

from whom testimony may be required are authorized to testify and to produce documents in the case of Triangle MLP United Partnership v. United States, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

Sec. 2. That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Charles Stek, Rebecca Wagner, and any other employee of the Senate in connection with the testimony authorized by this resolution.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

#### THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

##### PRESSLER AMENDMENT NO. 2939

Mrs. KASSEBAUM (for Mr. PRESSLER) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1048) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for human space flight; science, aeronautics, and technology; mission support; and inspector general; and other purposes.

On page 46, line 2, after "Center" insert a comma and the following: "and of which \$2,000,000 shall be allocated in fiscal year 1996, and such sums as are necessary thereafter, for the operation of the Upper Midwest Aerospace Consortium (UMAC) of institutions in the Upper Great Plains Region for the purpose of making information derived from Mission to Planet Earth data available to the general public".

On page 57, line 18, strike "shall" and insert "is authorized to".

On page 57, line 25, strike "The" and insert "If initiated, the".

On page 58, line 15, strike "Within" and insert "If this project is initiated, then within".

#### NOTICE OF HEARINGS

##### COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Senate Committee on Small Business will hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Small Business on "the report of SBA's Chief Counsel of Advocacy on the Cost of Regulations on Small Business" on Tuesday, October 24, 1995, at 10 a.m., in room G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For further information, please contact Keith Cole at 224-5175.

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Special Committee on Aging will hold a hearing on Thursday, October 26, 1995, at 9:30 a.m., in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The hearing will discuss quality of care in nursing homes.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commit-

tee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 19, 15 9:00 a.m., in SR-332, to consider the nomination of Mr. Michael V. Dunn to be assistant secretary for marketing and regulatory programs and to be a member of the board of directors for the Commodity Credit Corporation, and Mr. John David Carlin to be assistant secretary for congressional relations.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Thursday, October 19, 1995, at 9:00 a.m. on S. 1316, the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendment of 1995.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 19, 1995, at 9:30 a.m., in room 428A Russell Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing focusing on revitalizing America's rural and urban communities.

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

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 19, 1995, for purpose of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to examine the role of the council on environmental quality in the decision-making and management processes of agencies under the committee's jurisdiction—Department of the Interior, Department of Energy, and U.S. Forest Service.

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

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY, AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Government Information of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to meet during a session of the Senate on Thursday, October 19, 1995, at 10:00 a.m., in Senate Hart room 216, on Ruby Ridge incident.

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

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HEALTH CARE ANTIFRAUD AND ABUSE EFFORTS

• Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, over the last week there has been substantial criticism levied against the health care fraud and abuse provisions contained in the House Medicare and Medicaid reform proposals. Unfortunately, some of the headlines and attacks imply that all Republican Budget Reconciliation legislation is soft on fraud and abuse.

Headlines such as "GOP Medicare Bill Seen to Favor Fraud," and "GOP Plan to Ease Medicare Fraud Rules 'Terrible,' May Go," and "Beneath Surface, Health Care Plan Is Offering Boons" are leading the public to believe that all Republican Medicare proposals are going light on those who are ripping off Medicare while honest Medicare providers and some beneficiaries are being asked to make sacrifices to save Medicare.

As the author of fraud and abuse provisions in the Senate reconciliation bill that was recently marked up by the Finance Committee, I feel that I must set the record straight, at least as it concerns the Senate version.

I commend the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate leadership for its strong commitment to tough anti-fraud measures. Many law enforcement officials have indicated to me that the Senate bill contains the toughest and most comprehensive—but fair—health care antifraud bills to come out in decades. It pains me to see headlines stating that Republican efforts on health care fraud fall short.

Let me tell you about what my Senate colleagues and I have incorporated in the Senate budget reconciliation bill. My legislation:

Creates an antifraud program to coordinate Federal, State, and local law enforcement efforts to combat fraud and abuse;

Appropriates a mandatory \$200 million in fiscal year 1996 for antifraud investigators and auditors with a 15-percent increase every year thereafter for 7 years;

Makes it mandatory for the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exclude individuals from receiving payment from Medicare and Medicaid when convicted of felonies relating to health care fraud and allows the Secretary to exclude individuals convicted of a criminal misdemeanor related to a health care offense;

Sets minimum periods of exclusion from Medicare and Medicaid payments; Allows the Secretary to exclude individuals who have direct or indirect ownership or control interest of 5 percent or more in an entity—or is an officer or managing employee—if the entity is already excluded from Medicare or Medicaid;

Allows the HHS Secretary to impose intermediate sanctions on a Medicare HMO if the HMO fails to carry out the contract such as in quality of care