

implementing the provisions of the Act on job creation on a national and regional level.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4389

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) proposes an amendment numbered 4389 to the instructions of the motion to refer to the House message No. 4213.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

"and include statistical data on the specific service related positions created."

Mr. REID. On this, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4390 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4389

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) proposes an amendment numbered 4390 to amendment No. 4389.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

"and the impact on the local economy."

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider, en bloc, Calendar Nos. 782, 953, 954, 955, 956, and 957; that the nominations be confirmed, en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc; that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations, considered and confirmed, are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Michael Peter Huerta, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Malcolm D. Jackson, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Christopher A. Masingill, of Arkansas, to be Federal Cochairperson, Delta Regional Authority.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Rafael Moure-Eraso, of Massachusetts, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Mark A. Griffon, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Rafael Moure-Eraso, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING STEPHEN YOUNG

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the State of West Virginia and the Nation's coal industry lost a very good man last week, and I lost a good friend. Mr. Stephen Young, a native of Buckhannon, WV, who had been the vice president of government affairs at Consol Energy for more than three decades, passed away on June 15th.

Steve and I worked together to protect and promote the best interests of coal, a vital form of energy which has helped make our country strong, and on which our Nation depends. I always, I repeat, always, found Steve Young to be a friendly and cooperative person with whom to work, as well as a decent and considerate man. Steve was a gentleman. He was soft spoken, effective in everything he did, and respected and liked by all.

Steve was the director of State operations for Consol Energy. He had also been president of the West Virginia Coal Association and had served on the Board of Directors of a number of other State coal associations. He also served on the board of directors of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and was a member of its executive committee. As a tribute to his talents, a few years ago, Steve was elected to the West Virginia Coal Hall of Fame.

Mr. Young was simply devoted to the coal industry, to the progress of West Virginia, his home State which he loved dearly, and to his family. I will certainly miss him and his vast experience and expertise.

I extend my heart felt condolences to his wife Maureen, his children and grandchildren, and his sister.

SCENT OF THE ROSES

Let fate do her worst, there are relics of joy,
Bright dreams of the past that she cannot
destroy,

That come in the night-time of sorrow and
care,

And bring back the features that joy used to
wear.

Long, long be my heart with such memories
filled,

Like the vase in which roses have once been
distilled,

You may break, you may shatter the vase if
you will,

But the scent of the roses will hang round it
still.—Thomas Moore.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST IMPUNITY IN GUATEMALA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on June 7, the head of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, CICIG, a U.N. supported body set up to investigate organized crime and clandestine groups in Guatemala, resigned. In a press conference, he highlighted problems with Guatemala's newly selected attorney general, who he accused of trying to undermine the Commission's investigations. He also described a general lack of cooperation from the Guatemalan Government in CICIG's mission.

Not long ago, on April 5, I spoke in this Chamber of Guatemala's need for an attorney general with the integrity, experience, courage and determination to show that justice can be a reality for all the people of Guatemala regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or economic status. Unfortunately, President Colom's choice fell short on all counts.

This concerns me greatly. The Commission was created three years ago, at the request of the Guatemalan Government and with the approval of the legislature. It was intended to support Guatemala in investigating and dismantling powerful criminal networks deeply entrenched in state institutions and to help strengthen the capacity of the country's dysfunctional judicial system. Since its creation, CICIG has received substantial political and financial backing from the international community, including the United States. I have been a strong supporter of the Commission, and I was encouraged that the Guatemalan Government and the legislature had the political courage to back a serious effort to challenge the organized criminal structures that threaten Guatemala's fragile democracy.

Under the leadership of internationally respected Spanish jurist and prosecutor Carlos Castresana, the CICIG, with dedicated Guatemalan personnel from the Public Ministry, the police, and the support of the courts, has made significant, indeed historic, progress in combating organized crime and ending impunity. Its work has led to the successful investigation of high-profile cases, the arrest of dozens of government officials and ex-military officers, and the purge of thousands of police officers linked to illegal groups.

Having seen that progress, I was saddened to learn of Director Castresana's resignation. I commend him, the Commission's staff, and the many Guatemalans who have supported the CICIG for their courage and resolve.

The CICIG is a ground-breaking effort and one of the few successful strategies in the fight against organized crime and rampant institutional corruption in Guatemala. Its efforts must continue. Both the U.N. and the Guatemalan Government need to act swiftly

and decisively if the CICIG is to continue as a meaningful body. I urge U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon to appoint a new CICIG Commissioner with demonstrated expertise in investigating and prosecuting organized criminal networks so the advances of the CICIG continue under new leadership. Equally important is the integrity and continuity of CICIG's professional staff.

In Guatemala, the government needs to address the problems that so frustrated Director Castresana. Fortunately, Guatemala's Constitutional Court annulled the selection of the attorney general, who subsequently resigned. This is a positive step, but it needs to be followed up. Guatemala's next attorney general should have a strong commitment to working closely with and supporting the efforts of the CICIG, as well as reform of the National Police, the establishment of a high impact court for cases of organized crime with heightened security for judges, witnesses and prosecutors, a maximum security jail, and other initiatives by the Guatemalan Legislature that would facilitate the investigation and prosecution of organized crime.

