

Brazile on the importance of passing this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Roll Call, July 20, 2010]

CONGRESS CAN EXPEDITE THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

(By Donna Brazile and Ed Gillespie)

For most Americans, the morning after a presidential election has been decided represents a moment of relief. Relief that months of campaign commercials, debates and a seemingly endless stream of canvassers knocking on their doors and phoners interrupting their dinners are finally over—relief at the end of a long and exhausting process.

However, for the election winner's staff, that morning is the official beginning of a stressful and complicated process that can make or break the new president's first two years in office.

Having worked on presidential transitions, we both know the pressures facing transition staff. There are only 11 or 12 weeks between Election Day and the inauguration, too short a period to prepare for the host of challenges facing incoming administrations. This is especially true in our post-9/11 security environment and in times of economic uncertainty, which demand a seamless transfer of power and leave us no room for a gap in national leadership.

That is why, in recent elections, candidates have begun planning their transitions informally before winning election. While these efforts are almost never spoken of out of fear they will be derided as presumptuous, they have become as important to the process of transferring power as the formal transition following Election Day.

To their credit, both President Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) engaged in transition planning before the election was held in 2008. President George W. Bush also deserves praise for making a smooth transition out of office a high priority during the final months of his term. None of these steps was mandated by law, and all pre-election transition efforts by candidates had to be funded privately.

It was fortunate that, in the first transfer of power between parties after 9/11, with two ongoing wars and the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, both major candidates and the White House took it upon themselves to ensure one of the smoothest transitions in modern history. But we should not simply leave something so important to fortune.

Sens. Ted Kaufman (D-Del.) and George Voinovich (R-Ohio) have introduced the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act. This bipartisan legislation would extend to both parties' nominees some of the government services (i.e., office space, secure computer systems) currently provided to presidents-elect for their transition planning several weeks before Election Day. It also authorizes funding for sitting presidents to help plan for a responsible transfer out of office and recommends the Bush administration's Presidential Transition Coordinating Council as a model.

This will go a long way toward removing the stigma of presumptuousness that discourages early transition planning. We now know that in 2008 the Obama and McCain campaigns were poised to make a joint statement acknowledging that both were engaging in pre-election transition planning as an act of responsibility. However, at the last minute the issue became politicized and neither campaign wanted to risk being accused of "measuring the drapes" in the White House.

This political calculus is understandable but dangerous in today's world. The Kaufman-Voinovich bill was written in consultation with veterans of past transitions. Its introduction follows on the heels of a landmark report by the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service as well as academic articles by presidential scholars Martha Joynt Kumar, Terry Sullivan and others analyzing the successes and shortcomings of recent transitions. The Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act would provide nominees with office space, computer services and information about previous transitions. It would not pay transition staff salaries or provide for the hiring of outside consultants. For those expenses and others not covered by the bill, it would allow candidates to open transition accounts to which they could raise money or transfer funds from their campaign chests.

For those of us who have worked on presidential transitions, this bipartisan effort by two outgoing Senators in a non-presidential election year is long overdue. Congress should take advantage of this opportunity to implement the changes proposed by this bill to ensure more responsible, more secure and more seamless transfers of power in the future.

TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3839, which was introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3839) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and that any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 3839) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3839

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT OF 1958.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to extend temporarily certain authorities of the Small Business Administration", approved October 10, 2006 (Public Law 109-316; 120 Stat. 1742), as most recently amended by section 1 of Public Law 111-214 (124 Stat. 2346), is amended by striking "September 30, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "January 31, 2011".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 29, 2010.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 644, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 644) designating the week of October 10, 2010, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week."

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on a resolution I submitted today with Senators CRAPO and CARDIN to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week and honor the extraordinary National Wildlife Refuge System. I am pleased that so many of my colleagues have joined me to cosponsor this resolution.

President Theodore Roosevelt established the first national wildlife refuge on Florida's Pelican Island in 1903. He was a renowned naturalist, an avid hunter, and is considered to be one of the greatest conservation leaders in American history.

