

the Veterans Health Administration under subsection (b) shall be available only for the provision of care and treatment, including mental health care services, to veterans who serve abroad in the Global War on Terrorism. Such amount shall be available, without fiscal year limitation, until expended.

SA 337. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 159, strike line 6 and all that follows through page 161, line 21, and insert the following:

SEC. 1112. (a) INCREASE IN DEATH GRATUITY.—

(1) INCREASE.—Section 1478(a) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “\$12,000” and inserting “\$100,000”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE; TERMINATION.—

(A) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall terminate on September 30, 2005. Effective as of October 1, 2005, the provisions of section 1478 of title 10, United States Code, as in effect on the date before the date of the enactment of this Act shall be revived.

(b) ADDITIONAL GRATUITY FOR DEATHS BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO PAY ADDITIONAL GRATUITY.—In the case of a member of the Armed Forces who died before the date of the enactment of this Act, but on or after October 7, 2001, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall pay a death gratuity in accordance with this subsection that is in addition to the death gratuity payable in the case of such death under sections 1475 through 1477 of title 10, United States Code.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will hold a field hearing in St. Paul, MN entitled “Tax Related Financial Products Can Be Costly,” regarding the Subcommittee's investigations into tax-related financial products. These bank products include refund anticipation loans (RALs), refund anticipation checks (RACs) and refund transfers that are offered by tax preparers such as H&R Block and Jackson Hewitt. Also included are products offered solely by the tax preparation companies such as tax preparation guarantees. The Subcommittee field hearing will examine these products' costs, the extent to which these products are fairly marketed, and whether the costs of

these products are fully disclosed. Additionally, the Subcommittee will examine the refunds, incentives and rebates that are paid by banks to tax preparers for selling these products and the ethical implications that can be presented from a client service perspective.

The Subcommittee hearing is scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2005, at 1 p.m. in “The Reading Room” of the James J. Hill Reference Library at 80 West 4th Street in St. Paul, Minnesota. For further information, please contact Raymond V. Shepherd, III, Staff Director and Chief Counsel to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, at 224-3721.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the preparedness of the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior for the 2005 wildfire season, including the agencies' assessment of the risk of fires by region, the status of and contracting for aerial fire suppression assets, and other information needed to better understand the agencies' ability to deal with the upcoming fire season.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Frank Gladics at (202) 224-2878 or Amy Millet at (202) 224-8276.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on the S. 241—to exempt the Universal Service Fund from sections of the Antideficiency Act, on Monday, April 11, 2005, at 2 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, April 11, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. to hold a Nomination hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2005, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the Chemical Demilitarization Program of the Department of Defense in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2006.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Les Spivey, Mr. B.G. Wright, and Mr. Chad Schulken of the Appropriations Committee staff be granted full floor access during the consideration of H.R. 1268, the fiscal year 2005 emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Harry Christie, a detailee to the committee from the U.S. Secret Service, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on H.R. 1268.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Katy Hagan, a detailee with the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, be granted privileges of the floor during consideration of this bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jyoti Sharma, a legal fellow for Senator CLINTON's office, be granted the privilege of the floor during today's session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for 2005 first quarter mass mailings is Monday, April 25, 2005. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states “none.”

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports, should be submitted to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office at (202) 224-0322.

CONGRATULATING VIRGINIA UNION MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 102 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. 102) commending the Virginia Union University Panthers men's basketball team for winning the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II National Basketball Championship.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 102) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 102

Whereas the students, alumni, faculty, and supporters of Virginia Union University are to be congratulated for their commitment to and pride in the Virginia Union University Panthers National Champion men's basketball team;

Whereas in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championship game against the Bryant Bulldogs, the Panthers led throughout the first half, on the strength of senior forward Antwan Walton's 19 points and 11 rebounds;

Whereas the Panthers won the 2005 NCAA Division II National Basketball Championship with an outstanding second-half performance, answering a 17 to 9 run by Bryant to regain the lead in the final moments of the game, winning the Championship game by a score of 63 to 58;

