

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 17, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME AND DRUGS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 17, 2009, at 2 p.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Evaluating S. 1551: The Liability for Aiding and Abetting Securities Violations Act of 2009."

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

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONTRACTING
OVERSIGHT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 17, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Improving Transparency and Accessibility of Federal Contracting Databases."

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Tomer Hasson, an environmental legislative fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges for the pendency of H.R. 2996, the Interior appropriations bill.

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

COMMEMORATING DR. NORMAN
BORLAUG

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed to S. Res. 273.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 273) commemorating Dr. Norman Borlaug, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, the Congressional Gold Medal, Presidential Medal of Freedom, and founder of the World Food Prize.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent 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 be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 273) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 273

Whereas Dr. Norman E. Borlaug was born on March 25, 1914, of Norwegian parents on a farm in Cresco, Iowa, and was educated in a 1-room school house throughout grades 1 through 8;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug attended the University of Minnesota, where he earned a Ph.D. degree in Plant Pathology;

Whereas, beginning in 1944, Dr. Borlaug spent 2 decades in rural Mexico working to assist the poorest farmers through a pioneering Rockefeller Foundation program;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug's research and innovative "shuttle breeding" in Mexico enabled him to develop a new approach to agriculture and a new disease-resistant variety of wheat with triple the output of grain;

Whereas this breakthrough achievement in plant production enabled Mexico to become self-sufficient in wheat by 1956, and concurrently raised the living standard for thousands of poor Mexican farmers;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug was asked by the United Nations to travel to India and Pakistan in the 1960s, as South-Asia and the Middle East faced an imminent widespread famine, where he eventually helped convince those 2 warring governments to adopt his new seeds and new approach to agriculture to address this critical problem;

Whereas, Dr. Borlaug brought miracle wheat to India and Pakistan, which helped both countries become self-sufficient in wheat production, thus saving hundreds of millions of people from hunger, famine, and death;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug and his team trained young scientists from Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Turkey, and Afghanistan in this same new approach to agriculture, which introduced new seeds but also put emphasis on the use of fertilizer and irrigation, thus increasing yields significantly in those countries as well;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug's approach to wheat was adapted by research scientists working in rice, which spread the Green Revolution to Asia, feeding and saving millions of people from hunger and starvation;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 as the "Father of the Green Revolution" and is only 1 of 5 people to have ever received the Nobel Peace Prize, Presidential Medal of Freedom, and Congressional Gold Medal;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug headed the Sasakawa Global 2000 program to bring the Green Revolution to 10 countries in Africa, and traveled the world to educate the next generation of scientists on the importance of producing new breakthrough achievements in food production;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug tirelessly promoted the potential that biotechnology offers for feeding the world, while also preserving biodiversity, in the 21st century when the global population is projected to rise to 9,000,000,000 people;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug continued his role as an educator as a Distinguished Professor at Texas A&M University, while also working at the International Center for the Improvement of Wheat and Maize in Mexico;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug founded the World Food Prize, called by several world leaders "The Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture", which is awarded in Iowa each October so as to recognize and inspire Nobel-like achievements in increasing the quality, quantity, and availability of food in the world;

Whereas the Senate designated October 16 as World Food Prize Day in America in honor of Dr. Borlaug; and

Whereas it is written of Dr. Borlaug that throughout all of his work he saved 1,000,000,000 lives, thus making him widely known as saving more lives than any other person in human history: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate has received with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the passing of Dr. Norman Borlaug; and

(2) the Senate directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased.

PEACE DAY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 274.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 274) supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Day.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent 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 be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 274) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 274

Whereas, beginning in 2002, the United Nations has designated September 21 of each year as the International Day of Peace, which is known in the United States as Peace Day;

Whereas the United Nations dedicates the International Day of Peace to the cessation of hostilities and nonviolence, and calls upon all Nations and people to commemorate the day appropriately, including through educational efforts, and public awareness;

Whereas Peace Day activities around the world include vaccination campaigns, peace walks, concerts, peace-related discussions and debates, poetry readings, mass prayer ceremonies, art exhibitions, memorial services, school assemblies, and sporting events;

Whereas, on Peace Day 2006, the World Food Programme carried out a 60-ton food drop in Southern Sudan;

Whereas, on Peace Day 2007, the Peace One Day organization worked alongside the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Afghan Ministry of Public Health to vaccinate 1,400,000 children of Afghanistan against the polio virus and, on Peace Day 2008, approximately 14,000 health workers and volunteers delivered polio vaccinations to 1,600,000 children under the age of 5 in 6 Afghan provinces;

