

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern, Sarah Smurthwaite, have floor privileges for the remainder of today's session.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mehreen Rasheed and Shelby Keegan of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

COMMENDING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 406 and the Senate proceed to its 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. 406) commending the achievements and recognizing the importance of the Alliance to Save Energy on the 35th anniversary of the incorporation of the Alliance.

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

Mr. REID. Madam 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 related statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 406) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 406

Whereas March 18, 2012, marks the first day of a year-long celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Alliance to Save Energy, which was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in accordance with section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on March 18, 1977;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy was founded by Senators Charles H. Percy and Hubert H. Humphrey;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy is a unique national, nonprofit, bipartisan public-policy organization that works with prominent leaders in the fields of business, government, education, the environment, and consumer affairs to promote the efficient and clean use of energy throughout the world to benefit the economy, environment, and security of the United States;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy operates programs and collaborative projects throughout the United States, and has worked in the international community for

more than a decade in more than 30 developing and transitional countries;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy leverages international relationships with government and industry leaders to promote energy efficiency throughout the world and has worked to launch affiliate organizations such as the European Alliance to Save Energy and the Australian Alliance to Save Energy;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy has shown that energy efficiency and conservation measures taken by the United States during the past 35 years have caused annual energy consumption in the United States to decrease by more than 52 quads;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy is recognized across the United States as an authority on energy efficiency, and regularly provides testimony and resources to the Federal Government, State governments, and members of the business and media communities;

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy contributes to a variety of educational and outreach initiatives, including—

(1) the award-winning Green Schools and Green Campus programs;

(2) award-winning public service announcements; and

(3) a variety of targeted energy-efficiency campaigns; and

Whereas the Alliance to Save Energy collaborates with other prominent organizations to form partnerships and create groups that advance the cause of energy efficiency, including—

(1) the Building Codes Assistance Project (commonly known as "BCAP");

(2) the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (commonly known as "SEEA");

(3) the Clean and Efficient Energy Program (commonly known as "CEEP");

(4) the Efficient Windows Collaborative; and

(5) the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (commonly known as "ASAP"); Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Alliance to Save Energy on the 35th anniversary of the incorporation of the Alliance; and

(2) recognizes the important contributions that the Alliance to Save Energy has made to further the cause of energy efficiency.

NATIONAL ADOPT A LIBRARY DAY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 425, 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. 425) designating April 23, 2012, as "National Adopt a Library Day."

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

Mr. REID. Madam 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, 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. 425) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 425

Whereas libraries are an essential part of the communities and the national system of education in the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States benefit significantly from libraries that serve as an open place for people of all ages and backgrounds to use books and other resources that offer pathways to learning, self-discovery, and the pursuit of knowledge;

Whereas libraries in the United States depend on the generous donations and support of individuals and groups to ensure that people who are unable to purchase books still have access to a wide variety of resources;

Whereas certain nonprofit organizations facilitate the donation of books to schools and libraries across the United States to extend the joy of reading to millions of people of the United States and to prevent used books from being thrown away;

Whereas libraries in the United States have provided valuable resources to individuals who are affected by the economic crisis by encouraging continued education and job training;

Whereas libraries are increasingly being used as a resource for those seeking the tools and information to enter or reenter the workforce; and

Whereas several States that recognize the importance of libraries and reading have adopted resolutions commemorating April 23 as "Adopt a Library Day": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 23, 2012, as "National Adopt a Library Day";

(2) honors the organizations that facilitate donations to schools and libraries;

(3) urges all people of the United States who own unused books to donate the books to local libraries;

(4) strongly supports children and families who take advantage of the resources provided by schools and libraries; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to observe "National Adopt A Library Day" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

CONGRATULATING THE LADY BEARS OF BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 426.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 426) congratulating the Lady Bears of Baylor University on winning the 2012 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that 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. 426) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 426

Whereas the Baylor University women's basketball team, the Lady Bears, won its

second National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship by defeating the University of Notre Dame by a score of 80 to 61, becoming the only team in men's and women's college basketball to finish the season with a perfect undefeated record of 40-0;

Whereas the Lady Bears' 2011-2012 season marked only the 7th undefeated season in the history of Division I women's college basketball;

Whereas Coach Kim Mulkey is the only woman in women's basketball history to have played on and coached a national championship team;

Whereas Coach Mulkey brought the Lady Bears its 2d national championship since 2005, with a starting lineup that included Brittney Griner, Destiny Williams, Odyssey Sims, Kimetria Hayden, and Jordan Madden;

Whereas All-American junior Brittney Griner led the Lady Bears to victory with 26 points, 13 rebounds, and 5 blocks in a dominating performance over the University of Notre Dame and finished the 2011-2012 season with more than 920 points;

Whereas the members of the Lady Bears basketball team should all be commended for their teamwork, dedication, and athletic prowess;

Whereas Baylor University as 2011-2012 women's basketball national champions, has continued to demonstrate excellence in both athletics and academics;

Whereas the Lady Bears basketball team has significantly advanced the sport of women's basketball by demonstrating character and sportsmanship;

Whereas the Lady Bears overcame significant adversity and competition by defying expectations to finish the season with a dominating performance in the final title game and a perfect undefeated record of 40-0;

Whereas the accomplishments of the Lady Bears are another testament to the strength and will of women across the State of Texas; and

Whereas the Lady Bears basketball team is the pride of its loyal fans, current and former students, and the Lone Star State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the Lady Bears of Baylor University on winning the 2012 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship and completing the 2011-2012

season with an undefeated record of 40 wins and 0 losses.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until Thursday, April 19, at 9:30 a.m.; 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 the Senate then resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1925, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, and that following the remarks of the two leaders, the next hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the second 30 minutes; that the filing deadline for second-degree amendments to the substitute amendment, No. 2000, as modified, and S. 1789 be 11 a.m. on Thursday; and finally, that the cloture votes with respect to the substitute amendment No. 2000, as modified, and S. 1789, the postal reform bill, occur at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday. So there are two cloture votes, one regarding the substitute amendment, No. 2000, and, as I indicated, S. 1789.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. We are working on an agreement with respect to the postal reform bill. If no agreement is reached, there will be a cloture vote on the substitute amendment at 2:15 tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask

unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:37 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 19, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

CHARLES BENTON, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2013, VICE HARRY ROBINSON, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

CHRISTIE PEARSON BRANDAU, OF IOWA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2016, VICE LOTSEE PATTERSON, TERM EXPIRED.

NORBERTO JESUS CASTRO, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2016, VICE DOUGLAS G. MYERS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WILLIAM B. SHULTZ, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE DANIEL MERON.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

JEFFREY B. JUSTICE, OF NORTH CAROLINA
DONALD TOWNSEND, OF FLORIDA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

ENRIQUE G. ORTIZ, OF FLORIDA

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on April 18, 2012 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEFFREY B. JUSTICE AND ENDING WITH ENRIQUE G. ORTIZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE SENT TO THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 29, 2012.