

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 SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 16, 2010, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "The Deepwater Drilling Moratorium: A Review of the Obama Administration's Economic Impact Analysis on U.S. Small Businesses."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION OPERATIONS,
SAFETY, AND SECURITY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 16, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. GOODWIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider en bloc Executive Calendar Nos. 628, 740, 741, 742, 743, 929, 931, 961, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 1006, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, and 1082; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; and I now ask that the Senate proceed to Calendar Nos. 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087 and 1088, and that the nominations be confirmed.

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

NOMINATION OF ROBERT D. REISCHAUER

Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, I want to explain why I will vote no on the nomination of Robert D. Reischauer to serve as a public trustee of the Social Security and Medicare Programs.

Although he has a Ph.D. in economics and extensive experience with Federal budgetary matters as former head of the Congressional Budget Office, Dr. Reischauer claimed that he did not understand his basic responsibility under Federal law to report income on his tax returns from 2004 to 2008. He only paid back taxes on rental property in Canada when he brought his failure to the attention of the White House during the vetting process.

On his Finance Committee questionnaire, which he signed under penalty of perjury, he claimed this was an "oversight" he did not discover until 2009.

But in discussions with bipartisan committee staff, he appeared to tell a different story and said it was a deliberate choice he made at the time he filled out his tax returns. In the same meeting, he said he was sorry that he told the White House.

And while he said that he had offsetting expenses that would have canceled out his tax liability and produced a loss, Dr. Reischauer kept no receipts or records of those expenses, saying that he paid off workers in cash.

It appears that Dr. Reischauer was not truthful or careful about his Federal responsibility to report income. Someone who has not earned the public trust is not qualified to be a public trustee, and that is why I oppose his confirmation.

I ask that the RECORD reflect my vote against Dr. Reischauer's confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on confirmation en bloc of Calendar Nos. 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, and 1088.

The nominations were considered and confirmed en bloc, as follows:

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Jill Long Thompson, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring May 21, 2014.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Marilyn A. Brown, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2012.

William B. Sansom, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2014.

Neil G. McBride, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2013.

Barbara Short Haskew, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2014.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Joshua Gotbaum, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Carl Wieman, of Colorado, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Dennis J. Toner, of Delaware, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for the remainder of the term expiring December 8, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Elisabeth Ann Hagen, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Sara Louise Faivre-Davis, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Lowell Lee Junkins, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Myles J. Watts, of Montana, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Catherine E. Woteki, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Francisco J. Sanchez, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

J. Patricia Wilson Smoot, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the United States Parole Commission for a term of six years.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Robert M. Orr, of Florida, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador.

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Richard M. Lobo, of Florida, to be Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau, Broadcasting Board of Governors.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Mimi E. Alemayehou, of the District of Columbia, to be Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

Mark Feierstein, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Nisha Desai Biswal, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Michael C. Camunetz, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

FEDERAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE TRUST FUND

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

FEDERAL OLD-AGE, SURVIVORS AND DISABILITY
INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL INSURANCE
TRUST FUND

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Mr. GOODWIN. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote and lay that motion on the table; and I ask unanimous consent that no further motions be in order, that any statements relating to the nominations appear at the appropriate place 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

AMENDING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Mr. GOODWIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6102, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6102) to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010 to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Navy to enter into multiyear contracts for F/A-18E, F/A-18F, and EA-18G aircraft.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, the bill H.R. 6102 is an important bill. Based on authority provided in two acts, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 and the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010, the Navy and contractor team negotiated a multiyear contract for purchasing F/A-18E/F and E-18G aircraft.

The Secretary of Defense approved the Navy's request to sign such a contract. The Secretary also provided the necessary certifications required by title 10, United States Code. The independent cost estimators within the Department of Defense, the office of Cost Analysis and Program Evaluation, or CAPE, agreed with the Navy's estimate that the multiyear contract would save an estimated \$590 million. Unfortunately, the Navy and the contractor team were unable to conclude negotiations by the deadlines set forth in the two acts authorizing and appropriating funds for the multiyear contract.

