

State, local, and tribal governments in connection with the awarding of grants, including—

“(A) a list of each discrete item of data requested by the Administrator from grant recipients as part of the process of administering covered grants;

“(B) identification of the items of data from the list described in subparagraph (A) that are required to be submitted by grant recipients on multiple occasions or to multiple systems; and

“(C) identification of the items of data from the list described in subparagraph (A) that are not necessary to be collected in order for the Administrator to effectively and efficiently administer the programs under which covered grants are awarded;

“(2) a plan, including a specific timetable, for eliminating any redundant and unnecessary reporting requirements identified under paragraph (1); and

“(3) a plan, including a specific timetable, for promptly developing a set of quantifiable performance measures and metrics to assess the effectiveness of the programs under which covered grants are awarded.

“(c) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial report is required to be submitted under subsection (b), and once every 2 years thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a grants management report that includes—

“(1) the status of efforts to eliminate redundant and unnecessary reporting requirements imposed on grant recipients, including—

“(A) progress made in implementing the plan required under subsection (b)(2);

“(B) a reassessment of the reporting requirements to identify and eliminate redundant and unnecessary requirements;

“(2) the status of efforts to develop quantifiable performance measures and metrics to assess the effectiveness of the programs under which the covered grants are awarded, including—

“(A) progress made in implementing the plan required under subsection (b)(3);

“(B) progress made in developing and implementing additional performance metrics and measures for grants, including as part of the comprehensive assessment system required under section 649 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 749); and

“(3) a performance assessment of each program under which the covered grants are awarded, including—

“(A) a description of the objectives and goals of the program;

“(B) an assessment of the extent to which the objectives and goals described in subparagraph (A) have been met, based on the quantifiable performance measures and metrics required under this section, section 2022(a)(4), and section 649 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 749);

“(C) recommendations for any program modifications to improve the effectiveness of the program, to address changed or emerging conditions; and

“(D) an assessment of the experience of recipients of covered grants, including the availability of clear and accurate information, the timeliness of reviews and awards, and the provision of technical assistance, and recommendations for improving that experience.

“(d) GRANTS PROGRAM MEASUREMENT STUDY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the enactment of Redundancy Elimination and Enhanced Performance for Preparedness Grants Act, the Administrator shall enter into a contract with the National Academy of Public Administration under which the National Academy of Public Administration shall assist the Administrator in studying, developing, and implementing—

“(A) quantifiable performance measures and metrics to assess the effectiveness of grants administered by the Department, as required under

this section and section 649 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 749); and

“(B) the plan required under subsection (b)(3).

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the contract described in paragraph (1) is awarded, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the findings and recommendations of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Sec. 2023. Identification of reporting redundancies and development of performance metrics.”.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 3980), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

IMPROVING THE OPERATION OF CERTAIN FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5682, and that the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5682) to improve the operation of certain facilities and programs of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 5682) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

COMMENDING THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Commerce Committee be dis-

charged from further consideration of S. Res. 623 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 assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 623) commending the encouragement of interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by the entertainment industry, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. I ask the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion 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. 623) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 623

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) are vital fields of increasing importance in driving the economic engine of the United States;

Whereas STEM-educated graduates have and will continue to play critical roles in helping to develop clean energy technologies, to find life-saving cures for diseases, to solve security challenges, and to discover new solutions for deteriorating transportation and infrastructure;

Whereas through 2018, STEM occupations are projected to provide 2,800,000 job openings;

Whereas over 90 percent of STEM occupations require at least some postsecondary education;

Whereas students across the country, especially young women and underrepresented minorities, need greater understanding and appreciation of STEM careers, and access to quality STEM opportunities;

Whereas the entertainment industry of the United States, comprised of movies, television, theater, radio, DVDs, video games, as well as other video and audio recordings and means of communications, has an extraordinary ability to reach the people of the United States, especially young people;

Whereas the entertainment industry has begun to make significant investments in support of STEM education; and

Whereas, for example, the Entertainment Industries Council has developed the Ready on the S.E.T. and . . . Action! initiative to elevate the importance of science, engineering, and technology in national entertainment and news productions by connecting STEM experts, companies, and organizations with the entertainment industry in order to disseminate accurate information about STEM professionals and careers, and producing the first-ever S.E.T. Awards Show this year to award accurate and impactful portrayals of STEM in movies, television series, radio and television news programs, and print and online journalism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the effective use of the substantial influence and resources of the entertainment industry of the United States, by those members of the entertainment industry, such as the Entertainment Industries

Council, who are working to encourage interest in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

(2) urges the entertainment industry to continue to use the creative talent, skills, and audience-reach at its disposal to communicate the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

CELEBRATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER NETWORK

Mr. REID. I ask we now proceed to S. Res. 638, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 638) celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Small Business Development Center Network.

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, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 638) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 638

Whereas the Small Business Development Center (referred to in this preamble as "SBDC") network will celebrate its 30th anniversary at a conference to be held September 21 through 24, 2010, in San Antonio, Texas;

Whereas the conference will be held to continue the professional development of employees of SBDCs and to commemorate the educational and technical assistance offered by SBDCs to small businesses across the United States;

Whereas for 30 years, SBDCs have been among the preeminent organizations in the United States for providing business advice, one-on-one counseling, and in-depth training to small businesses;

Whereas, during the 30 years prior to the approval of this resolution, the SBDC network has grown from 9 fledgling centers to a nationwide network of 63 lead centers, with more than 4,000 business advisors providing services at over 1,000 service locations;

Whereas the SBDC network has worked for 30 years with the Small Business Administration, institutions of higher education, State governments, Congress, and others to significantly enhance the economic health and strength of small businesses in the United States;

Whereas SBDCs have assisted more than 20,000,000 small businesses throughout the 30 years prior to the approval of this resolution and continue to aid and support hundreds of thousands of small businesses annually;

Whereas 33 percent of all SBDC clients are minorities, 43 percent of all SBDC clients are women, and 9 percent of all SBDC clients are veterans;

Whereas, since the inception of SBDCs, SBDCs have continued to redefine and transform the services offered by SBDCs, including training and advising, and have taken on new missions, in order to ensure that small businesses have relevant and significant assistance in all economic conditions; and

Whereas Congress continues to support SBDCs and the role of SBDCs in assisting small businesses and building the economic success of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Small Business Development Center network; and

(2) expresses appreciation for—

(A) the steadfast partnership between the Small Business Development Center network and the Small Business Administration; and

(B) the work of the Small Business Development Center network in ensuring quality assistance to small business and access for all to the American Dream.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3827

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told that S. 3827, introduced earlier today by Senator DODD, is at the desk and ready for its first reading.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3827) to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

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

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, the Chair, on behalf of the majority leader pursuant to Public Law 107-252, title II, section 214, ap-

points the following individual to serve as a member of the Election Assistance Board of Advisors: Dr. Barbara Simons, of California.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 23; that following the prayer and 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; that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the second half; further, upon the completion of morning business, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S.J. Res. 30, a joint resolution of disapproval regarding the National Mediation Board, as provided under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will consider the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 30. Under the consent agreement for consideration of the joint resolution, there will be 2 hours of debate prior to a vote on the motion to proceed. This vote is expected to occur as early as 12:30 p.m. tomorrow. That will be the first vote of the day.

Also, as provided under a previous order, at 2:15 p.m., the Senate will proceed to a rollcall vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 3628, the DISCLOSE Act.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:20 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 23, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.