

amount of each reduction made pursuant to the rescission in subsection (a).

SA 1144. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BURR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2346, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, line 25, strike the period at the end and insert “and, in order for the Department of Justice to carry out the responsibilities required by Executive Orders 13491, 13492, and 13493, it is necessary to enact the amendments made by section 203.

SEC. 203. IMMIGRATION LIMITATIONS FOR GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE DETAINEES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Protecting America’s Communities Act”.

(b) **INELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION OR PAROLE.**—Section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by adding at the end the following:

“(G) GUANTANAMO BAY DETAINEES.—An alien who, as of January 1, 2009, was being detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, is inadmissible.”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or (5)(B)”;

(B) in paragraph (5)(B), by adding at the end the following: “The Attorney General may not parole any alien who, as of January 1, 2009, was being detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.”.

(c) **DETENTION AUTHORITY.**—Section 241(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Attorney General” each place it appears, except for the first reference in paragraph (4)(B)(i), and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) GUANTANAMO BAY DETAINEES.—

“(A) **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**—An alien ordered removed who, as of January 1, 2009, was being detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, shall be detained for an additional 6 months beyond the removal period (including any extension under paragraph (1)(C)) if the Secretary of Homeland Security certifies that—

“(i) the alien cannot be removed due to the refusal of all countries designated by the alien or under this section to receive the alien; and

“(ii) the Secretary is making reasonable efforts to find alternative means for removing the alien.

“(B) **RENEWAL AND DELEGATION OF CERTIFICATION.**—

“(i) **RENEWAL.**—The Secretary may renew a certification under subparagraph (A) without limitation after providing the alien with an opportunity to—

“(I) request reconsideration of the certification; and

“(II) submit documents or other evidence in support of the reconsideration request.

“(ii) **DELEGATION.**—Notwithstanding section 103, the Secretary may not delegate the authority to make or renew a certification under this paragraph to an official below the level of the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

“(C) **INELIGIBILITY FOR BOND OR PAROLE.**—No immigration judge or official of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement may release from detention on bond or parole any alien described in subparagraph (A).”.

(d) **ASYLUM INELIGIBILITY.**—Section 208(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) **GUANTANAMO BAY DETAINEES.**—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any alien who, as of January 1, 2009, was being detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.”.

(e) **MANDATORY DETENTION OF ALIENS FROM GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE.**—Section 236(c)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in each of subparagraphs (A) and (B), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “, or” and inserting a semicolon;

(3) in subparagraph (D), by striking the comma at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(A) as of January 1, 2009, was being detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.”.

(f) **STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Congress reaffirms that—

(A) the United States is in an armed conflict with al Qaeda, the Taliban, and associated forces; and

(B) the entities referred to in subparagraph (A) continue to pose a threat to the United States and its citizens, both domestically and abroad.

(2) **AUTHORITY.**—Congress reaffirms that the President is authorized to detain enemy combatants in connection with the continuing armed conflict with al Qaeda, the Taliban, and associated forces until the termination of such conflict, regardless of the place at which they are captured.

(3) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The authority described in this subsection may not be construed to alter or limit the authority of the President under the Constitution of the United States to detain enemy combatants in the continuing armed conflict with al Qaeda, the Taliban, and associated forces, or in any other armed conflict.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. LANDRIEU. 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 Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 11 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. LANDRIEU. 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 business meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 2:15 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Ms. LANDRIEU. 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 Tuesday, May 19, 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

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

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 2 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Pathways to a ‘Green’ Global Economic Recovery.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Ms. LANDRIEU. 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 on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMPETITION POLICY, AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy, and Consumer Rights, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Discount Pricing Consumer Protection Act: Do We Need to Restore the Ban on Vertical Price Fixing?” on Tuesday, May 19, 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND THE COURTS

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Leveling the Playing Field and Protecting Americans: Holding Foreign Manufacturers Accountable” on Tuesday, May 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, "Public Health Challenges in Our Nation's Capital."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

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

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Lauren Frese and Tom Osterhoudt, who are detailees assigned to the Committee on Appropriations, be granted floor privileges during consideration of the fiscal year 2009 supplemental appropriations bill.

