

Science, State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-108; 119 Stat. 2334).

(2) CONTENTS.—Each plan under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) summarize the operations of the Office for the current fiscal year, including financial details and staff levels with respect to major activities; and

(B) detail the operating plan of the Office, including specific expense and staff needs, for the current fiscal year.

(f) AUDIT.—The Under Secretary shall, on an annual basis, provide for an independent audit of the financial statements of the Office. Such audit shall be conducted in accordance with generally acceptable accounting procedures.

(g) BUDGET.—The Fund shall prepare and submit each year to the President a business-type budget in a manner, and before a date, as the President prescribes by regulation for the budget program.

(h) SURCHARGE.—Notwithstanding section 11(i)(1)(B), amounts collected pursuant to the surcharge imposed under section 11(i)(1)(A) shall be credited to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Public Enterprise Fund.

**SA 600.** Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. COBURN, and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1249, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 149, line 20, strike all through page 150, line 16.

## NOTICES OF HEARINGS

### JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON DEFICIT REDUCTION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I wish to announce that Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction will meet in open session on Thursday, September 8, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. in room 2123 of the Rayburn House Office Building, to consider proposed committee rules.

### JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON DEFICIT REDUCTION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I wish to announce that Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction will meet in open session on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at 10:30 a.m., in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “The History and Drivers of Our Nation’s Debt and Its Threats.”

### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 10 a.m. in SD-430 to conduct a hearing entitled “Securing the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain.”

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Elizabeth Jungman of the committee staff on (202) 224-7675.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 7, 2011, at 10 a.m.

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

### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 7, 2011, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Defending the Nation Since 9/11: Successful Reforms and Challenges Ahead at the Department of Homeland Security.”

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

### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 7, 2011, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Cybercrime: Updating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act to Protect Cyberspace and Combat Emerging Threats.”

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

### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 7, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Nominations.”

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

## PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern, Yan Perng, have the privilege of the floor for the balance of the day.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Madeleine Bien and Mandy McClure of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today’s proceedings.

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

## PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 74.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 74) providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 74) was agreed to.

## NATIONAL CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 219 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 219) designating September 13, 2011, as “National Celiac Disease Awareness Day”.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 219) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

### S. RES. 219

Whereas celiac disease affects approximately 1 in every 130 people in the United States, for a total of 3,000,000 people;

Whereas the majority of people with celiac disease have yet to be diagnosed;

Whereas celiac disease is a chronic inflammatory disorder that is classified as both an autoimmune condition and a genetic condition;

Whereas celiac disease causes damage to the lining of the small intestine, which results in overall malnutrition;

Whereas when a person with celiac disease consumes foods that contain certain protein fractions, that person suffers a cell-mediated immune response that damages the villi of the small intestine, interfering with the absorption of nutrients in food and the effectiveness of medications;

Whereas such problematic protein fractions are found in wheat, barley, rye, and oats, which are used to produce many foods, medications, and vitamins;

Whereas because celiac disease is a genetic disease, there is an increased incidence of celiac disease in families with a known history of celiac disease;

Whereas celiac disease is underdiagnosed because the symptoms can be attributed to

other conditions and are easily overlooked by doctors and patients;

Whereas as recently as 2000, the average person with celiac disease waited 11 years for a correct diagnosis;

Whereas ½ of all people with celiac disease do not show symptoms of the disease;

Whereas celiac disease is diagnosed by tests that measure the blood for abnormally high levels of the antibodies of immunoglobulin A, anti-tissue transglutaminase, and IgA anti-endomysium antibodies;

Whereas celiac disease can be treated only by implementing a diet free of wheat, barley, rye, and oats, often called a “gluten-free diet”;

Whereas a delay in the diagnosis of celiac disease can result in damage to the small intestine, which leads to an increased risk for malnutrition, anemia, lymphoma, adenocarcinoma, osteoporosis, miscarriage, congenital malformation, short stature, and disorders of the skin and other organs;

Whereas celiac disease is linked to many autoimmune disorders, including thyroid disease, systemic lupus erythematosus, type 1 diabetes, liver disease, collagen vascular disease, rheumatoid arthritis, and Sjogren's syndrome;

Whereas the connection between celiac disease and diet was first established by Dr. Samuel Gee, who wrote, “if the patient can be cured at all, it must be by means of diet”;

Whereas Dr. Samuel Gee was born on September 13, 1839; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of celiac disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 13, 2011, as “National Celiac Disease Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of celiac disease;

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Celiac Disease Awareness Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(4) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Celiac Sprue Association, the American Celiac Society, and the Celiac Disease Foundation.

#### NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 258.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 258) supporting the designation of the “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week.”

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 that any statements on this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 258) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, and its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 258

Whereas the National Assessment of Adult Literacy reports that approximately 90,000,000 adults in the United States lack the literacy, numeracy, or English language skills necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the social and economic well-being of the United States, and literacy allows individuals to benefit from full participation in society;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits from the efforts of individuals to raise their literacy, numeracy, and English language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are a prerequisite to individuals reaping the full benefit of opportunities in the United States;

Whereas the economy and the position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among individuals without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, indicating that education is key to economic recovery;

Whereas parents who are educated and read to their children directly impact the educational success of their children;

Whereas parental involvement is a key predictor of a child's success, and the level of parental involvement increases as the education level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents in family literacy programs become more involved in their children's education and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, children's lives become more stable, and success in the classroom, and in all future endeavors, becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the education challenges of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English language skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, endangering their lives and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills to obtain and keep a job to sustain their family, continue their education, or participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or become employed;

Whereas a large percentage of individuals in prison have low educational skills, and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants to the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States;

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy week highlights the need to ensure that each and every citizen has the necessary literacy and educational skills to succeed at home, at work, and in society; and

Whereas the week beginning September 12, 2011, would be an appropriate week to designate as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, including raising public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist those in need of adult education, workforce skills upgrading, and family literacy programs; and

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs, and calls upon public, private, and non-profit stakeholders to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

#### MEASURE READ FIRST TIME—S.J. RES. 26

Mr. REID. I understand there is a joint resolution at the desk due for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 26) expressing the sense of the Congress that Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner no longer holds the confidence of Congress or of the people of the United States.

Mr. REID. I now ask for its second reading, and in order to place the joint resolution on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The joint resolution will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

#### AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF ESCORT COMMITTEE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort President Obama into the House Chamber for the joint session at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2011.

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

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 8; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the second half; and that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1249.