

(n) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$300,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2013.

SA 1128. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 386, to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities and commodities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to Federal assistance and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, and for other purposes; as follows:

On 31, line 13, after “the Commission” insert “, including an affirmative vote of at least one member appointed under subparagraph (C) or (D) of subsection (b)(1)”.

SA 1129. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1106 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. 503. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC LITERACY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Financial Literacy and Education Commission shall—

(1) evaluate and compile a comprehensive summary of all existing Federal financial and economic literacy education programs, as of the time of the report; and

(2) prepare and submit a report to Congress that includes—

(A) the findings of the evaluations and the effectiveness of Federal financial and economic literacy education programs, including programs included in the Commission's 2006 National Strategy for Financial Literacy report;

(B) recommendations for improvements to Federal financial and economic literacy education programs;

(C) specific Federal policies that should be implemented, updated, or changed to improve financial and economic literacy education;

(D) a description of any gaps that exist in research on financial and economic literacy education, and recommendations on research that would fill those gaps;

(E) specific recommendations on sources of revenue to support financial and economic literacy education activities, with a specific analysis of the potential use of credit card transaction fees; and

(F) recommendations for ways to increase the awareness of elementary and secondary schools, postsecondary educational institutions, and the general public of the Commission's website, www.MyMoney.gov, or any successor to such website.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding section 3, this section shall become effective on the date of enactment of this Act.

NOTICE OF HEARING

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 business meeting has been scheduled before Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The business meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 2:15 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the business meeting is to consider pending energy legislation.

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

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a business meeting on Thursday, May 14, 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 ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DODD. 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, May 14, 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. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 14, 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 9:45 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 2 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled “The Middle East: The Road to Peace.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Delivery Reform: The Roles of Primary and Specialty Care in Innovative New Delivery Methods” on Thursday, May 14, 2009. The hearing will commence at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the privileges of the floor be granted to Gil Duran of my staff for the length of my presentation.

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

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted for the remainder of this Congress to the following members of my staff: Monica Feit and Rachel Shoemate.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I have a series of unanimous consent requests that I wish to propound.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 40 and 85; 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 and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Philip H. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European and Eurasian Affairs).

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

COMMENDING SOUTH CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 146 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 146) commending South Charleston, West Virginia, for celebrating its 50th annual Armed Forces Day on May 16, 2009.

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

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 146) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 146

Whereas Americans appreciate the courage, loyalty, and sacrifice of every individual who serves in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas Armed Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday in May to honor those Americans serving in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard;

Whereas Armed Forces Day was established on August 31, 1949, following the consolidation of the military services of the United States into the Department of Defense;

Whereas Armed Forces Day is celebrated with parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows around the Nation; and

Whereas on May 16, 2009, South Charleston, West Virginia, will observe its 50th annual Armed Forces Day with a parade, music, and other entertainment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends South Charleston, West Virginia, for conducting Armed Forces Day celebrations for 50 consecutive years and for honoring the selfless dedication and bravery of the men and women of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 149, which was 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. 149) expressing solidarity with the writers, journalists and librarians of Cuba on World Press Freedom Day and calling for the immediate release of citizens of Cuba imprisoned for exercising rights associated with freedom of the press.

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

Mr. DODD. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 149) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 149

Whereas Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides, "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers";

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly declared May 3 of each year to be "World Press Freedom Day" to raise awareness of the importance of freedom of expression and to remind governments of their obligation to respect the rights of free expression and of a free press;

Whereas the United States Department of State, in its 2008 report on human rights in Cuba, notes, "The government [of Cuba] subjected independent journalists to travel bans, detentions, harassment of family and friends, equipment seizures, imprisonment, and threats of imprisonment. State Security agents posed as independent journalists to gather information on activists and spread misinformation and mistrust within independent journalist circles.";

Whereas Reporters Without Borders, an international nongovernmental organization, continues to rank Cuba as one of the most repressive countries in the world, and the most repressive country in the Western Hemisphere, with respect to freedom of the press;

Whereas the International Press Institute, a global network of journalists, editors, and media executives, concludes that Cuba "remains a leading jailer of journalists";

Whereas International PEN, an international network of writers, has reported that 22 writers, journalists, and librarians were among the individuals arrested and tried during the crackdown by the Government of Cuba on independent civil society activists in the spring of 2003, and subsequently imprisoned;

Whereas International PEN further reports that "the majority of the detained writers, journalists and librarians are suffering from health complaints caused or exacerbated by the harsh conditions and treatment they are exposed to in prison. Despite their deteriorating health status, access to adequate medical treatment is often limited."; and

Whereas the Committee to Protect Journalists, a nonpartisan international organization of journalists, has identified more than 20 writers, journalists, and librarians in Cuba who remain imprisoned by the Government of Cuba: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses solidarity with—

(A) the citizens of Cuba who are suffering harassment, deprivation, or imprisonment for exercising rights associated with freedom of the press and pursuing livelihoods as independent writers, journalists, or librarians; and

(B) the family members of those writers, journalists, and librarians; and

(2) calls on the Government of Cuba to release immediately all writers, journalists, and librarians who are imprisoned for exercising their fundamental human rights, including the citizens of Cuba that have been specifically identified by international organizations that monitor respect for the freedom of the press as being imprisoned by the Government of Cuba.

COMMEMORATING AND CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF OFFICER KRISTINE MARIE FAIRBANKS, DEPUTY ANNE MARIE JACKSON, AND SERGEANT NELSON KAI NG

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration S. Res. 150, 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. 150) commemorating and celebrating the lives of Officer Kristine Marie Fairbanks, Deputy Anne Marie Jackson, and Sergeant Nelson Kai Ng, who gave their lives in the service of the people of Washington State in 2008.

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

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 150) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 150

Whereas law enforcement officers throughout Washington State conduct themselves in a manner that supports, maintains, and defends the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Washington;

Whereas law enforcement officers in Washington State and throughout the Nation risk their own lives to protect the lives of others;

Whereas since 1792, approximately 18,600 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in the United States, and 262 of