

(7) reaffirms the support of the Senate for wildlife conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System; and

(8) expresses the intent of the Senate—

(A) to continue working to conserve wildlife; and

(B) to manage the National Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 645—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN VENEZUELA ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2010

Mr. ENSIGN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 645

Whereas both the United States and Venezuela were among the 21 original members that founded the Organization of American States on May 5, 1948;

Whereas both the United States and Venezuela joined the other 34 Organization of American States member nations and approved and accepted the Inter-American Democratic Charter on September 11, 2001;

Whereas Article 1 of the Organization of American States Inter-American Democratic Charter states the peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it;

Whereas Article 4 of the Organization of American States Inter-American Democratic Charter states transparency in government activities, probity, responsible public administration on the part of governments, respect for social rights, and freedom of expression and of the press are essential components of the exercise of democracy;

Whereas Article 57 of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela guarantees the right of all citizens to freely express their thoughts and opinions;

Whereas Article 106 of the Charter for the Organization of American States establishes “an Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, whose principal function shall be to promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as a consultative organ of the Organization in these matters”;

Whereas the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights report entitled Democracy and Human Rights in Venezuela, published February 24, 2010, found that the government of President Hugo Chavez employs the punitive power of the state to intimidate or punish people inside Venezuela on account of their political opinions;

Whereas the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights report entitled Democracy and Human Rights in Venezuela found that conditions do not exist for human rights defenders and journalists to be able to freely carry out their work in Venezuela;

Whereas the Department of State declared on November 29, 2009, that the United States “commends the Honduran people for peacefully exercising their democratic right to select their leaders in an electoral process that began over a year ago”;

Whereas, prior to the election in Honduras, President Chavez announced on Venezuelan state television that he put the military of Venezuela on alert in response to the removal by the people of Honduras of Chavez’s ally Manuel Zelaya;

Whereas the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights report entitled Democracy and Human Rights in Venezuela concluded that constraints on freedom of expression and the right to protest peaceably and the existence of a climate hostile to the free ex-

ercise of dissenting political participation contribute to the weakening of the rule of law and democracy in Venezuela;

Whereas, on June 14, 2010, the Department of State described an arrest order issued by the government of President Chavez for the owner of Venezuela’s last remaining independent television station as “the latest example of the government of Venezuela’s continuing assault on the freedom of the press” and urged Venezuela to “honor its commitment under the Inter-American Democratic Charter to uphold the principle that respect for human rights, including freedom of the press, is essential to representative democracies”; and

Whereas the people of Venezuela will hold parliamentary elections on September 26, 2010; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the people and Government of the United States support the right of the people of Venezuela to free and fair elections as guaranteed by the Organization of American States Democratic Charter;

(2) the people and Government of the United States support the right of the people of Venezuela to the freedom of speech, the freedom of assembly, and their right to freely express their political views as guaranteed by the Organization of American States Democratic Charter; and

(3) the people and Government of the United States summarily reject any effort by President Chavez to invoke the punitive power of the state to intimidate or punish the people of Venezuelan who exercise their right to express their political opinions, their right to assemble, and their right to vote in a free and fair elections.

SENATE RESOLUTION 646—DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010, AS “FEED AMERICA DAY”

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 646

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which the United States was founded;

Whereas, according to the Department of Agriculture, roughly 35,000,000 people in the United States, including 12,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates Thursday, November 18, 2010, as “Feed America Day”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Thursday, November 18, 2010, and to donate the money that would have been spent on that food to the religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce Senate Resolution 646, also known as Feed America Day.

Feed America Day began in 2002 as a small effort in Provo, UT. From that small beginning, the campaign has re-

ceived support from over 1,100 large and small cities. This includes over 60 cities that have responded with proclamations, covering a population exceeding seven million.

