

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 13, 2013, at 10:30 a.m., in S-216 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 13, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 428A Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 13, 2013, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION,
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 13, 2013, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Lessons Learned From the Financial Crisis Regarding Community Banks."

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—
EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, June 17, 2013, at 5 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 48 and 62; that there be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

SUPPORTING POLITICAL REFORM
IN IRAN

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Foreign Relations Committee be

discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 154.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 154) supporting political reform in Iran and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Hoeven substitute amendment be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; the title amendment be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table.

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

The amendments (Nos. 1279, 1280, and 1281) were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1279

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following: "That the Senate—

(1) recalls Senate Resolution 386, 112th Congress, agreed to March 5, 2012, which called for free and fair elections in Iran;

(2) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to democracy, human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law, including the universal rights of freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of association;

(3) expresses support for freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law in Iran, and for elections that are free and fair;

(4) expresses strong support for the people of Iran in their peaceful calls for a representative and responsive democratic government that respects human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law;

(5) condemns the widespread human rights violations of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(6) calls on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect freedom of expression and association in Iran by—

(A) holding elections that are free, fair, and responsive to the people of Iran, including by refraining from disqualifying candidates for political reasons;

(B) ending arbitrary detention, torture, and other forms of harassment against media professionals, human rights defenders and activists, and opposition figures, and releasing all individuals detained for exercising freedom of the press, assembly, association, and expression;

(C) lifting legislative restrictions on freedom of the press, assembly, association, and expression; and

(D) allowing the Internet to remain free and open and allowing domestic and international media to operate freely;

(7) calls on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to allow international election monitors to be present for the June 14, 2013, election; and

(8) urges the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and other world leaders—

(A) to express support for the rights and freedoms of the people of Iran, including to democratic self-government;

(B) to engage with the people of Iran and support their efforts to promote human rights and democratic reform, including supporting civil society organizations that promote democracy and governance;

(C) to support policies and programs that preserve free and open access to the Internet in Iran; and

(D) to condemn elections that are not free and fair and that do not meet international standards.

AMENDMENT NO. 1280

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas democracy, human rights, and civil liberties are universal values and fundamental principles of the foreign policy of the United States;

Whereas an essential element of democratic self-government is for leaders to be chosen and regularly held accountable through elections that are organized and conducted in a manner that is free, fair, inclusive, and consistent with international standards;

Whereas governments in which power does not derive from free and fair elections lack democratic legitimacy;

Whereas elections in Iran are marred by the disqualification of candidates based on their political views, the absence of credible international observers, widespread intimidation and repression of candidates, political parties, and citizens, and systemic electoral fraud and manipulation;

Whereas elections in Iran consistently involve severe restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly, and association, including censorship, surveillance, disruptions in telecommunications, and the absence of a free media;

Whereas the current president of Iran came to office through an election on June 12, 2009, that was widely condemned in Iran and throughout the world as neither free nor fair and provoked large-scale peaceful protests throughout Iran;

Whereas authorities in Iran continue to hold several candidates from the 2009 election under house arrest;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran banned more than 2,200 candidates from participating in the March 2, 2012, parliamentary elections and refused to allow domestic or international election observers to oversee those elections;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran seeks to prevent the people of Iran from accessing news and information by disrupting access to the Internet, including blocking e-mail and social networking sites, limiting access to foreign news and websites, and developing a national Internet that will facilitate government censorship of news and information, and by jamming international broadcasts such as the Voice of America Persian News Network and Radio Farda, a Persian language broadcast of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty;

Whereas authorities in Iran have announced that a presidential election will be held on June 14, 2013; and

Whereas the Guardian Council and the Supreme Leader of Iran have blocked numerous candidates from participating in the June 14, 2013, presidential election: Now, therefore be it

AMENDMENT NO. 1281

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "Calling for free and fair elections in Iran, and for other purposes."

The resolution (S. Res. 154), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, and its title, as amended, is as follows:

S. RES. 154

Whereas democracy, human rights, and civil liberties are universal values and fundamental principles of the foreign policy of the United States;

Whereas an essential element of democratic self-government is for leaders to be chosen and regularly held accountable through elections that are organized and conducted in a manner that is free, fair, inclusive, and consistent with international standards;

Whereas governments in which power does not derive from free and fair elections lack democratic legitimacy;

Whereas elections in Iran are marred by the disqualification of candidates based on their political views, the absence of credible international observers, widespread intimidation and repression of candidates, political parties, and citizens, and systemic electoral fraud and manipulation;

Whereas elections in Iran consistently involve severe restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly, and association, including censorship, surveillance, disruptions in telecommunications, and the absence of a free media;