Whereas, on Peace Day 2007, Star Syringe vaccinated children in rural areas against measles, diphtheria, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and whooping cough in 20 locations, including Uganda, India, Ethiopia, and Indonesia;

Whereas, on Peace Day 2007, in the conflict-torn South Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of Congo, UNICEF and other

organizations provided insecticide-treated mosquito nets to protect 600,000 children from malaria, and also provided vitamin A, de-worming medication, and measles immunizations;

Whereas, on Peace Day 2007, there were 82 Peace Day initiatives in Afghanistan alone, involving more than 30 United Nations agencies, government departments, radio stations, and civil society organizations, and including arms handover ceremonies, community prayers for peace, painting schools white, educational activities, and a Peace Walk through the streets of Herat, Afghanistan;

Whereas the Peace One Day organization provides free educational materials to schools in the United States and worldwide that enable young people to prepare for and participate in Peace Day activities, learn the skills needed to resolve conflicts peacefully, and cultivate a sense of active global citizenship; and

Whereas the "One Day One Goal" initiative promotes soccer matches in all member states of the United Nations on Peace Day, and "One Day One Goal" soccer matches reflect cooperation, unity, and the power of soccer to bring people together as part of Peace Day in many countries, including Iraq, Uganda, Afghanistan, Burundi, Cambodia, the United Arab Emirates, the Côte d'Ivoire, the United States, and the United Kingdom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its support for the goals and ideals celebrated on Peace Day, which is observed each year on September 21;

(2) supports continuing efforts to raise global awareness of the goals of Peace Day and to engage all sectors of society in the peaceful observance of the International Day of Peace, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/282 of September 7, 2001, including work with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to promote life-saving and humanitarian activities on Peace Day; and

(3) encourages people in the United States to observe Peace Day, September 21, 2009, with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and educational activities, in order to raise awareness of the need for peaceful resolution of conflicts of all kinds.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1687

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

A bill (S. 1687) to prohibit the Federal Government from awarding contracts, grants, or other agreements, or providing other Federal funds to or engaging in activities that promote the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

Mr. REID. I ask for a second reading but object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for the second time the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to P.L. 110-229, the appointment of the following to be members of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National

Museum of the American Latino: Dr. Emma Sepulveda of Nevada vice Katherine Archuleta of Colorado.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the minority leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 105, adopted April 13, 1989, as amended by S. Res. 149, adopted October 5, 1993, as amended by Public Law 105-275, adopted October 21, 1998, further amended by S. Res. 75, adopted March 25, 1999, amended by S. Res. 383, adopted October 27, 2000, and amended by S. Res. 355, adopted November 13, 2002, and further amended by S. Res. 480, adopted November 21, 2004, the appointment of the following Senator as a member of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 111th Congress: the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina (co-chairman).

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first of all, I appreciate very much the patience of the Presiding Officer and all the staff.

In prior years, before you arrived in the Senate, I used to spend a lot of time on the floor when I was the whip and we had one of the staff here who talked about how Senate time was dog time—1 minute is really 7 minutes. In fact, as his going away gift to me, my friend Jack, who was right down here, before he retired gave me a dog chain as a souvenir. I kept it in my desk here for years. But sometimes things take a long time to get worked out. It may not seem like much, but it took a long time to get this done.

NOMINATION OF ERROLL SOUTHERS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the nomination of Erroll Southerns to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; that upon the reporting out or discharge of the nomination, it then be referred to the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days; that if the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee has not reported the nomination at that time, then the Committee be discharged and the nomination be placed on the Executive Calendar.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate

completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, September 21; that following the prayer and the 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, and the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 98, H.R. 2996, Interior appropriations.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be no rollcall votes on Monday, as previously announced. Senators should expect the next vote to begin before the caucus on Tuesday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:15 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 21, 2009, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

BEN S. BERNANKE, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

ERROLL G. SOUTHERS, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE EDMUND S. HAWLEY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MICHAEL J. MOORE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MAXWELL WOOD.

CARMEN MILAGROS ORTIZ, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN.

EDWARD J. TARVER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE EDMUND A. BOOTH, JR.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE AGENCIES INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurie M. Major, of Maine

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Robyn F. Kessler, of Ohio

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sarah Audrey Nelson, of Virginia

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, EFFECTIVE JUNE 29, 2009.