

There are two more things this bill does that I wish to mention that are a direct help to small business. One is the sense of the Congress that the SBA Administrator should be a Cabinet-level position. I think we need to make sure an advocate for small business has the ear of our President. We know what happened in 2009. We know we had to bail out Wall Street and we had to deal with the large banks in order to save our system from going off a cliff. We all understand that. But we also know there were certain commitments made to help small businesses. Yet it never got into your community banks, into your States or to your small businesses. We need the advocate for small businesses to have a direct line to the President. For that reason, I urge that the SBA Administrator be a part of the Cabinet.

Another part of the bill expresses a sense of Congress that the financial institutions that have benefited from our bailout carry out what they said they would do; that is, loan money to small companies. They say they are doing it, but the evidence shows the reverse, that they are not making these types of loans. I think it would be interesting to see exactly what types of loans these banks that relied upon the Federal Government are making to help our communities. I think we all would be disappointed to see their lack of participation in small company financing which could create jobs in our communities.

The last provision of the bill provides for offsets to make sure it is fully paid. I don't believe we should add to the deficit. I think this bill will help create jobs, help us deal with the economic growth of America, and deal with narrowing the budget deficit through economic growth. I think we all have a responsibility to make sure we have adequate offsets in the bill so we don't add further to the Federal deficit. That is called budget discipline. We talked about that a little bit on the floor of the Senate today. This bill is fully paid for through offsets.

I urge my colleagues, as we look in the weeks ahead at what we will call a jobs bill, which will help put more Americans to work—and I fully support that—that we follow the leadership of our President. The first thing he mentioned in the State of the Union Address last night was that we ought to pay attention to small businesses. I agree with the President. I hope that is a major part of our jobs bill; that it will be provisions that will provide tax credits for new job hires, help for small businesses dealing with health insurance and that it will increase the SBA's capacity to make loans to small businesses and will, indeed, provide a new avenue for opening credit to small businesses, putting the spotlight on the banking community so they do more, as they should, to help small businesses grow so we can create new jobs and grow our economy. That should be our first priority. I pledge to work with

my colleagues in the Senate and work with the administration so we can get the job done in the Senate.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 400—URGING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO ADDRESS INSTABILITY IN YEMEN

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 400

Whereas al Qaeda-affiliated terrorist groups operating in the Republic of Yemen are a threat to the national security of the United States;

Whereas on October 12, 2000, an explosives-laden motorboat detonated alongside the United States Navy destroyer USS Cole while it was docked in the Yemeni port of Aden, killing 17 members of the United States armed forces and wounding 39 others in the deadliest terrorist attack against the United States military since the 1983 attack on United States Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon;

Whereas on September 17, 2008, after several previous failed attacks, Yemeni militants attacked the entrance of the United States Embassy in Sana'a, Yemen, killing 17 people, including a United States citizen;

Whereas al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula has claimed responsibility for the alleged attempt by a Nigerian national, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, to detonate explosives on board Northwest Airlines flight 253 bound for Detroit, Michigan on Christmas Day 2009;

Whereas members of al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula have used Yemeni territory as a base from which to launch attacks against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including an August 2009 assassination attempt that injured Deputy Interior Minister for Security Affairs Prince Mohammed bin Nayef bin Abdul Aziz al Saud;

Whereas the Government of Yemen, since December 17, 2009, has undertaken a number of military operations against al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula leadership;

Whereas stability in Yemen is threatened by rapid population growth, endemic poverty, the inadequate provision of basic services, widespread corruption, and natural resource shortages stemming from extreme water scarcity and dwindling oil production;

Whereas a tribal insurgency in northern Yemen being waged by al-Houthi fighters and a southern secessionist movement threaten the stability of Yemen;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Somalis and Ethiopians are seeking asylum in Yemen to escape civil war, political grievances, and poverty;

Whereas these refugees create significant additional pressures on Yemen's limited resources and government institutions;

Whereas the February 2009 Department of State report on Human Rights in Yemen found that "significant human rights problems persisted," including "reports of arbitrary and unlawful killings by government forces, politically motivated disappearances, and torture in many prisons";

Whereas on January 21, 2010, Secretary of State Clinton remarked, "The success of [United States Government assistance to Yemen] depends upon Yemen's ability to make the tough choices necessary to im-

prove the capacity to govern, to reform its economy, to protect human rights, to combat corruption, and create a better environment for business and investment.";

Whereas the weakening of government institutions in Yemen could contribute to the ability of al Qaeda-inspired and affiliated militants to recruit, train, and plan terrorist operations against United States targets in the Middle East and in the United States;

Whereas potential large-scale population displacement and migration from Yemen due to civil conflict, economic collapse, or resource failure could jeopardize the stability and security of the region;

Whereas al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, al Qaeda in East Africa, and al-Shabab militants could take advantage of instability in Somalia and Yemen to expand their reach and effectiveness;

Whereas the United States recognizes the importance of cooperating with Yemen to counter the al Qaeda threat, promote economic development, and preserve Yemen's stability as it seeks to expand good governance;