This eighth year of promoting Feed America Day is held on the Thursday immediately preceding Thanksgiving Day. On that day, each person is encouraged to fast two meals and then to contribute to a food bank, church, or charity the equivalent dollar amount saved.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has reported that 35 million Americans, including 12 million children, live in homes that do not have an adequate supply of food. This resolution recalls that selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society. In that spirit, I encourage individuals and families to remember to help those in need one week before Thanksgiving.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4658. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself and Mr. VOINOVICH)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3196, to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4658. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself and Mr. VOINOVICH)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3196, to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010”.

SEC. 2. CERTAIN PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES BEFORE GENERAL ELECTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h)(1)(A) In the case of an eligible candidate, the Administrator—

“(i) shall notify the candidate of the candidate’s right to receive the services and facilities described in paragraph (2) and shall provide with such notice a description of the nature and scope of each such service and facility; and

“(ii) upon notification by the candidate of which such services and facilities such candidate will accept, shall, notwithstanding subsection (b), provide such services and facilities to the candidate during the period beginning on the date of the notification and ending on the date of the general elections described in subsection (b)(1).

The Administrator shall also notify the candidate that sections 7601(c) and 8403(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 provide additional services.

“(B) The Administrator shall provide the notice under subparagraph (A)(i) to each eligible candidate—

“(i) in the case of a candidate of a major party (as defined in section 9002(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), on one of the first 3 business days following the last nominating convention for such major parties; and

“(ii) in the case of any other candidate, as soon as practicable after an individual becomes an eligible candidate (or, if later, at the same time as notice is provided under clause (i)).

“(C)(i) The Administrator shall, not later than 12 months before the date of each general election for President and Vice-President (beginning with the election to be held in 2012), prepare a report summarizing modern presidential transition activities, including a bibliography of relevant resources.

“(ii) The Administrator shall promptly make the report under clause (i) generally available to the public (including through electronic means) and shall include such report with the notice provided to each eligible candidate under subparagraph (A)(i).

“(2)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the services and facilities described in this paragraph are the services and facilities described in subsection (a) (other than paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (7), and 8(A)(v) thereof), but only to the extent that the use of the services and facilities is for use in connection with the eligible candidate's preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President.

“(B) The Administrator—

“(i) shall determine the location of any office space provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection;

“(ii) shall, as appropriate, ensure that any computers or communications services provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection are secure;

“(iii) shall offer information and other assistance to eligible candidates on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation; and

“(iv) may modify the scope of any services to be provided under this subsection to reflect that the services are provided to eligible candidates rather than the President-elect or Vice-President-elect, except that any such modification must apply to all eligible candidates.

“(C) An eligible candidate, or any person on behalf of the candidate, shall not use any services or facilities provided under this subsection other than for the purposes described in subparagraph (A), and the candidate or the candidate's campaign shall reimburse the Administrator for any unauthorized use of such services or facilities.

“(3)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an eligible candidate may establish a separate fund for the payment of expenditures in connection with the eligible candidate's preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President, including expenditures in connection with any services or facilities provided under this subsection (whether before such services or facilities are available under this section or to supplement such services or facilities when so provided). Such fund shall be established and maintained in such manner as to qualify such fund for purposes of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(B)(i) The eligible candidate may—

“(I) transfer to any separate fund established under subparagraph (A) contributions (within the meaning of section 301(8) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(8))) the candidate received for the general election for President or Vice-President or payments from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund under chapter 95 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 the candidate received for the general election; and

“(II) solicit and accept amounts for receipt by such separate fund.

“(ii) Any expenditures from the separate fund that are made from such contributions or payments described in clause (i)(I) shall be treated as expenditures (within the meaning of section 301(9) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 431(9))) or qualified campaign expenses (within the meaning of section 9002(11) of such Code), whichever is applicable.

“(iii) An eligible candidate establishing a separate fund under subparagraph (A) shall (as a condition for receiving services and facilities described in paragraph (2)) comply with all requirements and limitations of section 5 in soliciting or expending amounts in the same manner as the President-elect or Vice-President-elect, including reporting on the transfer and expenditure of amounts described in subparagraph (B)(i) in the disclosures required by section 5.

