Mr. President, I appreciate your patience very much and look forward to working with you on this issue. The PRESIDING OFFICER. I thank the Senator.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow. The Senator from Tennessee, at 7:27 p.m., adjourned Thursday, September 29, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 28, 2005:

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

JENDAYI ELIZABETH FRAZIER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (AFRICA AFFAIRS), to be a MEMBER of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 27, 2009. VICE CONSTANCE BERRY NEWMAN.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

BORACE A. THOMPSON, OF MISSISSIPPI, to be a MEMBER of the OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 27, 2011. VICE JAMES M. STEPHENS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KENT D. TALBERT, OF VIRGINIA, to be GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE BRIAN JONES, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CAROL R. DINKINS, OF TEXAS, to be CHAIRMAN OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD. (NEW POSITION)

ALAN CHARLES RAUL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, to be VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD. (NEW POSITION)

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE FOLLOWING FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT TO THE GROUNDS INDICATED IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.

To be lieutenant junior grade

MELISSA M. FORD

To be ensign

MADLEINE M. ADLER

CAROL N. ARSENAULT

JAMES L. BRINKLEY

JOHN E. CHRISTENSEN

SEAN M. FINNEY

LAUREL K. JENNINGS

GUINEVERE R. LEWIS

ALLISON B. MARTIN

JASON R. RAVE

PAUL M. SMIDANSKY

DAVID A. STRAUSZ

BRENTICA J. WADDINGTON

JAMIE S. WADDINGTON

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATE FOR PERSONNEL ACTION IN THE REGULAR COMPONENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS:

To be assistant surgeon

LEAH HILL

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR PERSONNEL ACTION IN THE REGULAR COMPONENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS:

To be surgeon

Gregory A. Abbott

To be senior surgeon

Wanda Denise Barfield

Butchien M. Giusti

Sonja S. Hutchins

September 28, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
S10629

in large measure, depend on our level of preparedness and the amount of resources we are willing to immediately commit to deal with this looming crisis.

Over the last few months, we have seen alarming reports from countries all over Asia—Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Thailand, and Russia, just to name a few—about deaths that have resulted from the avian flu.

The situation has turned so ominous that Dr. Julie Gerberding, the Director of the CDC, said that an avian flu outbreak is “the most important threat that we are facing [today].”

International health experts say that two of the three conditions for an avian flu pandemic in Southeast Asia already exist.

First, a new strain of the virus, called H5N1, has emerged, and humans have little or no immunity to it. Second, this strain has demonstrated the ability to jump between species.

The only thing preventing a full blown pandemic is a lack of efficient transmission of this strain from human to human. Once that happens, as a consequence of international travel and commerce, there is not going to be any way to effectively contain this pandemic.

Moreover, the news on this last point is not good. In recent months, the virus has been detected in mammals that have never previously been infected, including tigers, bears, and domestic cats. This suggests that the virus is mutating and could eventually emerge in a form that is readily transmissible among humans.

Mr. President, Senator Reid and Senator Durbin both outlined some of the measures that have to be put in place here domestically to protect our population. We have to drastically ramp up our stockpiles of Tamiflu, which, if taken properly, could act as a treatment from the avian flu once a person is infected. Right now, we only have a couple of million doses. We need 80 million to 100 million doses in order to be adequately prepared. That is going to cost us significant amounts of money, as the cost of Tamiflu is approximately $20 per dose.

In addition, we are going to have to develop flu vaccines of a sort we have not seen in the past. In order to create sufficient quantities, we are going to have to cross the boundaries of existing technologies and science—going beyond the agricultural mechanisms of developing vaccines that we have used in the past.

Third, we are going to make sure that local and State governments understand how urgent this is. We have to ensure there are clear plans, coordination mechanisms, and lines of authority—that will stand up in a time of crisis. Right now, we do not have sufficient plans in place to make sure local and State officials are able to prove the kinds of rapid responses that are going to be necessary in the case of a flu outbreak.

After Katrina, I hope that local and State governments understand they have to work with the Federal agencies more effectively to deal with these kinds of emergencies.

Another issue I would mention is that we are going to have to establish international mechanisms to ensure we can alert ourselves rapidly if we have confirmed cases of human-to-human transmission of the avian flu anywhere in the world. Why don’t I mention this? If we detect efficient human-to-human transmission, it is likely that we are going to have only weeks before we are going to see those first cases in the United States.

