

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000. The purpose of this meeting will be to mark up new legislation and nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SMITH. 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 Tuesday, June 20, for purposes of conducting a Full Committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 10:15 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-215 for a public hearing on Dispute Settlement and the WTO.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on Federal Service Programs during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 9:30 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Housing and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000, to conduct a hearing on proposals to promote affordable housing.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator HUTCHINSON of Arkansas, I ask unanimous consent that Lt. Col. Tim Wiseman, a legislative fellow on Senator HUTCHINSON's staff, and Andrea Smalec, also a member of Senator HUTCHINSON's staff, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of today's debate.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask Unanimous Consent that Gary Tomasulo, a legislative fellow in the office of Senator MIKE DEWINE, be granted floor privileges during consideration of the foreign operations, export financing, and related programs appropriations bill.

Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted to Eric Akers of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control during the consideration of the Senate foreign operations appropriations bill.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Underinner, a fellow in Senator HARKIN's office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the Senate's consideration of S. 2522.

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

WELCOMING KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 325, submitted earlier by Senator ABRAHAM.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 325) welcoming King Mohammed VI of Morocco upon his first official visit to the United States of America.

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate is considering a resolution today that commemorates the state visit of the King of Morocco. I extend my warmest welcome to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco on the occasion of his first official visit to the United States of America. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in welcoming the King with swift adoption of this resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. 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, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 325) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 325

Whereas Morocco was the first country to recognize the independence of the United States;

Whereas Morocco and the United States signed a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in 1787;

Whereas the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation stands as the basis for the longest

unbroken treaty relationship between the United States and a foreign country in the history of the Republic;

Whereas the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation has established a close, friendly, and productive alliance between the United States and Morocco that has stood the test of history and exists today;

Whereas the close relationship between the United States and Morocco has helped the United States advance important national interests;

Whereas the United States and Morocco have long shared the objectives of securing a true and lasting peace in the Near East region and have worked together to establish and advance the Middle East peace process;

Whereas, under the leadership of the late King Hassan II, Morocco played a critical role in hosting meetings, promoting dialogue, and encouraging moderation in the Middle East, leading to some of the peace process's most important and lasting achievements;

Whereas, with the ascension of the King Hassan II's successor, King Mohammed VI, Morocco is suitably positioned and ably guided by its current leadership to maintain its traditional role in the peace process;

Whereas Morocco and the United States have worked successfully to enhance economic stability, growth, and progress in the Maghreb region and its environs, including Morocco's role as host to the inaugural Middle East and North Africa Summit held in Casablanca in 1994, and Morocco's continuing prominence in sustaining that dialogue and promoting economic integration with Tunisia and Algeria;

Whereas King Mohammed VI has assumed and expanded the legacy of his father, the late Hassan II, in strengthening the rule of law, promoting the concepts of democracy, human rights and individual liberties, and implementing far-reaching economic and social reforms to benefit all of the people of Morocco;

Whereas the preservation of the rights and freedoms of the Moroccan people and the expansion of reforms in Morocco represent a model for progress and bolster the foreign policy objectives of the United States in the region and elsewhere;

Whereas leading American corporations such as the CMS Energy Corporation, the Boeing Company, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Gillette Company, and others are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, involving increasingly diverse sectors of the Moroccan and American economies;

Whereas the expansion of economic activity is emerging as a new and increasingly important component of the historical friendship between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, business, and industry, and Americans of Moroccan origin are making substantial contributions to these and other disciplines in the United States; and

Whereas Morocco and the United States are preparing for the first official visit to the United States by King Mohammed VI to highlight these and other achievements, to celebrate the long history of warm and friendly ties between the two countries, to continue discussions on how to advance and accelerate those objectives common to the United States and Morocco, and to inaugurate a new chapter in the longest unbroken

treaty relationship in the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE VISIT OF KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO TO THE UNITED STATES.

