

if the Senate subsequently again votes against closing debate under subparagraph (b), the procedures under this subparagraph shall apply.”.

SEC. 5. POSTCLOTURE DEBATE ON NOMINATIONS.

The second undesignated paragraph of paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by inserting at the end the following: “If the matter on which cloture is invoked is a nomination, the period of time for debate shall be 2 hours.”.

SA 2. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BEGICH) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 21, to amend the Standing Rules of the Senate to provide procedures for extended debate; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENDED DEBATE.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended—

(1) designating the first 3 undesignated paragraphs as subparagraphs (a), (b), and (d), respectively;

(2) in subparagraph (d), as designated by paragraph (1), by striking “Thereafter” and inserting “If the Senate agrees to bring debate to a close under subparagraphs (b) or (c), thereafter”; and

(3) inserting after subparagraph (b), as designated by paragraph (1), the following:

“(c)(1) If the Senate has voted against closing debate on a measure, motion, or other matter under subparagraph (b), but a majority of senators present and voting have voted to bring debate to a close, then the procedures under this subparagraph shall be in order at any time, so long as that measure, motion or other matter has continued as the only pending business subsequent to the vote against closing debate.

“(2) Under the circumstances described in clause (1), it shall be in order for the Majority Leader or his designee to move to bring debate on the pending measure, motion, or other matter to a close on the grounds that no Senator seeks recognition to debate the matter. Immediately after the motion is made and before putting the question thereon, the Presiding Officer shall immediately inquire whether any Senator seeks recognition for the purpose of debating the measure, motion or other matter on which the Senate had previously voted against closing debate under subparagraph (b). If a Senator seeks recognition for that purpose, the Presiding Officer shall announce that the Senate is proceeding under extended debate, and shall recognize a Senator who seeks recognition for debate. After the Presiding Officer’s announcement under the preceding sentence the Senate shall continue to proceed under extended debate subject to the conditions provided in clause (3). Notwithstanding rule XIX, Senators may speak more than twice on a question during extended debate.

“(3)(A) If the Senate enters into extended debate under this clause, no dilatory motions, motions to suspend any rule or any part thereof, nor dilatory quorum calls shall be entertained.

“(B) If during extended debate the proceedings described in either subclause (C), (D), or (E) occur and unless the Majority Leader or his designee withdraws the motion made under clause (2), the Senate shall proceed immediately to vote on that motion or to vote at a time designated by the Majority Leader or his designee within the next 4 calendar days of Senate session. When voted on, that motion shall be decided by a majority of Senators chosen and sworn.

“(C) If, at any point during extended debate when no Senator is recognized, no Senator seeks recognition, the Presiding Officer shall renew the inquiry as to whether a Senator seeks recognition and shall recognize a Senator who seeks recognition for the purpose of debate. If no Senator then seeks recognition (or if no Senator sought recognition in response to the Presiding Officer’s inquiry under clause (2)), the Senate shall dispose of the motion of the Majority Leader (or his designee) to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (2), in the manner specified in subclause (B).

“(D)(i) If, at any point during extended debate, a Senator raises a question of the presence of a quorum, the Presiding Officer shall renew the inquiry as to whether a Senator seeks recognition, and shall recognize a Senator who seeks recognition for debate.

“(ii) If no Senator then seeks recognition for debate—

“(I) the Presiding Officer shall direct the Clerk to call the roll;

“(II) upon the establishment of a quorum, the Senate shall dispose of the motion of the Majority Leader (or his designee) to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (2) in the manner specified in subclause (B); and

“(III) if the Senate adjourns for lack of a quorum and when the Senate next convenes and the morning hour or any period for morning business is expired or is deemed to be expired, the Senate shall dispose of the motion of the Majority Leader (or his designee) made to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (2) in the manner specified in subclause (B).

“(E)(i) If, at any point during extended debate, a Senator having been recognized moves to adjourn, recess, postpone the pending matter, or proceed to other business, then unless the motion is made or seconded by the Majority Leader or his designee, the Presiding Officer shall renew the inquiry as to whether a Senator seeks recognition, and shall recognize a Senator who seeks recognition for debate, and said motion shall be considered withdrawn. If no Senator then seeks recognition for debate, then the Presiding Officer shall immediately put the question on the motion offered, unless the vote is delayed as provided in subclause (F).

“(ii) If the Senate agrees to a motion to adjourn or recess it shall resume consideration of the pending measure, motion or other matter pending at the time of adjournment or recess when it first takes up business after it next reconvenes, and the Senate shall still be in a period of extended debate. Upon the negative disposition of the motion to adjourn, recess, postpone, or proceed to other business, unless such motion was made by the majority leader or his designee, the Senate shall dispose of the motion of the Majority Leader (or his designee) to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (2) in the manner specified in subclause (B).

“(F) During a period of extended debate, the Majority Leader or his designee may delay any vote until a designated time within the next 4 calendar days of Senate session, and any votes ordered or occurring thereafter shall likewise be delayed.

“(4) If the motion of the Majority Leader to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (3)(B) is agreed to by a majority of Senators chosen and sworn, the Presiding Officer shall announce that extended debate is ended and that the measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate shall be the unfinished business to the exclusion of all other business until disposed of and further proceedings on the measure, motion or other matter shall occur in accordance with subparagraph (d). If the Majority Leader withdraws the motion to bring debate to a close pursuant to clause (3)(B) or that motion is

not agreed to by a majority of Senators chosen and sworn the Presiding Officer shall announce that extended debate is ended.