Roosevelt was spurred to action after witnessing a dramatic decline in bird and animal populations across the country due to unregulated and unsustainable hunting. A sportsman himself, Roosevelt saw a great need to conserve our nation's natural resources not only for the benefit of his generation but for future generations as well.

President Roosevelt set out this basic principle when he said:

I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land. But I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us.

He was a man of action. Over the course of Presidency, Roosevelt would establish more than 50 Federal bird reserves which would become the foundation of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Today, the Refuge System has grown to more than 150 million acres, 552 national wildlife refuges, and 38 wetland management districts. These lands are truly American treasures and important parts of our natural heritage.

The Refuge System is a magnificent network of lands and waters dedicated to wildlife conservation. It is exceptionally diverse, encompassing every kind of ecosystem in the United States, including forests, wetlands, deserts, grasslands, tundras, and remote islands.

National wildlife refuges are critical to the broad goals of wildlife conservation to both keep common species common and to protect and restore imperiled species. Refuges do this well. They are home to an incredible amount of biodiversity, including over 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 reptile and amphibian species, and

more than 1,000 species of fish. Furthermore, of the more than 1,200 federally listed threatened and endangered species in the United States, 280 are found on national wildlife refuges.

The incredible resources available through the National Wildlife Refuge System offer a variety of recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, photography, hiking, boating, environmental education, and so much more. In fact, hunting and fishing is permitted on hundreds of refuges, providing opportunities for over 2.5 million hunters and more than 7 million anglers.

National wildlife refuges also provide children and families a unique opportunity to explore and learn about wildlife and the outdoors. A third of U.S. children and teens are overweight or close to it. Playing outside and engaging with the natural world can get our children active, and studies show that it can also reduce stress, improve attention and cooperation, and open children's imagination and creativity.

Refuges also afford service opportunities for local residents. Every year 39,000 volunteers and over 220 refuge "Friends" organizations contribute nearly 1.4 million hours of their time to lead educational programs, guide tours, restore habitat, maintain trails, and offer their time and energy in other important ways. Their efforts are worth the equivalent of 665 full-time employees.

National wildlife refuges are important to local businesses and gateway communities. Each year, refuges draw 41 million visitors, generating nearly \$1.7 billion and 27,000 jobs for local economies. Refuges are also a good investment for the American people. For every \$1 appropriated, refuges generate \$4 in economic activity.

Since 1995 refuges across the country have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second week of October. This year Refuge Week will take place from October 10 to 17.

There is much to celebrate. For over a century, the National Wildlife Refuge System has served to conserve our wildlife heritage, provide recreational opportunities for our communities, and support for local economies. With at least one refuge located in every State and within an hour's drive of every metropolitan area across the Nation, we can all take part in National Wildlife Refuge Week.

In my home State of Delaware, we are fortunate to have two national wildlife refuges: Bombay Hook and Prime Hook. The tens of thousands of acres of freshwater wetlands and tidal salt marshes these refuges protect are considered some of the best on the Atlantic coast and provide critical habitat for waterfowl migrating between Canada and Mexico. In fact, the American Bird Conservancy has recognized Bombay Hook as one of America's 100 important Bird Areas.

Bombay Hook and Prime Hook are also incredible places to visit and enjoy. Bombay Hook host over 100,000 visitors a year, and the Great Outdoor Recreation Pages, GORP magazine recently rated the refuge as one of the top Ten most scenic drives in the United States. Furthermore, studies show that visitors of Prime Hook generate over \$1.21 million and nearly 20 jobs a year in the local Sussex County economy.

I am proud to join my colleagues in sponsoring this resolution to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week and honor the National Wildlife Refuge System.

As President Roosevelt once said:

It is not what we have that will make us a great Nation. It is the way in which we use it.