Whereas the Panthers added the NCAA Division II title to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association title to claim their second championship in 2005;

Whereas every player on the Panthers basketball team—Luqman Jaaber, Duan Crockett, Antwan Walton, Ralph Brown, Darius Hargrove, Lantrice Green, Steve Miller, Quincy Smith, Arthur Kid, and Chris Moore—contributed to the team's success in this impressive championship season;

Whereas the Panthers basketball team Head Coach Dave Robbins has become only the third man to win 3 Division II National Championships;

Whereas Coach Robbins is the first coach to win at least 1 Division II National Championship in 3 different decades; and

Whereas Assistant Coaches Willard Coker, Jerome Furtado, and Mike Walker deserve high recommendation for their strong leadership of, and superb coaching support to, the Virginia Union University Panthers men's basketball team: Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Virginia Union University Panthers men's basketball team for winning the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II National Championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all of the team's players, Head Coach Dave Robbins, assistant coaches, and support staff; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Head Coach of the National Champion Virginia Union University Panthers basketball team.

CONGRATULATING BAYLOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 103 submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 103) commending the Lady Bears of Baylor University for winning the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 103) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 103

Whereas the Baylor University women's basketball team won its first national championship by defeating Michigan State, 84 to 62, the second largest margin of victory in the history of women's basketball championship games;

Whereas the Lady Bears finished the 2004–2005 season with a record of 33 wins and 3 losses, including winning their final 20 consecutive games;

Whereas Coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson brought the Lady Bears to their first national championship and became the first woman to have been both a head coach and a player on a national championship team;

Whereas Coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson took the Lady Bears from the bottom of the Big 12 standings in 2000 to a national championship in 5 years;

Whereas All-American Sophia Young, who averaged 22 points in the tournament, reached double figures in all 36 games in the 2004–2005 season, with 17 double-doubles, and had 26 points in the final game to be the high scorer in the championship game;

Whereas All-American Steffanie Blackmon scored 22 points and had 7 rebounds to lead the Lady Bears to the championship;

Whereas Emily Niemann made key 3-point shots to boost the Lady Bears to victory in an exciting final game;

Whereas the entire team should be commended for their work together;

Whereas Baylor University has demonstrated its excellence in both athletics and academics, and has significantly advanced the sport of women's basketball by demonstrating hard work and sportsmanship; and

Whereas the Baylor University Lady Bears are the pride of Waco and the rest of the great State of Texas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends the Lady Bears of Baylor University for—

(1) winning the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship; and

(2) completing the 2004–2005 women's basketball season with a record of 33 wins and 3 losses.

COMMEMORATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK ON THE ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 96.

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. 96) commemorating the 10th anniversary of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 96) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 96

Whereas on April 19, 1995, at 9:02 a.m. Central Daylight Time, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the United States was attacked in one of the worst terrorist attacks on United States soil, which killed 168 people and injured more than 850 others;

Whereas this dastardly act of domestic terrorism affected thousands of families and horrified millions of people across the State of Oklahoma and the United States;

Whereas the people of Oklahoma and the United States responded to this tragedy through the remarkable efforts of local, State, and Federal law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency services, search and rescue teams from across the United States, public and private medical personnel, and thousands of volunteers from the community who saved lives, assisted the injured and wounded, comforted the bereaved, and provided meals and support to those who came to Oklahoma City to help those endangered and affected by this terrorist act;

Whereas the people of Oklahoma and the United States pledged themselves to build and maintain a permanent national memorial to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever;

Whereas this pledge was fulfilled by creating the Oklahoma City National Memorial, which draws hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world every year to the site of this tragic event in United States history;

Whereas the Oklahoma City National Memorial brings comfort, strength, peace, hope, and serenity to the many visitors who come to the memorial and its museum each year to remember and to learn;

Whereas the mission of the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, to aid the Nation's emergency responders in preventing terrorist attacks, or mitigating their effects, should be promoted; and

Whereas the tenth anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is on April 19, 2005: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) joins with the people of the United States in sending best wishes and prayers to