

Mr. REID. Madame 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, that there be no intervening action or debate, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 353) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 353

Whereas the North Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as "NDSU") Bison won the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title game in Frisco, Texas, on January 7, 2012, in a hard fought victory over the Sam Houston State University Bearkats by a score of 17 to 6;

Whereas the NDSU Bison and coach Craig Bohl had an incredible 2011 season with a record of 14 wins and 1 defeat;

Whereas the Bison had a season full of highlights, including a 37 to 24 win over the University of Minnesota Gophers on September 24, 2011;

Whereas, during the championship game, the NDSU Bison offense scored 17 points against the Sam Houston State Bearkats, led by key plays from quarterback Brock Jensen, running back D.J. McNorton, and punter Matt Voigtlander;

Whereas the stifling Bison defense shut down the Bearkats, limiting the Bearkats to just 2 field goals;

Whereas Bison linebacker Travis Beck, the Most Outstanding Player of the game, secured a momentum-changing interception in the final minutes of the game to preserve the win for the Bison;

Whereas the Bison, who were previously a dominant force in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II, have continued to strive for excellence since moving up a division in 2004 and have proven they are able to compete and win in Division I;

Whereas Coach Bohl and his staff have instilled character and confidence in the NDSU players and have done an outstanding job with the Bison football program;

Whereas the leadership of President Dean Bresciani and Athletic Director Gene Taylor has helped bring both academic and athletic excellence to NDSU;

Whereas the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title was a victory not only for the NDSU football team, but also for the entire State of North Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the North Dakota State University football team, the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision champions;

(2) commends the North Dakota State University players, coaches, and staff for their hard work and dedication; and

(3) recognizes the students, alumni, and loyal fans for supporting the Bison on their successful quest to capture the first Division I trophy for North Dakota State University.

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—H.R. 1791

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee be dis-

charged from further consideration of H.R. 1791 and the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess until 8:30 p.m. tonight and proceed as a body at 8:40 p.m. to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the joint session of Congress provided under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 96; that upon the dissolution of the joint session, the Senate adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2012; 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 leader remarks, the Senate begin consideration of the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 98 under the previous order.

Madam President, before we move on that, the reason we are not going to be in session tomorrow is the Republicans are having a retreat. These are normally done at the beginning of every Congress. We are going to do ours in the next week or so—the next week or 2 weeks, I should say—and we will be out of session that day also. So this is why we are not working tomorrow.

We have work that we are going to complete Thursday, and the next week we have some fairly heavy legislation we are going to start. The reason we have not been working real hard this week is the IP bill, which we expected to work on this week and next week, things came up and we were unable to do that.

So I ask the Chair to rule on my request.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, the next vote will be on Thursday at 12 p.m. on the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 98.

RECESS

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it recess under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 8:30 p.m.

Thereupon, at 4:41 p.m., the Senate recessed until 8:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. UDALL of Colorado).

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear a message from the President of the United States of America.

Thereupon, the Senate, preceded by the Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Martina Bradford, the Secretary of the Senate, Nancy Erickson, and the Vice President of the United States, JOSEPH R. BIDEN, proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by the President of the United States, Barack Obama.

(The address delivered by the President of the United States to the joint session of the two Houses of Congress is printed in the proceedings of the House of Representatives in today's RECORD.)

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012, AT 9:30 A.M.

At the conclusion of the joint session of the two Houses, and in accordance with the order previously entered, at 10:23 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JESSICA LYNN WRIGHT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE DENNIS M. MCCARTHY, RESIGNED.

JAMES N. MILLER, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY, VICE MICHELE A. FLOURNOY.

FRANK KENDALL III, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS, VICE ASHTON B. CARTER, RESIGNED.

ERIN C. CONATON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS, VICE CLIFFORD L. STANLEY.

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

JEREMY C. STEIN, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2004, VICE KEVIN M. WARSH, RESIGNED.

JEROME H. POWELL, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2000, VICE FREDERIC S. MISHKIN.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

MARIETTA S. ROBINSON, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2010, VICE THOMAS HILL MOORE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ADAM E. SIEMINSKI, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION, VICE RICHARD G. NEWELL.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

ANTHONY T. CLARK, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2016, VICE MARC SPITZER, TERM EXPIRED.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

JAMES J. JONES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES

OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE STEPHEN ALAN OWENS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD, OF LOUISIANA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, VICE NANCY J. POWELL, RESIGNED.

PAMELA A. WHITE, OF MAINE, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI.

JOHN CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO LIBYA.

TRACEY ANN JACOBSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO.

SCOTT H. DELISI, OF MINNESOTA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DEBORAH S. DELISLE, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE THELMA MELENDEZ DE SANTA ANA.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CONSTANCE B. TOBIAS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS, VICE JAMES PHILIP TERRY, TERM EXPIRED.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on January

24, 2012 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

SCOTT C. DONEY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE CHIEF SCIENTIST OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, VICE KATHRYN D. SULLIVAN, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 26, 2011. TIMOTHY CHARLES SCHEVE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2015, VICE NANCY KILLEFER, TERM EXPIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 26, 2011.

GINEEN MARIA BRESSO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2013, (REAPPOINTMENT), WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 17, 2011.

GLORIA WILSON SHELTON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE A NEW POSITION CREATED BY PUBLIC LAW 110-389, APPROVED OCTOBER 10, 2008, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JUNE 22, 2011.