“(5) If extended debate on a measure, motion or other matter is ended under this subparagraph, other than by agreement to the motion made by the Majority Leader under clause (4), further consideration of the measure, motion or other matter shall occur as otherwise provided by the rules, except that if the Senate subsequently again votes against closing debate under subparagraph (b), the procedures under this subparagraph shall apply.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER RECOVERY

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 27, 2011, at 1:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, “Gulf Coast Recovery: An Examination of Claims Administration and Social Services in the Aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.”

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 27, 2011, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 27, 2011, at 2:15 p.m., to hold a European Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled, “Crackdown in Belarus: Responding to the Lukashenko Regime.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Affordable Care Act: The Impact of Health Insurance Reform on Health Care Consumers” on January 27, 2011, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on January 27, 2011, at 11 a.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

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

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tim Woodbury on my staff be granted floor privileges for today's debate.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Danielle Holliday and Megan Culligan of my staff be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of today's session.

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

COMMEMORATING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY NURSE CORPS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed to S. Res. 31.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 31) commemorating the 110th anniversary of the United States Army Nurse Corps.

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

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I rise to commemorate the 110th anni-

versary of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. As a proud supporter of the officers, enlisted, and civilian personnel of the Army Nurse Corps, I am pleased that we are recognizing their contributions to our Army and our great Nation.

Since 1901, Army nurses have demonstrated again and again their total commitment to the highest standards of military nursing excellence. Both men and women have served as Army nurses since 1775, but the Army Nurse Corps did not become a part of the Army Medical Department until 1901. The distinguished contributions of female contract nurses during and following the 1898 Spanish-American War became the justification and demonstrated the need for a permanent female nurse corps.

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, there were only 4,093 nurses on Active Duty. By November 1918, there were 21,460 Army nurses, with 10,000 serving overseas. During the war, nurses served primarily in base, evacuation, and mobile surgical hospitals in the United States, France, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. They also provided care on hospital trains in France and transport ships carrying wounded home across the Atlantic. Approximately 270 nurses lost their lives in the conflict.

When the United States entered World War II, fewer than 7,000 nurses were on Active Duty. By 1945, more than 57,000 Army nurses were assigned to hospital ships and trains, flying ambulances, field hospitals, evacuation stations, and general hospitals at home and overseas. In Europe, Army nurses assisted in developing the concept of recovery wards for immediate post-operative nursing care. Military nursing gained a greater understanding of the process of shock, blood replacement, and resuscitation. Air evacuation from the combat zone by fixed-wing aircraft brought patients to definitive treatment quickly. Army flight nurses helped to establish the incredible record of only 5 deaths in flight per 100,000 patients.

Nurses endured hardships caring for their patients. In May 1942, with the fall of Corregidor in the Philippines, 67 Army nurses became Japanese prisoners of war. During the 37-month captivity, the women endured primitive conditions and starvation rations. Yet they continued to care for the ill and injured in the internment hospital. On Anzio, nurses dug their foxholes outside their tents and cared for patients under German shellfire. Their example bolstered the spirits of the soldiers who shared the same tough experience. By war's end, 215 brave nurses died for their country.

Army nurses once again played a major role in support of combat troops when President Truman ordered U.S. forces into Korea in June 1950. Army nurses cared for combat troops during the landing on Inchon; the advance across the 38th parallel into North Korea; the amphibious landing on the

east coast of Korea; the drive toward the Yalu River; and the retreat to the 38th parallel. Throughout the Korean war, 540 Army nurses served on the embattled peninsula.

Mobility and increased patient acuity characterized service in Vietnam. Evacuation by helicopter brought wounded to medical units located within minutes flying time of the battlefield. The UH-1H helicopter ambulance, nicknamed the "Dustoff," not only transported patients from battle locations 50 percent faster than in Korea but also provided triage and resuscitative services for casualties. Trauma care specialization, as well as shock trauma units, developed from this experience. The "chain of evacuation" from Vietnam was extraordinary. A soldier could be wounded on the battlefield one day and 2 days later be in an Army hospital in the continental United States. In Vietnam, of the nearly 5,000 Army Nurses who served in 44 hospitals, 8 women made the ultimate sacrifice for their Nation.

During Operation Desert Storm, approximately 2,200 nurses served in 44 hospitals. Two of every three nurses in the Arabian Gulf were from the Army National Guard or Army Reserves. This was the first major conflict that DEPMEDS, Deployable Medical Systems, were used. Another unique feature was that Army hospital staff coexisted with host nation personnel in fixed facilities forming joint national professional organizations. Before, during, and after the 100-hour ground war, U.S. forces sustained a disease and non-battle injury rate that was the lowest ever recorded in a conflict.

Recent years have seen Army nurses active throughout the world both in armed conflicts and humanitarian endeavors. In 1983, they supported combat troops in Grenada; in 1989 in Panama; and in 1991 in the Middle East. Since December 1995, Army nurses have been deployed with medical units in support of NATO alliance troops in Haiti, Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Kosovo. Nurses have continued to serve proudly during relief efforts following natural disasters such as Hurricane Mitch in 1998. Today, the legacy of these military nurses lives on. Currently, Army nurses serve throughout the world in support of multiple overseas contingency operations.

Throughout its history, the Army Nurse Corps has earned the deep respect and gratitude of the American people because of its dedication to providing the best possible care to our soldiers and their families while serving our country in war and peace. Army nurses have unselfishly come to the aid of victims of disaster and disease throughout the world. Over time, the mission has grown broader. Yet there has been one constant—the devotion of the individual nurse in providing excellent nursing care.

Today, as soldiers serve our Nation, defending freedom across the globe, they can rest assured, should they get