

(b) ADVISORY OPINIONS.—Section 214(c) (8 U.S.C. 1184(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)(D), by inserting “(other than with respect to aliens seeking entry under subclause (II), (III), or (IV) of subparagraph (A)(i) of this paragraph),” after “101(a)(15)(P)”;

(2) in paragraph (6)(A)(iii), by inserting “(other than with respect to aliens seeking entry under subclause (II), (III), or (IV) of paragraph (4)(A)(i))” after “101(a)(15)(P)(i)”.

(c) PETITIONS FOR MULTIPLE ALIENS.—Section 214(c)(4) (8 U.S.C. 1184(c)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(F) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall permit a petition under this subsection to seek classification of more than one alien as a nonimmigrant under section 101(a)(15)(P)(i)(a). The fee charged for such a petition may not be more than the fee charged for a petition seeking classification of one such alien.”

(d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—Section 214(c)(4) (8 U.S.C. 1184(c)(4)), as amended by subsection (c), is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(G) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall permit an athlete, or the employer of an athlete, to seek admission to the United States for such athlete under a provision of this Act other than section 101(a)(15)(P)(i).”

SA 3212. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3192 submitted by Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. HAGEL) to the bill S. 2454, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for comprehensive reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SOUTHWEST BORDER SECURITY TASK FORCE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Southwest Border Security Task Force Act of 2006”.

(b) SOUTHWEST BORDER SECURITY TASK FORCE PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a Southwest Border Security Task Force Program to—

(A) facilitate local participation in providing recommendations regarding steps to enhance border security; and

(B) provide financial and other assistance in implementing such recommendations.

(2) NUMBER.—In carrying out the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall establish at least 1 Border Security Task Force (referred to in this section as a “Task Force”) in each State that is adjacent to the international border between the United States and Mexico.

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—Each Task Force shall be composed of representatives from—

- (A) relevant Federal agencies;
- (B) State and local law enforcement agencies;
- (C) State and local government;
- (D) community organizations;
- (E) Indian tribes; and
- (F) other interested parties.

(4) CHAIRMAN.—Each Task Force shall select a Chairman from among its members.

(5) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, each Task Force shall submit a report to the Secretary containing—

(A) specific recommendations to enhance border security along the international border between the State in which such Task Force is located and Mexico; and

(B) a request for financial and other resources necessary to implement the recommendations during the subsequent fiscal year.

(c) BORDER SECURITY GRANTS.—

(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall award a grant to each Task Force submitting a request under subsection (b)(5)(B) to the extent that—

(A) sufficient funds are available; and

(B) the request is consistent with the Nation’s comprehensive border security strategy.

(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Not less than 1 Task Force in each of the States bordering Mexico shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection in an amount not less than \$500,000.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year for which Federal financial assistance or other resources were received by a Task Force, the Task Force shall submit a report to the Secretary describing how such financial assistance or other resources were used by the Task Force and by the organizations that its members represent.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010 to carry out this section.

SA 3213. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3192 submitted by Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. HAGEL) to the bill S. 2454, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for comprehensive reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . COMPREHENSIVE METHAMPHETAMINE PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Chairman of Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a formal plan that outlines the diplomatic, law enforcement, and other procedures that the Federal Government should implement to reduce the amount of Methamphetamine being trafficked into the United States.

(b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include—

(1) a specific timeline for engaging elected and diplomatic officials in a bilateral process focused on developing a framework to reduce the inflow of Methamphetamine into the United States;

(2) a specific plan to engage the 5 countries who export the most pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, and other such Methamphetamine precursor chemicals during calendar year preceding the year in which the plan is prepared; and

(3) a specific funding request that outlines what, if any, additional appropriations are needed to secure the border, ports of entry, or any other Methamphetamine trafficking windows that are currently being exploited by Methamphetamine traffickers.

(c) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 100 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall prepare and submit to the committees of Con-

gress referred to in subsection (a), a report to determine whether the President is in compliance with this section.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. KYL. 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 Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 10 a.m. to mark up an original bill entitled “Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2006.”

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. KYL. 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 March 30, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing on “McKinney-Vento Act Reauthorization and Consolidation of HUD’s Homeless Programs.”

