

livelihoods of our farmers, and cost our states a fortune. We need to acknowledge the risk and put in place the best safeguards we can to prevent the accidental introduction of these harmful pests.

I am not merely speculating about the risk of invasive pests and disease. It is a fact that all of our states are battling insects and crop diseases and dreading the next outbreak.

Most recently in Pennsylvania we discovered that the western part of our state is infested with the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle that was accidentally imported to the U.S. through Detroit via wooden shipping pallets from China. This beetle is costing our commercial nursery growers millions of dollars in lost stock. Senator Stabenow knows better than anyone how much money, time and other resources the Ash Borer has cost the states of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. But that's just one example. Orange growers in Florida have spent the past decade fighting to contain and eradicate citrus canker, an invasive disease that causes citrus trees to produce less and less fruit until they prematurely die. And California and Texas have dealt with expensive eradication programs to deal with the Mediterranean fruit fly or "Med fly."

The list goes on and on. There is not a single state that has not been impacted by invasive pests or diseases. So I hope that my colleagues will support the Agriculture Smart Trace Act, and help us make smart decisions that will protect our growers and our economy while opening new export markets. Because that is what this bill is about—smart trade.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 594

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Agriculture Smart Trade Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.**—The term "free trade agreement" means a trade agreement entered into with a foreign country that provides for—

(A) the reduction or elimination of duties, import restrictions, or other barriers to or distortions of trade between the United States and the foreign country; or

(B) the prohibition of or limitation on the imposition of such barriers or distortions.

(2) **INVASIVE AGRICULTURAL PESTS AND DISEASES.**—The term "invasive agricultural pests and diseases" means agricultural pests and diseases, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture—

(A) that are not native to ecosystems in the United States; and

(B) the introduction of which causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

(3) **SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURE.**—The term "sanitary and phytosanitary measure" has the meaning given that term in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization referred to in section 101(d)(3) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(3)).

SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTS BEFORE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS TO ENTER INTO FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days before the date on which the President initiates formal negotiations with a foreign country to enter into a free trade agreement with that country, the President shall submit to Congress a report on—

(1) invasive agricultural pests or diseases in that country; and

(2) sanitary or phytosanitary measures imposed by the government of that country on goods imported into that country.

(b) **CONTENTS OF REPORT.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) **INVASIVE AGRICULTURAL PESTS AND DISEASES.**—With respect to any invasive agricultural pests or diseases in the country with which the President intends to negotiate a free trade agreement—

(A) a list of all invasive agricultural pests and diseases in that country;

(B) a list of agricultural commodities produced in the United States that might be affected by the introduction of such pests or diseases into the United States; and

(C) a plan for preventing the introduction into the United States of such pests and diseases, including an estimate of—

(i) the number of additional inspectors, officials, and other personnel necessary to prevent such introduction and the ports of entry at which the additional inspectors, officials, and other personnel will be needed; and

(ii) the total cost of preventing such introduction.

(2) **SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES.**—With respect to sanitary or phytosanitary measures imposed by the government of the country with which the President intends to negotiate a free trade agreement on goods imported into that country—

(A) a list of any such sanitary and phytosanitary measures that may affect the exportation of agricultural commodities from the United States to that country;

(B) an assessment of the status of any petitions filed by the United States with the government of that country requesting that that country allow the importation into that country of agricultural commodities produced in the United States;

(C) an estimate of the economic potential for the exportation of agricultural commodities produced in the United States to that country if the free trade agreement enters into force; and

(D) an assessment of the effect of sanitary and phytosanitary measures imposed or proposed to be imposed by the government of that country on the economic potential described in subparagraph (C).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 74—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONS IN GENERAL, AND INVESTMENT RELATIONS SPECIFICALLY, BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL

Mr. LUGAR submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 74

Whereas the United States and Brazil enjoy a longstanding economic partnership sustained by robust trade, investment, and energy cooperation;

Whereas investment in and by Brazil promotes economic growth, generates greater wealth and employment, strengthens the manufacturing and services sectors, and enhances research, technology, and productivity;