“(4)(A) In this subsection, the term ‘eligible candidate’ means, with respect to any presidential election (as defined in section 9002(10) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)—

“(i) a candidate of a major party (as defined in section 9002(6) of such Code) for President or Vice-President of the United States; and

“(ii) any other candidate who has been determined by the Administrator to be among the principal contenders for the general election to such offices.

“(B) In making a determination under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Administrator shall—

“(i) ensure that any candidate determined to be an eligible candidate under such subparagraph—

“(I) meets the requirements described in Article II, Section 1, of the United States Constitution for eligibility to the office of President;

“(II) has qualified to have his or her name appear on the ballots of a sufficient number of States such that the total number of electors appointed in those States is greater than 50 percent of the total number of electors appointed in all of the States; and

“(III) has demonstrated a significant level of public support in national public opinion polls, so as to be realistically considered among the principal contenders for President or Vice-President of the United States; and

“(ii) consider whether other national organizations have recognized the candidate as being among the principal contenders for the general election to such offices, including whether the Commission on Presidential Debates has determined that the candidate is eligible to participate in the candidate debates for the general election to such offices.”

(b) ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED TO PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION UPON REQUEST.—Section 3(a)(10) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(10) Notwithstanding subsection (b), consultation by the Administrator with any President-elect, Vice-President-elect, or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) to develop a systems architecture plan for the computer and communications systems of the candidate to coordinate a transition to Federal systems if the candidate is elected.”

(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER TRANSITION SERVICES.—

(1) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Section 7601(c) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 435b note) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting:

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘eligible candidate’ has the meaning given such term by section 3(h)(4) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note).”, and

(B) by striking “major party candidate” in paragraph (2) and inserting “eligible candidate”.

(2) PRESIDENTIALLY APPOINTED POSITIONS.—Section 8403(b)(2)(B) of such Act (5 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) OTHER CANDIDATES.—After making transmittals under subparagraph (A), the Office of Personnel Management shall transmit such electronic record to any other candidate for President who is an eligible candidate described in section 3(h)(4)(B) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) and may transmit such electronic record to any other candidate for President.”

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(8)(B), by striking “President-elect” and inserting “President-elect or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) for President”; and

(2) in subsection (e), by inserting “, or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) for President or Vice-President,” before “may designate”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF TRANSITION ACTIVITIES BY THE INCUMBENT ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President of the United States, or the President's delegate, may take such actions as the President determines necessary and appropriate to plan and coordinate activities by the Executive branch of the Federal Government to facilitate an efficient transfer of power to a successor President, including—

(1) the establishment and operation of a transition coordinating council comprised of—

(A) high-level officials of the Executive branch selected by the President, which may include the Chief of Staff to the President, any Cabinet officer, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, and the Archivist of the United States; and

(B) any other persons the President determines appropriate;

(2) the establishment and operation of an agency transition directors council which includes career employees designated to lead transition efforts within Executive Departments or agencies;

(3) the development of guidance to Executive Departments and agencies regarding briefing materials for an incoming administration, and the development of such materials; and

(4) the development of computer software, publications, contingency plans, issue memoranda, memoranda of understanding, training and exercises (including crisis training and exercises), programs, lessons learned from previous transitions, and other items appropriate for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of a Presidential transition that may be disseminated to eligible candidates (as defined in section 3(h)(4) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, as added by section 2(a)) and to the President-elect and Vice-President-elect.

Any information and other assistance to eligible candidates under this subsection shall be offered on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President of the United States, or the President's delegate, shall provide to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of

the Senate reports describing the activities undertaken by the President and the Executive Departments and agencies to prepare for the transfer of power to a new President.

(2) **TIMING.**—The reports under paragraph (1) shall be provided six months and three months before the date of the general election for the Office of President of the United States.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

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 joint hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks and the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests.

The hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: S. 3261, to establish the Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area in the State of Texas, and for other purposes; S. 3283, A bill to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence;

S. 3291, to establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes;

S. 3524 and H.R. 1858, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a cooperative agreement for a park headquarters at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes;

S. 3565, to provide for the conveyance of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Mohave County, Arizona, to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, for use as a public shooting range;

S. 3612, to amend the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Establishment Act to expand the boundary of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in the State of Vermont, and for other purposes;

S. 3616, to withdraw certain land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes;

S. 3744, to establish Pinnacles National Park in the State of California as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 3778 and H.R. 4773, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes;

S. 3820, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for a microhydro project in nonwilderness areas within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve, to acquire land for Denali National Park and Preserve from Doyon Tourism, Inc., and for other purposes;

S. 3822, to adjust the boundary of the Carson National Forest, New Mexico; and

H.R. 1858, to provide for a boundary adjustment and land conveyances involving Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of an erroneous land survey that resulted in approximately 7 acres of the Crystal Lakes Subdivision, Ninth Filing, encroaching on National Forest System land, and for other purposes.

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 should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by email to testimony@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863 or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905.

PREELECTION PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ACT OF 2010

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 499, S. 3196.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3196) to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election.

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Kaufman-Voinovich substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read the third time and passed; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, without any intervening action or debate; and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4658) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010”.

SEC. 2. CERTAIN PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES BEFORE GENERAL ELECTION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h)(1)(A) In the case of an eligible candidate, the Administrator—

“(i) shall notify the candidate of the candidate’s right to receive the services and facilities described in paragraph (2) and shall provide with such notice a description of the nature and scope of each such service and facility; and

“(ii) upon notification by the candidate of which such services and facilities such can-

didate will accept, shall, notwithstanding subsection (b), provide such services and facilities to the candidate during the period beginning on the date of the notification and ending on the date of the general elections described in subsection (b)(1).

The Administrator shall also notify the candidate that sections 7601(c) and 8403(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 provide additional services.

“(B) The Administrator shall provide the notice under subparagraph (A)(i) to each eligible candidate—

“(i) in the case of a candidate of a major party (as defined in section 9002(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), on one of the first 3 business days following the last nominating convention for such major parties; and

“(ii) in the case of any other candidate, as soon as practicable after an individual becomes an eligible candidate (or, if later, at the same time as notice is provided under clause (i)).

“(C)(i) The Administrator shall, not later than 12 months before the date of each general election for President and Vice-President (beginning with the election to be held in 2012), prepare a report summarizing modern presidential transition activities, including a bibliography of relevant resources.

“(ii) The Administrator shall promptly make the report under clause (i) generally available to the public (including through electronic means) and shall include such report with the notice provided to each eligible candidate under subparagraph (A)(i).

“(2)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the services and facilities described in this paragraph are the services and facilities described in subsection (a) (other than paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (7), and 8(A)(v) thereof), but only to the extent that the use of the services and facilities is for use in connection with the eligible candidate’s preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President.

“(B) The Administrator—

“(i) shall determine the location of any office space provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection;

“(ii) shall, as appropriate, ensure that any computers or communications services provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection are secure;

“(iii) shall offer information and other assistance to eligible candidates on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation; and

“(iv) may modify the scope of any services to be provided under this subsection to reflect that the services are provided to eligible candidates rather than the President-elect or Vice-President-elect, except that any such modification must apply to all eligible candidates.

“(C) An eligible candidate, or any person on behalf of the candidate, shall not use any services or facilities provided under this subsection other than for the purposes described in subparagraph (A), and the candidate or the candidate’s campaign shall reimburse the Administrator for any unauthorized use of such services or facilities.

“(3)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an eligible candidate may establish a separate fund for the payment of expenditures in connection with the eligible candidate’s preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President, including expenditures in connection with any services or facilities provided under this subsection (whether before such services or facilities are available under this section or to supplement such services or facilities when so provided). Such fund shall be established and maintained in such manner as to