Whereas in September 2009, USAID and Yemen signed a 3-year economic assistance agreement to fund development projects in the fields of health, education, democracy and governance, agriculture and economic development;

Whereas President Obama has significantly increased United States military and economic assistance to Yemen, including—

(1) \$66,800,000 in fiscal year 2009 to build the capacity of the Yemeni military to conduct counterterrorist operations; and

(2) \$52,500,000 in fiscal year 2010 for economic assistance administered by the Department of State;

Whereas Yemen aspires to join the Gulf Cooperation Council, some of whose members pledged more than \$4,000,000,000 to support Yemen's economic development at a November 2006 international donors conference in London; and

Whereas the challenges of Yemeni stability are not just a concern for the United States and Yemen, but are also a concern for countries in the region and for the entire international community:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to helping prevent state collapse in Yemen, denying terrorists a safe-haven, and supporting the people and Government of Yemen in dealing with Yemen's profound and interlocking security, development, and economic challenges;

(2) reaffirms its commitment to disrupting, dismantling, and defeating al-Qaeda and affiliated movements worldwide;

(3) urges the Government of Yemen to strengthen and sustain efforts against al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula;

(4) calls upon the Government of Yemen to strengthen efforts to address corruption, to respect human rights, and to work with its citizens and the international community to address the significant factors driving the instability in Yemen;

(5) calls upon the international community to closely coordinate and strengthen assistance programs in Yemen;

(6) recognizes the critical role of Saudi Arabia and other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council in these assistance programs;

(7) urges intensive dialogue toward ceasing armed hostilities through a negotiated political settlement between the Government of Yemen and the Houthi rebellion;

(8) requests that the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Director of National Intelligence submit a joint, comprehensive strategy for Yemen, in classified

and unclassified form, to the Senate, including—

- (A) counterterrorism cooperation;
- (B) development, humanitarian, and security assistance;
- (C) regional and international diplomatic coordination; and
- (D) democracy, human rights, and governance promotion; and

(9) urges the President to work with the people and Government of Yemen, the international community, and the international organizations to implement the strategy submitted pursuant to paragraph (8).

SENATE RESOLUTION 401—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE RECOGNIZING COACH BOBBY BOWDEN FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL UPON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. LEMIEUX) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 401

Whereas Bobby Bowden, over a 44-year career during which he coached at Howard College (now Samford University), West Virginia University, and Florida State University, where he has coached for the past 34 years, established a record as one of the most successful coaches in college football history;

Whereas the 388 coaching victories of Bobby Bowden are second only to the 393 coaching victories recorded by Joe Paterno at Pennsylvania State University;

Whereas Bobby Bowden coached Florida State University to victory in 2 national championships in 1993 and 1999, and to a bowl game in every year since 1982, making it the longest streak in the Nation;

Whereas Bobby Bowden became a member of the College Football Hall of Fame in 2006;

Whereas Bobby Bowden helped promote 164 student athletes onto careers in the National Football League;

Whereas Bobby Bowden profoundly influenced many professional and collegiate coaches and players with his wisdom, loyalty, and warmth throughout his coaching career; and

Whereas the accomplishments of Bobby Bowden on and off the field have come to personify Florida State University: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that Bobby Bowden is to be recognized for his monumental achievements in college football upon his retirement.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on “Corporate America vs. The Voter: Examining the Supreme Court’s Decision to Allow Unlimited Corporate Spending in Elections.”

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Lynden Armstrong at the Rules and Administration Committee on 202-224-6352.

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 the hearing scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, for Tuesday, February 2, 2010, will begin at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider the nominations of Larry Persily, to be Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, and Patricia A. Hoffman, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability).

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, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to amanda_kelly@energy.senate.gov.

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

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has scheduled a hearing for Thursday, February 4, 2010, entitled, “Keeping Foreign Corruption Out of the United States: Four Case Histories.” The Subcommittee hearing will examine how some politically powerful foreign officials, their relatives, or close associates—referred to in international agreements as “Politically Exposed Persons” or PEPs—have used the services of U.S. professionals and U.S. financial institutions to bring millions of dollars in suspect funds into the United States to advance their interests. Four case histories will illustrate how some PEPs have used U.S. lawyers, realtors, escrow agents, lobbyists, bankers, and others to circumvent U.S. anti-money laundering and anti-corruption safeguards. It will also look at how some U.S. professionals have actively helped PEPs avoid bank scrutiny or facilitated suspect transactions with no questions asked. The hearing will also examine whether U.S. policies and practices to combat foreign corruption and money laundering need strengthening. Witnesses will include government agencies, including the State Department, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), as well as lawyers, a realtor, and representatives of financial institutions.

The Subcommittee hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Laura Stuber of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations at 202-224-9505.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GREEN JOBS AND THE NEW ECONOMY

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Subcommittee on Green Jobs and the New Economy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28 at 9 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2010, at 9 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Haiti: From Rescue to Recovery and Reconstruction.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2010, at 3:30 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 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. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2010, 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. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2010. 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.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

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