

speed broadband connectivity in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

SA 2326. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 245, recognizing September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance"; as follows:

On page 3, line 3, strike "annually observe a 'National Day of Service and Remembrance'" and insert "observe a 'National Day of Service and Remembrance' on September 11, 2009".

SA 2327. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 245, recognizing September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance"; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "Recognizing September 11, 2009, as a 'National Day of Service and Remembrance'".

SA 2328. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3288, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 194, after line 23, add the following:

SEC. 1 _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-161) for "I-35W Reconstruction Design, New Brighton, MN", and under the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-8) for "I-35W North Congestion Mitigation and Design, MN", shall be available for obligation and expenditure for construction in that corridor.

SA 2329. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3288, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 215, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 156. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts made available for the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program under title I of division I of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-8) and directed to "Phase 3 Rail Rehabilitation in Redwood Falls, MN" in the explanatory statement appearing on page H2472 of the Congressional Record shall be available for obligation and expenditure for "Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority, MN".

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 be-

fore the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2009, at 2:15 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on Energy and Related Economic Effects of Global Climate Change Legislation.

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 Gina.Weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Black or Gina Weinstock.

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 September 10, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Oversight of the SEC's Failure To Identify the Bernard L. Madoff Ponzi Scheme and How To Improve SEC Performance."

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 September 10, 2009, at 2:15 p.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Oil and Gas Tax Provisions: A Consideration of the President's FY2010 Budget Proposal."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 10, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled "Iraq: Report from the Field."

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. 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 September 10, 2009, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Follow the Money: An Update on Stimulus Spending, Transparency, and Fraud Prevention."

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 during the session of the Senate on September 10, 2009, at 2:15 p.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 Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 10, 2009, at 10 a.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 10, 2009. The Committee will meet in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that April Saylor and Elyse Kamps of my staff be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of today's session.

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

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Joanne Waszczak and Dedre Goodman, detailees from the Department of Transportation to the Committee on Appropriations, be granted unlimited privileges of the floor during consideration of the Transportation-HUD appropriations bill.

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

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 245 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BEGICH). Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 245) recognizing September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance."

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that an amendment to the resolution, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to;

that an amendment to the title, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 2326) was agreed to as follows:

On page 3, line 3, strike “annually observe a ‘National Day of Service and Remembrance’” and insert “observe a ‘National Day of Service and Remembrance’ on September 11, 2009”.

The resolution (S. Res. 245), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The title amendment (No. 2327) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “Recognizing September 11, 2009, as a ‘National Day of Service and Remembrance’”.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 245

Whereas, on September 11, 2001, terrorists ruthlessly attacked the United States, leading to the tragic deaths and injuries of thousands of innocent United States citizens and other citizens from more than 90 different countries and territories;

Whereas in response to the attacks in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, physicians, nurses, military personnel, and other first responders immediately and without concern for their own well-being rose to service, in a heroic attempt to protect the lives of those still at risk, consequently saving thousands of men and women;

Whereas in the immediate aftermath of the attacks, thousands of recovery workers, including trades personnel, iron workers, equipment operators, and many others, joined with firemen, police officers, and military personnel to help to search for and recover victims lost in the terrorist attacks;

Whereas in the days, weeks, and months following the attacks, thousands of people in the United States and others spontaneously volunteered to help support the rescue and recovery efforts, braving both physical and emotional hardship;

Whereas many first responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers, as well as survivors of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, continue to suffer from serious medical illnesses and emotional distress related to the physical and mental trauma of the 9/11 tragedy;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of brave men and women continue to serve every day, having answered the call to duty as members of the United States Armed Forces, with thousands having given their lives or suffered injury to defend our Nation's security and prevent future terrorist attacks;

Whereas the entire Nation witnessed and shared in the tragedy of September 11, 2001, and in the immediate aftermath of the attacks became unified under a remarkable spirit of service and compassion that inspired and helped heal the Nation;

Whereas in the years immediately following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics documented a marked increase in volunteerism among the people of the United States;

Whereas families of 9/11 victims, survivors, first responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers called for Congress to pass legislation to formally authorize the establishment of September 11 as an annually

recognized “National Day of Service and Remembrance”, and for the President of the United States to proclaim the day as such;

Whereas, in 2004, Congress unanimously passed H. Con. Res. 473, expressing the sense of Congress that it is appropriate to observe the anniversary of the attacks of September 11, 2001, with voluntary acts of service and compassion;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of people in the United States from all 50 States, as well as others who live in 170 different countries, annually observe the anniversary of the attacks of September 11, 2001, by personally engaging in service, good deeds, and other charitable acts; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2009, Congress passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which included for the first time authorization and Federal recognition of September 11 as a “National Day of Service and Remembrance”, a bill signed into law on April 21, 2009, by President Barack Obama: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon all people in the United States to observe a “National Day of Service and Remembrance” on September 11, 2009, with appropriate and personal expressions of reflection, including performing good deeds, attending memorial and remembrance services, and voluntarily engaging in community service or other charitable activities of their own choosing in honor of those who lost their lives or were injured in the attacks of September 11, 2001, in tribute to those who rose to come to the aid of those in need, and in defense of our Nation; and

(2) urges all people in the United States to continue to live their lives throughout the year with the same spirit of unity, service, and compassion that was exhibited throughout the Nation following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

NATIONAL ESTUARIES DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 247 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 247) designating September 26, 2009 as “National Estuaries Day.”

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. 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 related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 247) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 247

Whereas the estuary regions of the United States comprise a significant share of the national economy, with 43 percent of the population, 40 percent of employment, and 49 percent of economic output located in such regions;

Whereas coasts and estuaries contribute more than \$800,000,000,000 annually in trade and commerce to the Nation's economy;

Whereas more than 43 percent of all adults in the United States visit a sea coast or estuary at least once a year to participate in some form of recreation, generating \$8,000,000,000 to \$12,000,000,000 in revenue annually;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 jobs in the United States are supported through commercial and recreational fishing, boating, tourism, and other coastal industries that rely on healthy estuaries;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitat for countless species of fish and wildlife, including many that are listed as threatened or endangered;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization and erosion prevention, and protection of coastal communities during extreme weather events;

Whereas 55,000,000 acres of estuarine habitat have been destroyed over the last 100 years;

Whereas bays once filled with fish and oysters have become dead zones filled with excess nutrients, chemical wastes, and harmful algae;

Whereas sea level rise is accelerating the degradation of estuaries by submerging low-lying lands, eroding beaches, converting wetlands to open water, exacerbating coastal flooding, and increasing the salinity of estuaries and freshwater aquifers;

Whereas in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.), Congress found and declared that it is national policy to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the Nation's coastal zone, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts cost-effectively restore natural infrastructure in local communities, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas September 26, 2009, has been designated “National Estuaries Day” to increase awareness among all citizens, including local, State, and Federal officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 26, 2009, as “National Estuaries Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of “National Estuaries Day”;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to the Nation's economic well-being and productivity;

(4) recognizes the persistent threats that undermine the health of the Nation's estuaries;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners to promote public awareness, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(6) reaffirms its support for estuaries, including the preservation, protection, and restoration thereof, and expresses its intent to continue working to protect and restore the estuaries of the United States.

NATIONAL CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 259, which was submitted earlier today.

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