

transmittal, and how sudden oak death syndrome can best be treated;

(4) the *Phytophthora* fungus has been found on—

(A) *Rhododendron* plants in nurseries in California; and

(B) wild huckleberry plants, potentially endangering the commercial blueberry and cranberry industries;

(5) sudden oak death syndrome threatens to create major economic and environmental problems in California, the Pacific Northwest, and other regions, including—

(A) the increased threat of fire and fallen trees;

(B) the cost of tree removal and a reduction in property values; and

(C) loss of revenue due to—

(i) restrictions on imports of oak products and nursery stock; and

(ii) the impact on the commercial *rhododendron*, *blueberry*, and *cranberry* industries; and

(6) Oregon and Canada have imposed an emergency quarantine on the importation of oak trees, oak products, and certain nursery plants from California.

SEC. 3. RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND TREATMENT OF SUDDEN OAK DEATH SYNDROME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall carry out a sudden oak death syndrome research, monitoring, and treatment program to develop methods to control, manage, or eradicate sudden oak death syndrome from oak trees on both public and private land.

(b) RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND TREATMENT ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may—

(1) conduct open space, roadside, and aerial surveys;

(2) provide monitoring technique workshops;

(3) develop baseline information on the distribution, condition, and mortality rates of oaks in California and the Pacific Northwest;

(4) maintain a geographic information system database;

(5) conduct research activities, including research on forest pathology, *Phytophthora* ecology, forest insects associated with oak decline, urban forestry, arboriculture, forest ecology, fire management, silviculture, landscape ecology, and epidemiology;

(6) evaluate the susceptibility of oaks and other vulnerable species throughout the United States; and

(7) develop and apply treatments.

SEC. 4. MANAGEMENT, REGULATION, AND FIRE PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct sudden oak death syndrome management, regulation, and fire prevention activities to reduce the threat of fire and fallen trees killed by sudden oak death syndrome.

(b) MANAGEMENT, REGULATION, AND FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary may—

(1) conduct hazard tree assessments;

(2) provide grants to local units of government for hazard tree removal, disposal and recycling, assessment and management of restoration and mitigation projects, green waste treatment facilities, reforestation, resistant tree breeding, and exotic weed control;

(3) increase and improve firefighting and emergency response capabilities in areas where fire hazard has increased due to oak die-off;

(4) treat vegetation to prevent fire, and assessment of fire risk, in areas heavily infested with sudden oak death syndrome;

(5) conduct national surveys and inspections of—

(A) commercial *rhododendron* and *blueberry* nurseries; and

(B) native *rhododendron* and *huckleberry* plants;

(6) provide for monitoring of oaks and other vulnerable species throughout the United States to ensure early detection; and

(7) provide diagnostic services.

SEC. 5. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct education and outreach activities to make information available to the public on sudden oak death syndrome.

(b) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary may—

(1) develop and distribute educational materials for homeowners, arborists, urban foresters, park managers, public works personnel, recreationists, nursery workers, landscapers, naturalists, firefighting personnel, and other individuals, as the Secretary determines appropriate;

(2) design and maintain a website to provide information on sudden oak death syndrome; and

(3) provide financial and technical support to States, local governments, and nonprofit organizations providing information on sudden oak death syndrome.

SEC. 6. SUDDEN OAK DEATH SYNDROME ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Sudden Oak Death Syndrome Advisory Committee (referred to in this section as the “Committee”) to assist the Secretary in carrying out this Act.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) COMPOSITION.—The Committee shall consist of—

(i) 1 representative of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to be appointed by the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service;

(ii) 1 representative of the Forest Service, to be appointed by the Chief of the Forest Service;

(iii) 2 individuals appointed by the Secretary from each of the States affected by sudden oak death syndrome; and

(iv) any individual, to be appointed by the Secretary, in consultation with the Governors of the affected States, that the Secretary determines—

(I) has an interest or expertise in sudden oak death syndrome; and

(II) would contribute to the Committee.

(B) DATE OF APPOINTMENTS.—The appointment of a member of the Committee shall be made not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

(3) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the Committee have been appointed, the Committee shall hold the initial meeting of the Committee.

(b) DUTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The Committee shall prepare a comprehensive implementation plan to address the management, control, and eradication of sudden oak death syndrome.

(2) REPORTS.—

(A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Committee shall submit to Congress the implementation plan prepared under paragraph (1).

(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Committee shall submit to Congress a report that contains—

(i) a summary of the activities of the Committee;

(ii) an accounting of funds received and expended by the Committee; and

(iii) findings and recommendations of the Committee.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007—

(1) to carry out section 3, \$7,500,000, of which up to \$1,500,000 shall be used for treatment;

(2) to carry out section 4, \$6,000,000;

(3) to carry out section 5, \$500,000; and

(4) to carry out section 6, \$250,000.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 4954

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that H.R. 4954 is now at the desk and is due for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4954) to amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize and reform payments and the regulatory structure of the Medicare Program, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I now ask for its second reading and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2002

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, July 11; that following the prayer and the pledge, there be a period for morning business until 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the first half of the time under the control of the Republican leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee; that leader time be reserved; that at 10:30 a.m. the Senate resume consideration of the accounting reform bill under the previous order; and, further, that the live quorum with respect to the cloture motion filed on the accounting bill be waived.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. The next rollcall vote will occur at approximately 12 noon tomorrow in relation to the McConnell second-degree amendment. Cloture has been filed on this most important legislation. All first-degree amendments must be filed prior to 1 p.m. tomorrow.

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before