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 10 a.m., on pending Committee business.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., on Competition and Convergence.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on The Hidden Cost of Oil.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Agenda

I. Nominations: Norman Randy Smith to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; Michael A. Chagares to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit; Patrick J. Schiltz to be U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Minnesota; Gray Hampton Miller to be United States District Judge

for the Southern District of Texas; Steven G. Bradbury to be an Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel; Sharee M. Freeman to be Director, Community Relations Service, U.S. Department of Justice; Jeffrey L. Sedgwick to be Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice.

II. Bills: S. 1768, A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings—Specter, Leahy, Cornyn, Grassley, Schumer, Feingold, Durbin; S. 829, Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2005—Grassley, Schumer, Cornyn, Leahy, Feingold, Durbin, Graham, DeWine, Specter; S. 489, Federal Consent Decree Fairness Act—Alexander, Kyl, Cornyn, Graham, Hatch; S. 2039, Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act of 2005—Durbin, Specter, DeWine, Leahy, Kennedy, Feinstein, Feingold, Schumer; S. 2292, A bill to provide relief for the Federal judiciary from excessive rent charges—Specter, Leahy, Cornyn, Feinstein, Biden; S. 2453, National Security Surveillance Act of 2006—Specter; S. 2455, Terrorist Surveillance Act of 2006—DeWine, Graham.

III. Matters: S.J. Res. 1, Marriage Protection Amendment—Allard, Sessions, Kyl, Hatch, Cornyn, Coburn, Brownback; S. Res. 398, A resolution relating to the censure of George W. Bush; Feingold.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2006, to hear the legislative presentations of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, the AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Vietnam Veterans of America. The hearing will take place in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

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

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 10 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Neutralizing The Nuclear and Radiological Threat: Securing the Global Supply Chain (Part Two)."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREDICTION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee

on Disaster Prevention and Prediction be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 11 a.m., on National Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) Oversight.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006 at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing entitled, "Fulfilling the Promise? A Review of Veterans' Preference in the Federal Government?"

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2006, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on reserve component personnel policies in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30 at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1577, to facilitate the transfer of Spearfish Hydroelectric Plant Number 1 to the city of Spearfish, SD; S. 1962 and H.R. 4000, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise certain repayment contracts with the Bostwick Irrigation District in Nebraska, the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District No. 2, the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District, and the Webster Irrigation District No. 4, all a part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program; S. 2028, to provide for the reinstatement of a license for a certain Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project; S. 2035, to extend the time required for construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Idaho; S. 2054, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of Vermont; S. 2205, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, James Division, SD, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission; and H.R. 3812, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a

feasibility study with respect to the Mokelumne River, and for other purposes.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Judiciary Committee detailees and interns be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of debate on S. 2454, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006: Kenneth Cohen, George Farmakides, and Robert Newell.

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

AMERICAN DIABETES ALERT DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this week, the National Medical Association sponsored American Diabetes Alert Day, with the purpose of bringing the public's attention to this distressingly prevalent disease.

Approximately 20.8 million people in the United States have diabetes; 6.2 million, or about a third of that number, are unaware that they suffer from the disease, although they have it.

Among African Americans, approximately 3.2 million people, age 20 or older, have diabetes, with as many as one-third of that number remaining undiagnosed. Yet the ravages of that disease, which can be quite silent at first, continue.

These disparities also mean higher rates of heart disease, amputations, loss of eyesight, and a host of other serious complications caused by diabetes.

African Americans are over two times as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to die from the disease. Today, nobody knows exactly why, and it needs to be explored and it needs to be eliminated.

I strongly believe that the troubling persistence of health disparities, these gaps and differences that are based on race, and even where you live at times, based on socioeconomic status—diabetes being one example—is a national issue that almost by definition affects us all.

I congratulate the National Medical Association, a very active organization, a tremendous organization, for their outreach, which they have explored through conferences and through e-mail and direct mail, for raising this awareness. A third of the people don't know they have diabetes.

All this is an issue of our common humanity, our oneness, and our commitment to one another as deserving, equal, and comparable citizens. Yet these disparities exist. Even if a person disagrees with my reasons, as others have pointed out, we all suffer the economic consequences in higher insurance rates and a compromised health system.

As a doctor, I have had the opportunity to interact with hundreds, actually thousands, of patients with a