

Personnel Management in granting reciprocity for security clearances, and the manner in which such differences can be harmonized.

(B) The extent to which existing Federal Investigative Standards are relevant, complete, and sufficient for guiding agencies and individual investigators as they conduct their security clearance background investigations.

(C) The processes agencies have implemented to ensure quality in the security clearance background investigation process.

(D) The extent to which agencies have developed and implemented outcome-focused performance measures to track the quality of security clearance investigations and any insights from these measures.

(E) The processes agencies have implemented for resolving incomplete or subpar investigations, and the actions taken against government employees and contractor personnel who have demonstrated a consistent failure to abide by quality assurance measures.

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the results of the review required by paragraph (1).

(g) **TASK FORCE ON RECORDS ACCESS FOR SECURITY CLEARANCE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Suitability and Security Clearance Performance Accountability Council, as established by Executive Order No. 13467, shall convene a task force to examine the different policies and procedures that determine the level of access to public records provided by State and local authorities in response to investigative requests by Federal Government employees or contracted employees carrying out background investigations to determine an individual's suitability for access to classified information or secure government facilities.

(2) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The members of the task force shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(A) The Chair of the Suitability and Security Clearance Performance and Accountability Council, who shall serve as chair of the task force.

(B) Representative from the Office of Personnel Management.

(C) Representative from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(D) Representative from the Department of Defense responsible for administering security clearance background investigations.

(E) Representatives from Federal law enforcement agencies within the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security involved in security clearance background investigations.

(F) Representatives from State and local law enforcement agencies, including—

(i) agencies in rural areas that have limited resources and less than 500 officers; and

(ii) agencies that have more than 1,000 officers and significant technological resources.

(G) Representative from Federal, State, and local law enforcement associations involved with security clearance background administrative actions and appeals.

(H) Representatives from Federal, State, and local judicial systems involved in the sharing of records to support security clearance background investigations.

(3) **INITIAL MEETING.**—The task force shall convene its initial meeting not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) **DUTIES.**—The task force shall do the following:

(A) Analyze the degree to which State and local authorities comply with investigative

requests made by Federal Government employees or contractor employees carrying out background investigations to determine an individual's suitability for access to classified information or secure government facilities, including the degree to which investigative requests are required but never formally requested.

(B) Analyze limitations on the access to public records provided by State and local authorities in response to investigative requests by Federal Government employees and contractor employees described in subparagraph (A), including, but not be limited to, limitations relating to budget and staffing constraints on State and local authorities, any procedural and legal obstacles impairing Federal access to State and local law enforcement records, or inadequate investigative procedural standards for background investigators.

(C) Provide recommendations for improving the degree of cooperation and records-sharing between State and local authorities and Federal Government employees and contractor employees described in subparagraph (A).

(5) **REPORT.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the task force shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report setting forth a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the task force pursuant to this subsection, together with the recommendations of the task force for such legislative or administrative action as the task force considers appropriate.

(h) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SA 2074. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1197, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1025. GENERAL COASTWISE WAIVER.

(a) **GENERAL COASTWISE WAIVER.**—A vessel owned and operated by a contractor or subcontractor providing supplies or services under a shipbuilding or ship repair contract entered into with the Department of Navy is authorized to transport merchandise between points in the United States for purposes of performing that shipbuilding or ship repair contract.

(b) **REQUIREMENT TO ISSUE.**—Notwithstanding chapters 121 and 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement to any vessel which will be engaged in the performance of a shipbuilding or ship repair contract entered into with the Department of Navy.

(c) **LIMITATION ON OPERATION.**—Coastwise trade authorized under subsections (a) and (b) shall be limited to the performance of

shipbuilding or ship repair contracts entered into with the Department of Navy.

(d) **TERMINATION OF ENDORSEMENT.**—A coastwise endorsement issued under subsection (b) for a vessel shall expire on the date of the sale of the vessel.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 11:15 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Ensuring Access to Higher Education: Simplifying Federal Student Aid for Today's College Student.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. 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 November 14, 2013, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Threats to the Homeland.”

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, in room SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Contract Support Costs and Sequestration: Fiscal Crisis in Indian Country.”

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 14, 2013, at 10 a.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 2 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMPETITION POLICY AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 14, 2013, at 2:45 p.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Cartel Prosecution: Stopping Price Fixers and Protecting Consumers."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 2:30 p.m., to hold an European Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled, "A Pivotal Moment for the Eastern Partnership: Outlook for Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Belarus, Armenia, and Azerbaijan".

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS, ATMOSPHERE, FISHERIES, AND THE COAST GUARD

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and the Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 14, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "Southeast Regional Perspectives on Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization."

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Bryan Stephan, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Peter

Nothstein, a detailee on the Senate Judiciary Committee, be granted Senate floor privileges for the duration of the 113th Congress.

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

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jen Burks, a fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges until the end of next week.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 389, 392, 405, 411, 421 and all nominations at the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that 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 to any nominations; that any related statements be printed in the Record; that President Obama be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. SHAHEEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Kenneth L. Mossman, of Arizona, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2016.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Michael D. Lumpkin, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Gregory B. Starr, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Diplomatic Security).

James Walter Brewster, Jr., of Illinois, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Dominican Republic.

Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, 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 the Philippines.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

PN966 COAST GUARD nominations (26) beginning Kenneth J. Anderson, and ending Forest A. Willis, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 7, 2013.

PN967 COAST GUARD nominations (76) beginning Wayne R. Arguin, and ending Michael B. Zamperini, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 7, 2013.

PN968 COAST GUARD nominations (150) beginning Steven C. Acosta, and ending Marc A. Zlomek, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 7, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

PREEMIE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. REID. I ask that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the House message on S. 252.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate a message from the House, as follows:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 252) entitled "An Act to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity.", do pass with amendments.

Mr. REID. I further ask that the Senate concur in the House amendments, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 295, 296, 297, en bloc.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TYPHOON IN THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to calendar No. 245.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 292) expressing support for the victims of the typhoon in the Philippines and the surrounding region.

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