This means placing effective trigger mechanisms in all these countries to make sure everyone is cooperating and providing rapid information, which could mean the difference in terms of tens or hundreds of thousands of lives.

Now I don’t want to suggest that nothing is being done. For example, 2 months ago, we added a bipartisan task force to deal with this issue. Today, this money is making a difference in the field trying to set up some of the international measures I just described.

I, along with Senators Lugar, Durbin and others, introduced legislation, S. 969, to enhance our ability to deal with this potential crisis. But that was months ago, and we need to broaden the number of people involved in this effort.

Moreover, these are modest first steps. Going forward, we are going to need significantly more resources. I am eager to work with leaders on health issues, including Senator Harkin and Senator Reid, as well as others across the aisle.

I hope we can work not only to make sure we have an effective international regime to deal with this problem overseas but that we also invest the time, the energy, and the resources needed to put in place effective measures well before we have a full blown crisis on our hands.

An outbreak of the avian flu could occur in a year, 5 years, 10 years, or if we are incredibly lucky not happen at all. But the one good thing about investing in these measures to deal with this looming crisis is—and I will end on this point—if we spend the money now, it will pay dividends, even if this particular strain of the avian flu outbreak does not occur:

Why is this the case? The risk of another strain could easily come along and cause huge damage in the future.

Presently, we simply do not have the public health infrastructure to deal adequately with this contingency.

My point is this: undertaking these measures is going to be a wise investment that will help protect the lives of millions of people here in the United States and across the globe.

Mr. President, I appreciate your patience very much and look forward to working with you on this issue. The PRESIDING OFFICER. I thank the Senator.
To be surgeon

ARTHUR S. TAICE
VINCENT M. TRUCCILLY
HITOMI S. TETTAFF
AMY BETT WESS
KEZLH LYNN WESTENBURG
ANGEL L. WILSON
MARC E. WINSOR

To be assistant nurse officer

DAVID ANDREW CAMPBELL
DARRELL LYNN
CHRISTOPHER MARC MIRENDA
Gloria M. RODRIGUES

To be engineer

DAVID WILLIAM ASSUME MORE
DEBRA W. CLEMENS
SUSAN KAYE NIEHART
KNNETH TOM SUN

To be senior assistant engineer

MARK T. RADER
LORETTA B. BARRANGER
STEVEN J. DURKSTRA
DERRIS I. HALL
KATHERINE ELIZABETH JACOBZIT
STEPHENV. B. IRCHE
JOHN PAUL NICHOLS
ROBERT D. PULSERER
MICHAEL B. REA
NICHOLAS R. TIEZONE
SHARI L. WIND

To be senior scientist

RACHEL SONKIN AVCHR
ARTENISE BENNE WILKINS
PETTER DAMIATI NICHOLOU
DIANA LOUISE SCHNEDR
MARK JOSEPH SEATON

To be environmental health officer

JEAN ANN GAINCE
DANIEL J. BURWETS
JOHN J. SANCHO
TIMOTHY M. KXYTAFF

To be senior veterinary officer

RALPH W. DALLEY

To be veterinary officer

TRACIE A. TREADWELL

To be senior assistant veterinary officer

MARIANNE PRELAN ROSS
REGINA LAUBRAE TAN
VENITA R. THORNTON
ALLISON M. WILLIAMS

To be pharmacist

M. CARLNE MCTAY

To be senior pharmacist

THOMAS RAYMOND BERKE
BARBARA J. FINNINAN
BETH FABIAN PRINCE
STEVEN DAVID MuzzyL
ANGELA MADORI PAYNE
ROBERT CHARLES STONE
JULRIANNE M. VALVAILCOURT
FRONTA S. JANUARY

To be senior assistant pharmacist

CHRISTOPHER KEITH ALLEN
DIMITRIA J. ARGOPOULOS
WILLIAM H. HENDER
MARY A. HICKEL
KEVIN D. BROOKS
TAMMY L. HUNTER
MARTHA C. RICKERT
KELLY LYNN WESTENBURG

To be senior assistant therapist

TIMOTHY C. STONE
KEVIN R. BROWN
NIGEL D. CONESS

To be senior therapist

TIMOTHY C. BATTEN, SR.
KRISTI DUBOSE, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALA
BAMA, VICE WILLIAM HAROLD ALBRITTON, III, DECEASED.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VICE WILLIS B. HUNT, JR., RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA. VICE CHARLES B. BUTLER, RETIR
ED. THE JUDICIARY

TIMOTHY C. BATTEN, SR., OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VIC WILK S S. HUNT, JR., RETIRED.