The Senate hereby—

(1) welcomes His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco upon his first official visit to the United States;

(2) reaffirms the longstanding, warm, and productive ties between the United States and the Kingdom of Morocco, as established by the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation of 1787;

(3) pledges its commitment to expand ties between the United States and Morocco, to the mutual benefit of both countries; and

(4) expresses its appreciation to the leadership and people of Morocco for their role in preserving international peace and stability, expanding growth and development in the region, promoting bilateral trade and investment between the United States and Morocco, and advancing democracy, human rights, and justice.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President with the request that he further transmit such copy to King Mohammed VI of Morocco.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2000

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21. I further ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. With regard to the Sessions amendment No. 3492, I ask unanimous consent that no second-degree amendments be in order prior to a vote in relation to the amendment.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow and will be in a period for morning business until approximately 10:45 a.m. Under the order, Senator GRAHAM of Florida and Senator VOINOVICH of Ohio are in control of the time. Following the use of that time, the Senate will resume consideration of the foreign operations appropriations bill, with Senator WELLSTONE to be recognized to offer his amendment regarding Colombia. Under the previous order, there will be 2 hours 15 minutes for debate on the Wellstone amendment. As a reminder, first-degree amendments must be filed to the foreign operations appropriations bill by 3 o'clock tomorrow

afternoon. A vote on final passage of this important spending bill is expected prior to adjourning tomorrow evening. Therefore, all Senators may expect votes throughout the day and into the evening.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of the Senator from West Virginia, Mr. BYRD, and the remarks of the Senator from Alabama, Mr. SESSIONS.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. If the Senator from West Virginia would give me 1 to 2 minutes before his remarks, I would be finished and glad to yield the floor to him.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I learned a long time ago that a good Boy Scout should do a good deed every day. I want to do my good deed at this moment. I am very happy for the Senator to speak as long as he wishes, and then I will follow him.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the Senator from West Virginia for his courtesy.

COMMENDING SENATOR BROWNBACK FOR HIS STATEMENT ON INDIA

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, a few moments ago the Senator who is presiding over the Senate spoke on the floor, expressing some views about the nation of India. I believe the Senator raised a very important matter that is too little discussed in our Government, in our news media, and in this country. It seems to me every time I have heard the Senator speak on it, he makes perfectly good sense.

I believe the Senator is on the right track with a very important issue for our country. I simply want to say to the Senator, thank you for raising it. I believe it is a matter we need to discuss more.

India is soon to be the most populous nation in the world. It is a democracy. There is no reason for us to have an adversarial relationship with them. The CTBT issues can be overcome. It is time for us to rethink our policy in that area.

I thank the Senator for raising the issue.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. AL-LARD). The Senator from West Virginia.

WEST VIRGINIA DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, today, on June 20, 2000, the 35th star on the

American flag—the star on the third row up from the bottom, second from the left—glows just a little bit brighter than the rest, at least for me and my fellow West Virginians. For today is the 137th anniversary of West Virginia's statehood in 1863. And like the star, I think that I, too, glow just a bit with pride, basking in the reflected beauty of my home State of West Virginia.

I am especially glad that West Virginia's birthday falls in June. While every month has its special joys, June is an exceptionally beautiful month in West Virginia, full of wildflowers and birdsong, of neat gardens laid out in orderly rows, of trees still fresh and richly green. June is a month of optimism, of outdoor weddings and picnics, of fresh corn still just a promise on the stalk, of children learning to fish along quiet streams, and of knobby-kneed colts and calves peeking shyly from between their mother's legs in meadows lush with grass. June is a month for celebrating.

We celebrate a fairly young State laid over a very old foundation. The history of West Virginia as a State has lasted for but an instant in the geologic scale of the steeply curving mountains that comprise most of the State's landmass. The soil and the rock of these mountains was first mounded up some 900 million years ago in the Precambrian era. Over time, this first Appalachian mountain chain eroded to form a seabed during the shifting movement of the continents. Then, about 500 million years ago, during the Ordovician period, the continents drifted back together, and these titanic forces pushed that sea floor up, creating the multiple parallel ridges that form the Appalachian mountains today. During the subsequent Triassic and Jurassic periods, known to every schoolchild as the age of dinosaurs, the continents settled into the configuration we know today. They are still settling. In the most recent period, 200 million years of wind and rain and snow and ice have eroded the Appalachian mountains to about half of their original height—a happenstance that I am sure West Virginia's early settlers appreciated as they hauled their belongings over rough tracks in wooden-wheeled carts.

West Virginia's topography has always been important. It shaped the kind of agriculture still seen today—smaller family farms carved out of sheltered hollows, small valleys, and steep hillsides. It shaped the kind of industry that developed, favoring resource extraction of fine timber, rich coal deposits, and chemicals over land-intensive, large-scale manufacturing. It shaped the politics of West Virginia's history, creating a divide between the independent mountaineers who settled these hills and the rest of what was then the Commonwealth of Virginia. And the mountains have always served as a kind of fortress wall around the hidden beauty of the State.