Whereas the current president of Iran came to office through an election on June 12, 2009, that was widely condemned in Iran and throughout the world as neither free nor fair and provoked large-scale peaceful protests throughout Iran;

Whereas authorities in Iran continue to hold several candidates from the 2009 election under house arrest;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran banned more than 2,200 candidates from participating in the March 2, 2012, parliamentary elections and refused to allow domestic or international election observers to oversee those elections;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran seeks to prevent the people of Iran from accessing news and information by disrupting access to the Internet, including blocking e-mail and social networking sites, limiting access to foreign news and websites, and developing a national Internet that will facilitate government censorship of news and information, and by jamming international broadcasts such as the Voice of America Persian News Network and Radio Farda, a Persian language broadcast of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty;

Whereas authorities in Iran have announced that a presidential election will be held on June 14, 2013; and

Whereas the Guardian Council and the Supreme Leader of Iran have blocked numerous candidates from participating in the June 14, 2013, presidential election: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recalls Senate Resolution 386, 112th Congress, agreed to March 5, 2012, which called for free and fair elections in Iran;

(2) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to democracy, human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law, including the universal rights of freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of association;

(3) expresses support for freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law in Iran, and for elections that are free and fair;

(4) expresses strong support for the people of Iran in their peaceful calls for a representative and responsive democratic government that respects human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law;

(5) condemns the widespread human rights violations of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(6) calls on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect freedom of expression and association in Iran by—

(A) holding elections that are free, fair, and responsive to the people of Iran, including by refraining from disqualifying candidates for political reasons;

(B) ending arbitrary detention, torture, and other forms of harassment against media professionals, human rights defenders and activists, and opposition figures, and releasing all individuals detained for exercising freedom of the press, assembly, association, and expression;

(C) lifting legislative restrictions on freedom of the press, assembly, association, and expression; and

(D) allowing the Internet to remain free and open and allowing domestic and international media to operate freely;

(7) calls on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to allow international election monitors to be present for the June 14, 2013, election; and

(8) urges the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and other world leaders—

(A) to express support for the rights and freedoms of the people of Iran, including to democratic self-government;

(B) to engage with the people of Iran and support their efforts to promote human rights and democratic reform, including supporting civil society organizations that promote democracy and governance;

(C) to support policies and programs that preserve free and open access to the Internet in Iran; and

(D) to condemn elections that are not free and fair and that do not meet international standards.

WORLD ELDER AWARENESS ABUSE DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Res. 171, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 171) designating June 15, 2013, "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day."

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

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today I rise in recognition of June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. This Saturday will be the eighth commemoration since the day was first established in 2006. By observing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, we are joining organizations around the world to raise awareness and support existing efforts to combat the serious problem of elder abuse in all forms.

Every year, millions of older Americans are abused, neglected, or exploited, with an estimated 84 percent of these cases going unreported. This problem is particularly relevant for my constituents in the great State of Florida, which has the highest proportion of individuals over age 65 in the United States. As chairman of the Special Committee on Aging, I will shine a spotlight on this issue and work with my colleagues to eradicate and hold ac-

countable those that would take advantage of our seniors.

I am proud of the State of Florida's leadership to raise awareness about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. For example, the Seminole County Triad—a collaborative of local law enforcement, public safety, and senior organizations in Seminole County, FL—will host its eighth annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day symposium. The focus this year will be on Alzheimer's, an area the Aging Committee has and will continue to work on as this session of Congress continues.

The University of Miami Health System Center on Aging will host a webcast on financial exploitation and its impact on the health of older adults. This webcast, along with similar informational events being held throughout our country and the world, provide essential information for professionals who work with seniors.

Our 11 area agencies on aging are on the frontlines of helping older Floridians. They share a common information and referral system, making access to services faster and more efficient. By calling 1-800-96-ELDER, individuals receive advice and information on a range of issues, including health care, housing, nutrition, abuse prevention, and other social programs. One of these agencies, Elder Options, recently moved to a new location in Gainesville, allowing them to better provide vital services to seniors living in 16 different counties in the mid-Florida region.

Florida is also home to the Elder Rights Center of Excellence at the Palm Beach-Treasure Coast Area Agency on Aging. Led by director Mary Jones, the Elder Rights Center conducted 24 trainings for over 670 different professions, provided over 3,100 hours of service, and assisted over 4,400 senior crime victims last year in Palm Beach County. It also has a staffer dedicated to working solely on financial abuse.

I am proud of these events, and all those events that will be held this year that aim to protect our seniors from harm. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is not only a time to recognize and support these efforts but also to critically examine what further steps can be taken. As Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I will continue to work on eradicating elder abuse as one of many issues that are critical to ensure the health and economic security of older Americans.

In honor of the many advocates working tirelessly to combat elder abuse throughout the United States and the world, I am pleased to recognize June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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