KERSHI DUANE RICHARDS, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VICE CHARLES B. BUTLER, RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA. VICE CHARLES B. BUTLER, RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE SUZANNE C. CUSSON, RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, VICE WILLIAM MARCO IN HILLI, JR., RETIRED.

GLENNA LOUISE MHLAD
ANDREW KEVIN MEAGHER
JEFFREY GLENN NIEUW
CUTHERBY T. PALATI, III
KRISTA MARIE SC-SCANDIN
RANDY LEY REES
MARTIN H. SEMER, II
STEVEN C. SMALLER
JACQUELINE KAREN THOMAS
KELLY ERIN VALLENT
SAMA YU-SHU WU
CHE HAN TAN
SHERI A. YODER
CHARLENE M. YOUNG
BRIAN KENT JOHNSTON
LARAN YUNG IVAN
ALICE-SEE MAN TSAO

TO BE DIETITIAN

JEAN R. MAKIE
VANGLE H. TAYE

TO BE SENIOR ASSISTANT DIETITIAN

SUSANNA ELIZABAH DUNAWAY

TO BE SENIOR THERAPIST

SUSAN L. MILLER

TO BE THERAPIST

MICHAELS J. BENTZ-MAURY
LINDA M. BRANN
KATHLEEN M. MARNO

TO BE SENIOR THERAPIST

DENISE M. BRESSEAX
ALEXIS A. BROMFORD
JEFFREY JOSEPH LAWRENCE
HEINLY PAUL MCCULLI
LOUISE L. MURDOCH
SUE A. NEWMAN
ROBERT E. ROE, JR.
STEPHEN SHUVAY SHAPINS
JULIE MARGARET VAN LEUEN

TO BE HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

DAVID C. KAMME

TO BE HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

RICHARD A. MARCH

TO BE HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER JOHN BRUSAN
LINDA KAY BRANDT
KEILLIE J. CLELAND
GREGORY DALE CLOP
PHILIP SIMMONS MURR
JUDY B. FAYN
RALPH ANGEL SALAS
JANESSA JONH WILLS
ELIZA ELIUS YOUNG

TO BE SENIOR HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

NOREEN K. ADAY
CLAYTON M. BELGARDE
DAVID J. BELLWARE
JEFFREY R. BICKER
DOROTHY L. BICKER
MICHAEL WILLIAM DAVIS
STEPHEN M. DEWEKENT, JR.
LYNETTE E. DEUTZ
NINA J. FIELD
PATRICK M. FITZGIBBON
CILLA SVEDSON GABRIEL
STACEY B. GOODING
ROBERT T. HARRIS
NADIA H. HERBERG
ROBIN A. J. MCPHERSON
KORY CANDICE MANN
JACK F. MARTINEZ
JOHN D. MAYNARD
FRANCES PAULA PLACIDE
FREDDIE ROYCE
CLAUDIUS MICHELE SAMANC
ANGELA GUSTAV SHNU
FELICIA BINOY WILLAMS
JAMES B. ZICK

TO BE SENIOR HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

SHAWN DAVID BLACKSHEAR
SEAN RANDALL BYRD
WILLIAM LEO COTOPHE
TORREY BETH DARNKIVAL
DEBORAH A. DOOD
CARL A. BURFHAM IV

WASHINGTON, D.C. TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VICE WILLIE B. HUNT, JR., RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA, VICE CHARLES B. HAYDEN, II, RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE SUZANNE C. CUSSON, RETIRED.

TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, VICE WILLIAM MARCO IN HILLI, JR., RETIRED.

WASHINGTON, D.C. TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, VICE WILLIE B. HUNT, JR., RETIRED.

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TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, VICE WILLIAM MARCO IN HILLI, JR., RETIRED.