATION.

A provision of State law is not inconsistent with this title or an amendment made by this title if the provision imposes a regulation or prohibition of greater scope or a penalty of greater severity than any prohibition or penalty imposed by this title or an amendment made by this title.

SEC. 209. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This title and the amendments made by this title shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. 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 Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. 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 Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

mittee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Ensuring Television Carriage in the Digital Age” on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Executive Nominations” on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 2 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Dirksen 106 for the purpose of conducting a business meeting and hearing.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ted Vogt of Senator KYL’s staff be given floor privileges during the duration of the debate on S. 160.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces on behalf of the Committee on Finance, pursuant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S. Code, the designation of the following Senators as members of the Joint Committee on Taxation: the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH).

COMMEMORATING THE ROLE OF ENSLAVED AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CAPITOL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further con-

sideration of S. Res. 53 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res 53) authorizing a plaque commemorating the role of enslaved African Americans in the construction of the Capitol.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 53) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 53

Whereas enslaved African-Americans provided labor essential to the construction of the Capitol;

Whereas enslaved African-Americans performed the backbreaking work of quarrying the stone which comprised many of the floors, walls, and columns of the Capitol;

Whereas enslaved African-Americans toiled in the Aquia Creek sandstone quarry in Stafford County, Virginia and in a marble quarry in Montgomery County, Maryland to produce the stone that would be used in the Capitol;

Whereas the marble columns in the Old Senate Chamber and the sandstone walls of the East Front corridor remain as the lasting legacies of the enslaved African-Americans who worked the quarries;

Whereas enslaved African-Americans also participated in other facets of construction of the Capitol, including carpentry, masonry, carting, rafting, roofing, plastering, glazing, painting, and sawing;

Whereas enslaved African-Americans labored on the Nation’s Capitol while they, themselves, were not free;

Whereas the contributions of enslaved African-Americans in the construction of the Capitol have not been acknowledged nor adequately represented in the Capitol;

Whereas no narrative on the construction of the Capitol that does not include the contributions of enslaved African-Americans can fully and accurately reflect the history of the Capitol; and

Whereas recognition of the contributions of enslaved African-Americans brings to all people of the United States an understanding of the continuing evolution of democracy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate authorizes and directs—

(1) the Senate Commission on Art to procure an appropriate plaque acknowledging the role of enslaved African-Americans in the construction of the Capitol; and

(2) that, under the direction of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, the plaque shall be placed near the original exterior wall that was constructed between 1793 and 1800 in the East Front corridor on the third floor of the Senate wing of the Capitol.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH AND HONORING THE MEMORY OF DEAMONTE DRIVER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Con. Res. 8.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 8) expressing support for Children's Dental Health Month and honoring the memory of Deamonte Driver.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consideration of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statement be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 8) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 8

Whereas several national dental organizations have observed February 2009 as Children's Dental Health Month;

Whereas Deamonte Driver, a 12-year-old Marylander, died on February 25, 2007, of complications resulting from untreated tooth decay;

Whereas the passing of Deamonte Driver has led to increased awareness nationwide about the importance of access to high-quality, affordable preventative care and treatment for dental problems;

Whereas the primary purpose of Children's Dental Health Month is to educate parents, children, and the public about the importance and value of oral health;

Whereas Children's Dental Health Month showcases the overwhelmingly preventable nature of tooth decay and highlights the fact that tooth decay is on the rise among the youngest children in the Nation;

Whereas Children's Dental Health Month educates the public about the treatment of childhood dental caries, cleft-palate, oral facial trauma, and oral cancer through public service announcements, seminars, briefings, and the pro bono initiatives of practitioners and academic dental institutions;

Whereas Children's Dental Health Month was created to raise awareness about the importance of oral health; and

Whereas Children's Dental Health Month is an opportunity for the public and health professionals to take action to prevent childhood dental problems and improve access to high-quality dental care: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress expresses support for Children's Dental Health Month and honors the life of Deamonte Driver.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 478, S. 482, H.R. 1105

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been led to believe there are three bills at the desk. If that is the case, I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time, en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 478) to amend the National Labor Relations Act to ensure the right of employees to a secret-ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

A bill (S. 482) to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

A bill (H.R. 1105) making omnibus appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I now ask for a second reading en bloc on these matters, but I also object at the same time to my own request, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, February 26; 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 S. 160, the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, as under the previous order that has already been entered.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. As I indicated earlier, Senators should expect rollcall votes throughout the day as we work to complete action on the DC House Voting Rights Act. The first vote of the day is expected to begin at 10:30 in relation to the Kyl amendment regarding retrocession.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:25 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, February 26, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JANE HOLL LUTE, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE PAUL A. SCHNEIDER, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TONY WEST, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE GREGORY G. KATSAS, RESIGNED.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES

COAST GUARD RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be captain

KENT P. BAUER
MARK S. MACKEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO BE MEMBERS OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSIONED TEACHING STAFF OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER SECTION 188, TITLE 14, U.S. CODE:

To be lieutenant commander

CORINNA M. FLEISCHMANN
KELLY C. SEALS

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JONATHON V. LAMMERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531(A):

To be major

GARY A. FOSKEY
JAMES P. ROSE
CONNIE L. WARR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

BRYSON D. BORG
DOUGLAS W. BYERLY
RONEA N. HARRISSTITH
RYAN P. HAWKS
SVEN M. HOCHHEIMER
DAVID J. HOOPES
DEXTER W. LOVE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

FRANK RODRIGUEZ, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

EDWARD E. TURSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JOSEPH R. KRUPA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

KATHLEEN P. NAIMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JUAN G. ESTEVA
THOMAS E. STARR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ROBERT F. DONNELLY
ANGELICA REYES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

RICHARD H. DAHLMAN
REX E. DUNCAN
DAVID A. STILLS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JULIE S. AKIYAMA

To be major

ERIN J. BOGGS
DENNIS J. CURTIS
ANDREW L. HAGENMASTER