We should not let these savings slip through our fingers just because the Navy and contractors were not as prompt as the Congress envisioned when we passed the two acts last year. This bill would allow the Navy and the taxpayer to achieve those savings by authorizing the Navy to sign a multiyear contract for the F/A-18E/F and E-18G program despite having missed those deadlines.

I urge that the Senate pass this bill immediately.

Mr. GOODWIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 6102) was ordered to be read the third time, was read the third time, and passed.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DAY

Mr. GOODWIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 627, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 627) designating September 16, 2010, as "The American Legion Day."

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

Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, I rise in support of legislation with Senator LINCOLN, Senator COLLINS, and Senator CHAMBLISS, which would officially recognize The American Legion and its vital role in communities across the Nation, by designating September 16, 2010, as "The American Legion Day."

Nothing describes the role of The American Legion more beautifully than the preamble to its constitution which is recited by its members at the beginning of every official meeting. "For God and Country, we associated ourselves together for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the Master of Might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; and to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

I think we all would agree that these are extremely lofty goals for any organization, but amazingly for over 90 years The American Legion has worked towards these objectives—not for themselves, but for America.

Most people are surprised to learn that The American Legion was actually founded in Paris, France. World War I veterans remembered the challenges facing wartime veterans from previous generations and vowed not to let their fellow comrades face the same hardships, especially those with service-connected disabilities. They wanted employment opportunities for returning combat veterans. They were concerned about the survivors of combat veterans who had paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. And most importantly, they wanted medical care provided to the wounded and ill returning service members.

Now, as it did at its founding, The American Legion remains focused on supporting veterans, military service members, and their families. Since December 2008, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to buy merchandise for Wounded Warriors in military medical centers around the country. Through the "Heroes to Hometowns" program The American Legion helps local communities prepare "welcome home" events when

wounded warriors are finally released from military or veterans' affairs medical centers. Since the first gulf war, The American Legion has maintained its Family Support Network which assists deployed service members and their families, especially members of the National Guard and Reserves. Some requests are for financial assistance, but other requests are simply for household chores, such as lawn work or car maintenance, that would normally be done by the soldier, sailor, airmen, or marine, were they not deployed. No request is too large or too small.

Many Legionnaires can be found in public schools on Veterans' Day or Memorial Day talking about their military service during periods of armed conflict to make sure the next generation of Americans understands the sacrifices and hardships of previous generations of wartime veterans. Legionnaires also teach students about the proper display and care of the flag of the United States.

The American Legion works closely with the American Red Cross—the largest organization of blood donors and a working partner in disaster assistance. Many American Legion Posts serve as Red Cross and Federal Emergency Management Agency work centers in areas hit by natural disasters. Members of more than 14,000 American Legion Posts donate nearly 100,000 pints of blood to the American Red Cross each year.

The American Legion is also proud of its membership's spirit of volunteerism. Each year, Legionnaires volunteer about 1 million hours of services in VA and military medical facilities, State veterans' homes, and other such community volunteer opportunities.

And one of the most solemn of functions performed by The American Legion is providing burial details for fallen comrades of every generation. The American Legion Color Guards, Buglers and Rifle Squads perform thousands of burials in veterans' and private cemeteries around the Nation.

As all of us in this Chamber know, The American Legion remains today an active and vigorous advocate for service members, veterans, and their families here on Capitol Hill. Among its greatest legislative achievements was the enactment of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, the GI Bill of Rights. The initial draft of the GI Bill was written by Legionnaires at the Mayflower Hotel here in Washington, DC. Many consider the GI bill to be one of the greatest pieces of legislation ever enacted.

Congress presented The American Legion its Federal charter on September 16, 1919. Therefore, I think it only fitting that we proclaim September 16, 2010, "The American Legion Day." I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this well-earned measure, demonstrating our respect and esteem for this outstanding organization.