

the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The purpose of this hearing is to review the implementation of the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program and to review efforts to extend or make the program permanent.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 14, 2001, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, SD-354, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole or Shane Perkins of the Committee staff at (202) 224-1219.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet on May 23, 2001, to conduct a markup on the nomination of Mr. Alphonso R. Jackson, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Mr. Richard A. Hauser, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; Mr. John Charles Weicher, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and serve as the Federal Housing Commissioner; and the Hon. Romolo A. Bernardi, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for community planning and development.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., on boxing.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, for purposes of conducting a business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business, as follows:

Agenda Item No. 1—S. 507—To implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item No. 5—Nomination of Patrick Henry Wood III to be a Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Agenda Item No. 6—Nomination of Nora Mead Brownell to be a Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Agenda Item No. 7—Nomination of Lee Sarah Liberman Otis to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

Agenda Item No. 8—Nomination of Jesse Hill Roberson to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management.

Agenda Item No. 9—Nomination of J. Steven Griles to be Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, immediately following the committee business meeting to conduct a hearing. The committee will receive testimony regarding the administration's National Energy Policy Report.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on May 23, 2001, at 11:30 a.m., for a business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., to hold two hearings as follows:
10:30 a.m., room S-116—Nominee: The Honorable Howard H. Baker, Jr., of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to Japan, to be introduced by the Honorable Fred Thompson, the Honorable Bill Frist, and the Honorable Robert C. Byrd.

2:30 p.m., room SD-419—Witnesses: Dr. Norbert Vollertsen, Volunteer, German Emergency Doctors, Germany; Mr. Chuck Downs, Former Defense Policy Analyst, House Republican Policy Committee; and Consultant, McLean, VA; the Honorable James T. Laney, co-chair, Council on Foreign Relations Korea Task Force, Atlanta, GA; the Honorable Robert L. Gallucci, Dean, Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., for a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 10 a.m., in Dirksen 226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 2 p.m., on carbon sequestration.

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., OF TENNESSEE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO JAPAN

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Howard H. Baker, Jr. The nomination will be stated.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Howard H. Baker, Jr., of Tennessee, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are 2 hours equally divided for consideration of the nomination. Who yields time? The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I do want to talk a moment about the nomination of Howard Baker to be Ambassador to Japan. I am chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific Rim. We held a hearing today for Howard Baker. Fortunately, we were able to move it today so that his nomination can be voted on for confirmation.

Mr. President, I am pleased to accept Howard Baker as Ambassador to Japan. I am chairman of that subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific rim. Certainly one of the most important countries in that area is Japan, a country with which we have worked closely