

a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 686. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 146, to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "To designate certain land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes."

NOTICE OF HEARING

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 hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The Committee will conduct a legislative hearing on legislation to strengthen American manufacturing through improved industrial energy efficiency.

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 email to rachel_pasternack@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Alicia Jackson at (202) 224-3607 or Rachel Pasternack at (202) 224-0883.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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 19, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Modernizing Bank Supervision and Regulation."

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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 19, 2009, at 10:45 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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 19, 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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 19, 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 SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Perspectives From Main Street on Small Business Lending".

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

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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 19, 2009 at 2 p.m. to conduct a financial institutions subcommittee hearing entitled "Current Issues in Deposit Insurance."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 19, 2009 at 2:30 p.m.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what happens in Las Vegas stays in Las Vegas.

NATIONAL SERVICE REAUTHORIZATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to proceed to Calendar No. 35, H.R. 1388, the National Service Reauthorization Act.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 35, H.R. 1388, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 35, H.R. 1388, a bill to reauthorize and reform the national service laws.

Harry Reid, Barbara A. Mikulski, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Daniel K. Akaka, Tom Udall, Patty Murray, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher J. Dodd, Jon Tester, Mark R. Warner, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Blanche L. Lincoln, Kent Conrad.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur on Monday, March 23 at 6 p.m.; and that if cloture is invoked, then postcloture time count as if cloture had been invoked at 3 p.m. that day; further, that the mandatory quorum be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 25, 26, and nominations on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed, en bloc; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

John P. Holdren, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Jane Lubchenco, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

IN THE COAST GUARD

PN116 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning KENT P. BAUER, and ending MARK S. MACKEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 25, 2009.

PN117 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning CORINNA M. FLEISCHMANN, and ending KELLY C. SEALS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 25, 2009.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1586 AND S. 651

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding there are two bills at the desk due for a first reading. I therefore ask for their reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1586) to impose an additional tax on bonuses received from certain TARP recipients.

A bill (S. 651) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on excessive bonuses paid by, and received from, companies receiving Federal emergency economic assistance, to limit the amount of nonqualified deferred compensation that employees of such companies may defer from taxation, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for a second reading en bloc but object 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.

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to S. Res. 80.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 80) designating the week beginning March 15, 2009, as "National Safe Place Week."

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

Mr. REID. 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 statement be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 80) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 80

Whereas the young people of the United States will bear the bright torch of democracy in the future;

Whereas young people need a safe haven from negative influences, such as child abuse, substance abuse, and crime;

Whereas young people need resources that are readily available to assist them when they are faced with circumstances that compromise their safety;

Whereas the United States needs more community volunteers to act as positive influences on the young people of the United States;

Whereas the Safe Place program is committed to protecting the young people of the United States, the most valuable asset of the Nation, by offering short term safe places at neighborhood locations where trained volunteers are available to counsel and advise young people seeking assistance and guidance;

Whereas the Safe Place program combines the efforts of the private sector and non-profit organizations to reach young people in the early stages of crisis;

Whereas the Safe Place program provides a direct way to assist programs in meeting performance standards relating to outreach and community relations, as set forth in the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

Whereas the Safe Place placard displayed at businesses within communities stands as a beacon of safety and refuge to at-risk young people;

Whereas more than 1,400 communities in 37 States make the Safe Place program available at nearly 16,000 locations;

Whereas more than 200,000 young people have gone to Safe Place locations to get help when faced with crisis situations and have received counseling by phone as a result of Safe Place information the young people received at school;

Whereas, through the efforts of Safe Place coordinators across the United States, each year more than 500,000 students learn in a classroom presentation that the Safe Place program is a resource they can turn to if they encounter abuse or neglect and 1,000,000 Safe Place information cards are distributed; and

Whereas increased awareness of the Safe Place program will encourage more communities to establish Safe Place locations for the young people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning March 15, 2009, as "National Safe Place Week"; and
(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups to—

(A) promote awareness of, and volunteer for, the Safe Place program; and

(B) observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Section 154 of Public Law 108-199, appoints the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the U.S.-Russia Interparliamentary Group conference during the 111th Congress: the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON of Nebraska.

The Chair, on behalf of the republican leader, pursuant to Section 154 of Public Law 108-199, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the U.S.-Rus-

sia Interparliamentary Group conference during the 111th Congress: the Honorable JUDD GREGG of New Hampshire.

The Chair, on behalf of the republican leader, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Dr. Wiley Dobbs of Idaho.

The Chair, on behalf of the republican leader, pursuant to Public Law 111-5, appoints the following individual to the Health Information Technology Policy Committee: Richard Chapman of Kentucky.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. Monday, March 23; 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, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that time; upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 1388, a bill to reauthorize and reform national service laws.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as provided under the previous order, there will be a vote at 6 p.m. on Monday. That will be on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 1388.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order following remarks of Senator CHAMBLISS and Senator SESSIONS, in that order.

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

The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

THE BUDGET

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the budget as proposed by President Obama and, to put it very bluntly, I am worried. While several aspects of the budget concern me, the one I find most troubling is the direction in which it will take this Nation's deficit. The budget's cost has been pointed out many times on this floor during the past week—\$3.5 trillion is, indeed, a lot of money. But what I would also emphasize is that the President's budget will spawn a deficit of \$1.17 trillion next year.