It is not just the attorney general, however. Implementation of many of the CICIG's recommendations has been repeatedly delayed. The entire Guatemalan Government—the executive, legislature and the courts—must act decisively to demonstrate that it can implement urgent anti-impunity reforms, strengthen and professionalize its law enforcement and judicial institutions, and prove that it can be a partner in the fight against organized crime. Reforming the National Police, which is widely perceived as corrupt, ineffective and unaccountable, and whose officers are under-paid, under-trained, and under-equipped, is a critical priority. I hope there is convincing progress in these areas soon.

The United States is providing assistance to bolster Guatemala's institutions, particularly through our Central America Regional Security Initiative. But as chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of State and Foreign Operations, I would find it difficult to justify investing further resources in Guatemala's judicial system unless its own government demonstrates a strong commitment to ending impunity and combating organized criminal networks and corruption, which must be rooted out from their entrenched positions within Guatemala's state institutions.

I urge the Guatemalan Government to show, at this critical moment, its firm commitment to the CICIG and to taking the steps necessary to end impunity and strengthen the rule of law so the United States can continue to partner with Guatemala to tackle its many challenges.

EXTENDING FAMILY LEAVE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, the Obama administration took an-

other step toward ensuring equal treatment for all Americans by extending family leave to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender—LGBT—employees. Earlier this year, I praised President Obama for directing the Department of Health and Human Services to issue regulations ensuring hospital visitation rights for same-sex couples. Now these same couples will be treated fairly when their children are sick, injured, or in need of care. Both of these measures promote the value of strong families and enduring relationships.

There is a tragic history of discrimination in the workplace, but fortunately, we are making progress to end it. In 1993, Congress passed the Family Medical Leave Act, FMLA, allowing employees to take reasonable unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons. The FMLA sought to promote equal employment opportunities for men and women. Unfortunately, the benefits of that law were not extended to LGBT families. Under the Department of Labor's new interpretation of "son or daughter" under the FMLA, a gay or lesbian employee may now take family and medical leave to care for a newly born, newly adopted, or sick child of the employee's same-sex partner, even if the employee does not have a biological or legal relationship with the child.

The fight for equal rights protections continues in Congress. I am a proud co-sponsor of the bipartisan Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2009, which would provide domestic partners of Federal employees all of the protections and benefits afforded to spouses of Federal employees, including participation in applicable retirement programs, compensation for work injuries, and health insurance benefits. I also support the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2009, which would end the taxation of health benefits provided to domestic partners in workplaces that provide domestic partner health benefits to their employees.

Respecting the rights of all hard-working Americans to care for their children in times of crisis is something every American should support.

RECOGNIZING THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 National Basketball Association champions, the Los Angeles Lakers. In winning their 16th championship, and the 5th of this decade, the Lakers cemented their status as one of the most successful and storied franchises in the history of professional sports.

Led by a dedicated management and coaching staff and with contributions from an outstanding roster of perennial all-stars, reliable veterans and exciting young players, the Lakers began their successful defense of their 2008–2009 championship by compiling the best

regular season record in the Western Conference.

During the playoffs, the Lakers stood tall against challengers to their title as they defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder, the Utah Jazz, and the Phoenix Suns en route to winning the Western Conference title.

In the NBA finals, the Lakers triumphed against their archrivals, the Boston Celtics, in a fiercely contested seven-game series that gripped basketball fans from coast to coast and the world over. True to their reputation as a team of great resolve and determination, the Lakers overcame a deficit in the last quarter of the deciding game in order to ensure that the NBA championship trophy will reside in Los Angeles for at least another year.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the members of the Lakers organization who worked tirelessly to bring the championship to Los Angeles and Southern California.

As the Los Angeles Lakers and their fans celebrate the 2009–2010 championship campaign, I congratulate them on another remarkable and memorable season and wish them continued success in future seasons.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ATHLETES AND COACHES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize University of Arkansas athletes and coaches who are leading an effort to challenge northwest Arkansas volunteers to pack 2 million meals in 24 hours for people affected by the earthquake in Haiti. They are attempting to break the one-day record for the most food packed, which was set in Kansas City earlier this year.

Under the leadership of Jeff Long, athletic director of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, athletes and volunteers will meet at the Randal Tyson Track Center on the University campus June 25 and 26 to work 2-hour shifts filling and sealing packets of soy power, rice, dried vegetables, and vitamins. The packets will reach Haitians 5 to 7 days later after being transported by ground and sea transportation.

Called Razorback Relief Operation Haiti, the effort is also led by former Razorback golfer Rich Morris and sophomore track athlete Terry Prentice, a member of the student athlete advisory committee.

I commend the entire northwest Arkansas community for pulling together to help their global neighbors in need. These athletes and volunteers represent the best of Arkansas, and I am proud of their efforts.

SECRET HOLDS

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, the Senate Rules Committee held another important hearing today to review yet another example of how the Senate rules are abused. I want to thank Chairman SCHUMER again for holding these hearings—they have been