We must continue the legacy of President Roosevelt and work to conserve our wildlife heritage for current and future generations.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 that any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 644) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 644

Whereas, in 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt established the first national wildlife refuge on Florida's Pelican Island;

Whereas, in 2010, the National Wildlife Refuge System is the premier system of lands and waters to conserve wildlife in the world, and has grown to more than 150 million acres, 552 national wildlife refuges, and 38 wetland management districts in every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important recreational and tourism destinations in communities across the Nation, and these protected lands offer a variety of recreational opportunities, including 6 wildlife-dependent uses that the National Wildlife Refuge System manages: hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

Whereas hunting is permitted on more than 320 national wildlife refuges and fishing is permitted on 272 national wildlife refuges, welcoming more than 2,500,000 hunters and more than 7,000,000 anglers;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important to local businesses and gateway communities;

Whereas, for every \$1 appropriated, national wildlife refuges generate \$4 in economic activity;

Whereas approximately 41,000,000 people visit national wildlife refuges every year, generating nearly \$1,700,000,000 and 27,000 jobs in local economies;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System encompasses every kind of ecosystem in the United States, including temperate, tropical, and boreal forests, wetlands, deserts, grasslands, arctic tundras, and remote islands, and spans 12 time zones from the Virgin Islands to Guam;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are home to more than 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish;

Whereas 59 refuges were established specifically to protect imperiled species and of the more than 1,200 federally listed threatened and endangered species in the United States, 280 species are found on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are cores of conservation for larger landscapes and resources for other agencies of the Federal Government and State governments, private landowners, and organizations in their efforts to secure the wildlife heritage of the United States;

Whereas 39,000 volunteers and more than 220 national wildlife refuge "Friends" organizations contribute nearly 1,400,000 hours annually, the equivalent of 665 full-time employees, and provide an important link with local communities;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide an important opportunity for children to connect with nature and discover the natural world;

Whereas, because there are national wildlife refuges located in several urban and suburban areas and 1 refuge located within an hour's drive of every metropolitan area in the United States, national wildlife refuges employ, educate, and engage young people from all backgrounds in exploring, connecting with, and preserving the natural heritage of the Nation;

Whereas, since 1995, refuges across the Nation have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second full week of October;

Whereas the week beginning on October 10, 2010, has been designated as "National Wildlife Refuge Week" by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

Whereas, in 2010, the designation of National Wildlife Refuge Week would recognize more than a century of conservation in the United States and would serve to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife and the National Wildlife Refuge System and to celebrate the myriad recreational opportunities available to enjoy this network of protected lands: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 10, 2010, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Wildlife Refuge Week;

(3) acknowledges the importance of national wildlife refuges for their recreational opportunities and contribution to local economies across the United States;

(4) pronounces that national wildlife refuges play a vital role in securing the hunting and fishing heritage of the United States for future generations;

(5) recognizes the importance of national wildlife refuges to wildlife conservation and the protection of imperiled species and ecosystems;

(6) applauds the work of refuge "Friends" groups, national and community organizations, and public partners that promote awareness, compatible use, protection, and restoration of national wildlife refuges;

(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.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010—MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 107, H.R. 3081, and I send to the desk a cloture motion.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 107, H.R. 3081, the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010.

John D. Rockefeller, IV, Byron L. Dorgan, Carl Levin, Dianne Feinstein, Jack Reed, Mark R. Warner, Patrick J. Leahy, Michael F. Bennet, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher J. Dodd, Daniel K. Akaka, Harry Reid.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum be waived.

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

EXTENDING FUNDING AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY OF THE AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 6190.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6190) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The bill (H.R. 6190) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent now that the RECORD remain open until 2 p.m. today for the introduction of bills, resolutions, statements, and cosponsor requests.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m., Monday, September 27; 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 after any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each until 3 p.m.; following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3816, the Creating American Jobs and Ending Offshoring Act.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we expect to have a live quorum at 7 p.m. on Monday, as we consider the motion to proceed to S. 3816.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 2 P.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Mr. REID. 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 12:15 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 27, 2010, at 2 p.m.