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. 94, 95, 98, and 152; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, no further motions be in order and that any statements 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:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Kristina M. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Larry J. Echo Hawk, of Utah, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. REID. Are we now in a period of morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is correct.

RONALD REAGAN CENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 131.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 131) to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 131) was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

EXPRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to Calendar No. 56, S. Res. 49.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 49) to express the sense of the Senate regarding the importance of public diplomacy.

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 motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and that any statements relating to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 49) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 49

Whereas public diplomacy is the conduct of foreign relations directly with the average citizen of a country, rather than with officials of a country's foreign ministry;

Whereas public diplomacy is commonly conducted through people-to-people exchanges in which experts, authors, artists, educators, and students interact with their peers in other countries;

Whereas effective public diplomacy promotes free and unfiltered access to information about the United States through books, newspapers, periodicals, and the Internet;

Whereas public diplomacy requires a willingness to discuss all aspects of society, search for common values, foster a long-term bilateral relationship based on mutual respect, and recognize that certain areas of disagreement may remain unresolved on a short term basis;

Whereas a BBC World Service poll published in February 2009 that involved 13,000 respondents in 21 countries found that while 40 percent of the respondents had a positive view of the United States, 43 percent had a negative view of the United States;

Whereas Freedom House's 2008 Global Press Freedom report notes that 123 countries (66 percent of the world's countries and 80 percent of the world's population) have a

press that is classified as "Not Free" or "Partly Free";

Whereas the Government of the United Kingdom, of France, and of Germany run stand-alone public diplomacy facilities throughout the world, which are known as the British Council, the Alliance Francaise, and the Goethe Institute, respectively;

Whereas these government-run facilities teach the national languages of their respective countries, offer libraries, newspapers, and periodicals, sponsor public lecture and film series that engage local audiences in dialogues that foster better understandings between these countries and create an environment promoting greater trust and openness;

Whereas the United States has historically operated similar facilities, known as American Centers, which—

(1) offered classes in English, extensive libraries housing collections of American literature, history, economics, business, and social studies, and reading rooms offering the latest American newspapers, periodicals, and academic journals;

(2) hosted visiting American speakers and scholars on these topics; and

(3) ran United States film series on topics related to American values;

Whereas in societies in which freedom of speech, freedom of the press, or local investment in education were minimal, American Centers provided vital outposts of information for citizens throughout the world, giving many of them their only exposure to uncensored information about the United States;

Whereas this need for uncensored information about the United States has accelerated as more foreign governments have restricted Internet access or blocked Web sites viewed as hostile to their political regimes;

Whereas following the end of the Cold War and the attacks on United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, budgetary and security pressures resulted in the drastic downsizing or closure of most of the American Centers;

Whereas beginning in 1999, American Centers began to be renamed Information Resource Centers and relocated primarily inside United States embassy compounds;

Whereas of the 177 Information Resource Centers operating in February 2009, 87, or 49 percent, operate on a "By Appointment Only" basis and 18, or 11 percent, do not permit any public access;

Whereas Information Resource Centers located outside United States embassy compounds receive significantly more visitors than those inside such compounds, including twice the number of visitors in Africa, 6 times more visitors in the Middle East, and 22 times more visitors in Asia; and

Whereas Iran has increased the number of similar Iranian facilities, known as Iranian Cultural Centers, to about 60 throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Secretary of State should initiate a reexamination of the public diplomacy platform strategy of the United States with a goal of reestablishing publicly accessible American Centers;

(2) after taking into account relevant security considerations, the Secretary of State should consider placing United States public diplomacy facilities at locations conducive to maximizing their use, consistent with the authority given to the Secretary under section 606(a)(2)(B) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865(a)(2)(B)) to waive certain requirements of that Act.