

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SA 927. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 13, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 68, after line 4, insert the following:

SEC. ___ . POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT CAUSES AN INCREASE IN PRICES FOR FERTILIZER OR FARM FUEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses motion, or conference report that—

(1) would cause revenues to be more than the level of revenues set forth for that first fiscal year or for the total of that fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal years in the applicable resolution for which allocations are provided under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and

(2) would cause an increase in the retail price of fertilizer or fuel used in the production or transportation of agricultural products.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. CONRAD. 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, April 1, 2009, at 2 p.m. in room 216 of the Hart Senate office building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. CONRAD. 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, April 1, 2009.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 3 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled "Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act."

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CONRAD. 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 Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CONRAD. 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 "Nominations" on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 2:30 p.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. CONRAD. 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 Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. The Committee will meet in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety of the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing entitled, "Oversight—the Environmental Protection Agency's Renewable Fuel Standard."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities and the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 3:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that two law clerks from my staff, Matthew Welling and Andrew Warthen, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this session.

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

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—S. 718

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 718 be discharged from the Committee on the Judiciary and be referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE ROTUNDA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 54, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 54) permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

COMMEMORATING 90 YEARS OF
U.S.-POLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 40, S. Res. 9.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 9) commemorating 90 years of U.S.-Polish diplomatic relations, during which Poland has proven to be an exceptionally strong partner to the United States in advancing freedom around the world.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be added as a cosponsor of this resolution.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, 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 related to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 9) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 9

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with the newly formed Polish Republic in April 1919;

Whereas the year 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of democracy in Poland, as well as the 20th anniversary of the fall of communism in Poland;

Whereas the year 2009 marks the 10th anniversary of Poland's accession to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

Whereas the year 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the Fulbright Educational Exchange Program in Poland;

Whereas Poland has overcome a legacy of foreign occupation and period of communist rule to emerge as a free and democratic nation;

Whereas Poland has strongly supported the United States diplomatically and militarily, as well as supporting United States-led efforts in combating global terrorism, and has contributed troops to the coalitions led by the United States in both Afghanistan and Iraq; and

Whereas Poland has cooperated closely with the United States on issues such as democratization, nuclear proliferation, human rights, regional cooperation in Eastern Europe, and reform of the United Nations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 90th anniversary of U.S.-Polish diplomatic relations;

(2) congratulates the Polish people on their great accomplishments as a free democracy; and

(3) expresses appreciation for Poland's steadfast partnership with the United States.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATO

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 41, S. Res. 20.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 20) celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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

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 that any statements relating to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 20) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 20

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate its 60th anniversary at a summit to be held on April 4, 2009, in Kehl, Germany, and Strasbourg, France;

Whereas this summit will be held along the border of France and Germany to commemorate the historic post-war reconciliation in Europe that NATO has done so much to facilitate;

Whereas for 60 years, NATO has served as the preeminent organization to defend the territory of its member states against all external security threats;

Whereas the security of the United States is inseparably linked to the peace and stability of the European continent by the participation of the United States in NATO;

Whereas the security of the United States has been significantly enhanced by the integration of security and military structures in the United States and Europe achieved by NATO;

Whereas NATO continues to promote a Europe that is whole, undivided, free, and at peace;

Whereas NATO continues to support an open-door policy of admitting states that can contribute to the promotion and protection of freedom, democracy, stability, and peace throughout Europe;

Whereas, since the end of the Cold War, NATO has continued to redefine and transform itself and to take on new missions, in order to ensure that each NATO member state can defend itself against emerging threats such as terrorism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, instability caused by failed states, cyber attacks, piracy, and threats to global energy security;

Whereas NATO continues to help stabilize the Balkans through the deployment of troops to Kosovo;

Whereas NATO has deployed naval assets to the Gulf of Aden to address the growing threat of piracy in the region and to help protect the delivery of United Nations food assistance to Somalia;

Whereas after the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, signed at Washington April 4, 1949 (TIAS 1964), was invoked for the first time in the history of the organization, and NATO deployed 50,000 troops from all 26

NATO member states to Afghanistan to respond to a dangerous insurgency and terrorist threat and to help re-build a shattered country;

Whereas the challenges that continue to be posed by the resurgence of the Taliban and the illicit drug trade in Afghanistan highlight the need for a sustained and strengthened NATO presence in Afghanistan;

Whereas NATO continues to enhance the security of Europe and the world by strengthening partnerships with countries around the world; and

Whereas Congress continues to support NATO, the leadership role of the United States Government in European security affairs, and the continued enlargement of NATO: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(2) reaffirms that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is strong, enduring, and oriented for the challenges of the future; and

(3) expresses appreciation for—

(A) the steadfast partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the United States Government; and

(B) the work of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to ensure peace, security, and stability in Europe and throughout the world.

URGING GOVERNMENT OF
MOLDOVA TO ENSURE A DEMOCRATIC
ELECTION PROCESS

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 42, S. Res. 56.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 56) urging the Government of Moldova to ensure a fair and democratic election process for the parliamentary elections on April 5, 2009.

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

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 relating to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 56) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 56

Whereas Senate Resolution 60, 110th Congress, agreed to February 17, 2005, expressed the support of the Senate for democratic reform in Moldova and urged the Government of Moldova to ensure a democratic and fair election process for the parliamentary elections on March 6, 2005, by ensuring “unimpeded access by all parties and candidates to print, radio, television, and Internet media on a nondiscriminatory basis” and “the right of opposition candidates and workers to engage in campaigning free of harassment, discrimination, and intimidation”;

Whereas the Election Observation Mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)