Whereas the United States is the largest direct investor abroad, with total world-wide investments of \$2,800,000,000,000 in 2007;

Whereas the United States has historically been the largest direct investor in Brazil, investing a total of \$41,600,000,000 in 2007;

Whereas the sound economic policy of the Government of Brazil was given an investment-grade rating by 2 of the 3 major investment rating agencies in 2008;

Whereas the United States is the largest recipient of direct investment in the world, with total foreign direct investments of \$2,100,000,000,000 in 2007;

Whereas the United States receives direct investment from Brazil, including a total of \$1,400,000,000 in 2007;

Whereas Brazil is the only country with a gross national product of more than \$1,000,000,000,000 with which the United States does not have a bilateral tax treaty;

Whereas Brazil is the 4th largest investor in United States Treasury securities, which are important to the health of the United States economy;

Whereas Brazil ranked 3rd among other countries in the number of corporations listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 2008, with 31 corporations listed;

Whereas a bilateral tax treaty between the United States and Brazil would enhance the partnerships between investors in the United States and Brazil and benefit small and medium-sized enterprises in both the United States and Brazil;

Whereas a bilateral tax treaty between Brazil and the United States would promote a greater flow of investment between Brazil and the United States by creating the certainty that comes with a commitment to reduce taxation and eliminate double taxation;

Whereas the Brazil-U.S. Business Council and the U.S.-Brazil CEO Forum have worked to advance a bilateral tax treaty between the United States and Brazil;

Whereas the Senate intends to closely monitor the progress on treaty negotiations and hold a periodic dialogue with officers of the Department of the Treasury; and

Whereas the United States and Brazil will greatly benefit from deeper political and economic ties: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States Government and the Government of Brazil should continue to develop their partnership; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury should pursue negotiations with officials of the Government of Brazil for a bilateral tax treaty that—

(A) is consistent with the existing tax treaty practices of the United States Government; and

(B) reflects modern, internationally recognized tax policy principles.

SENATE RESOLUTION 75—COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PHILADELPHIA ZOO: AMERICA'S FIRST ZOO

Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 75

Whereas Dr. William Camac, a legendary Philadelphia physician, led a concerned community of citizens, educators, and scientists to charter the Zoological Society of Philadelphia—America's First Zoo—on March 21, 1859, housed on a bucolic, 44-acre property in Fairmount Park along the West Bank of the Schuylkill River;

Whereas the Philadelphia Zoo has emerged over the past century as a national and global treasure and as one of Philadelphia's most cherished, enduring, and significant educational, scientific, and conservation institutions and cultural attractions;

Whereas the Philadelphia Zoo was the site for breakthrough research that led to the award of the 1976 Nobel Prize for Medicine;

Whereas since its inception, the Philadelphia Zoo, through its myriad research and curatorial activities, has consistently and successfully protected, promoted, and preserved numerous rare and endangered wild-life species around the world;

Whereas since its landmark gates opened to the general public, the Philadelphia Zoo has welcomed more than 100,000,000 visitors, including millions of school children from the greater Philadelphia community over generations; and

Whereas the Philadelphia Zoo's sesquicentennial on March 21, 2009 is an achievement of historic proportions for Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States, and the world conservation community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Philadelphia Zoo on March 21, 2009.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a business meeting has been scheduled before Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The business meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. immediately following the beginning of the Full Committee Hearing, in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the Business Meeting is to consider the nomination of David J. Hayes, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224-7571 or Amanda Kelly at (202) 224-6836.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the infor-

mation of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the Appliance Standards Improvement Act of 2009.

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 may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Rosemarie_Calabro@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Allen Stayman at (202) 224-7865 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. 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 12, 2009 at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LEAHY. 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 Thursday, March 12, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Session on Thursday, March 12, 2009, in room S-216.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-

sources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 12, 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 INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. 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 an executive business meeting on Thursday, March 12, 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 VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 12, 2009. The Committee will meet in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 12, 2009 at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ronald Rowe, a detailee with Senator HATCH, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the day.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ronald Rowe, a Secret Service detailee in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the first session of the 111th Congress.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.