

have been raised during the course of the inquiry.

E. Hearings. The Committee shall conduct a public hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to his or her suitability for office, including the policies and programs which he or she will pursue while in that position. No hearing shall be held until at least 72 hours after the following events have occurred: The nominee has responded to prehearing questions submitted by the Committee; and, if applicable, the report described in subsection (D) has been made to the chairman and ranking minority member, and is available to other members of the Committee, upon request.

F. Action on confirmation. A mark-up on a nomination shall not occur on the same day that the hearing on the nominee is held. In order to assist the Committee in reaching a recommendation on confirmation, the staff may make an oral presentation to the Committee at the mark-up, factually summarizing the nominee's background and the steps taken during the pre-hearing inquiry.

G. Application. The procedures contained in subsections (C), (D), (E), and (F) of this rule shall apply to persons nominated by the President to positions requiring their full-time service. At the discretion of the chairman and ranking minority member, those procedures may apply to persons nominated by the President to serve on a part-time basis.

#### RULE 9. PERSONNEL ACTIONS AFFECTING COMMITTEE STAFF

In accordance with Rule XLII of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-1), all personnel actions affecting the staff of the Committee shall be made free from any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, state of physical handicap, or disability.

### RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, today the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry conducted a business meeting and approved the subcommittee membership of the committee along with the rules of the committee. I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in today's RECORD. The committee also reported its funding resolution for fiscal year 2003, fiscal year 2004 and fiscal year 2005.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

##### RULE 1—MEETINGS

1.1 REGULAR MEETINGS.—Regular meetings shall be held on the first and third Wednesday of each month when Congress is in session.

1.2 ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.—The Chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, may call such additional meetings as he deems necessary.

1.3 NOTIFICATION.—In the case of any meeting of the committee, other than a regularly scheduled meeting, the clerk of the committee shall notify every member of the committee of the time and place of the meeting and shall give reasonable notice which, except in extraordinary circumstances, shall be at least 24 hours in advance of any meeting held in Washington, DC, and at least 48

hours in the case of any meeting held outside Washington, DC.

1.4 CALLED MEETING.—If three members of the committee have made a request in writing to the Chairman to call a meeting of the committee, and the Chairman fails to call such a meeting within 7 calendar days thereafter, including the day on which the written notice is submitted, a majority of the members may call a meeting by filing a written notice with the clerk of the committee who shall promptly notify each member of the committee in writing of the date and time of the meeting.

1.5 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETINGS.—The Chairman of the committee or a subcommittee shall be empowered to adjourn any meeting of the committee or a subcommittee if a quorum is not present within 15 minutes of the time scheduled for such meeting.

##### RULE 2—MEETINGS AND HEARINGS IN GENERAL

2.1 OPEN SESSIONS.—Business meetings and hearings held by the committee or any subcommittee shall be open to the public except as otherwise provided for in Senate Rule XXVI, paragraph 5.

2.2 TRANSCRIPTS.—A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting and hearing of the committee or any subcommittee unless a majority of the committee or the subcommittee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

2.3 REPORTS.—An appropriate opportunity shall be given the Minority to examine the proposed text of committee reports prior to their filing or publication. In the event there are supplemental, minority, or additional views, an appropriate opportunity shall be given the Majority to examine the proposed text prior to filing or publication.

2.4 ATTENDANCE.—(a) MEETINGS. Official attendance of all markups and executive sessions of the committee shall be kept by the committee clerk. Official attendance of all subcommittee markups and executive sessions shall be kept by the subcommittee clerk.

(b) HEARINGS. Official attendance of all hearings shall be kept, provided that, Senators are notified by the committee Chairman and ranking minority member, in the case of committee hearings, and by the subcommittee Chairman and ranking minority member, in the case of committee hearings, and by the subcommittee Chairman and ranking minority member, in the case of subcommittee hearings, 48 hours in advance of the hearing that attendance will be taken. Otherwise, no attendance will be taken. Attendance at all hearings is encouraged.

##### RULE 3—HEARING PROCEDURES

3.1 NOTICE.—Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the committee or any subcommittee at least 1 week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full committee or the subcommittee determines that the hearing is noncontroversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of the committee or the subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than 24 hours notice.

3.2 WITNESS STATEMENTS.—Each witness who is to appear before the committee or any subcommittee shall file with the committee or subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony and as many copies as the Chairman of the committee or subcommittee prescribes.

3.3 MINORITY WITNESSES.—In any hearing conducted by the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, the minority members of the committee or subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by the

ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee to call witnesses of their selection during at least 1 day of such hearing pertaining to the matter or matters heard by the committee or subcommittee.

3.4 SWEARING IN OF WITNESSES.—Witnesses in committee or subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee deems such to be necessary.

3.5 LIMITATION.—Each member shall be limited to 5 minutes in the questioning of any witness until such time as all members who so desire have had an opportunity to question a witness. Questions from members shall rotate from majority to minority members in order of seniority or in order of arrival at the hearing.

##### RULE 4—NOMINATIONS

4.1 ASSIGNMENT.—All nominations shall be considered by the full committee.

4.2 STANDARDS.—In considering a nomination, the committee shall inquire into the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated.

4.3 INFORMATION.—Each nominee shall submit in response to questions prepared by the committee the following information:

(1) A detailed biographical resume which contains information relating to education, employment, and achievements;

(2) Financial information, including a financial statement which lists assets and liabilities of the nominee; and

(3) Copies of other relevant documents requested by the committee. Information received pursuant to this subsection shall be available for public inspection except as specifically designated confidential by the committee.

4.4 HEARINGS.—The committee shall conduct a public hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to his or her suitability for office. No hearing shall be held until at least 48 hours after the nominee has responded to a prehearing questionnaire submitted by the committee.

4.5 ACTION ON CONFIRMATION.—A business meeting to consider a nomination shall not occur on the same day that the hearing on the nominee is held. The Chairman, with the agreement of the ranking minority member, may waive this requirement.

##### RULE 5—QUORUMS

5.1 TESTIMONY.—For the purpose of receiving evidence, the swearing of witnesses, and the taking of sworn or unsworn testimony at any duly scheduled hearing, a quorum of the committee and the subcommittee thereof shall consist of one member.

5.2 BUSINESS.—A quorum for the transaction of committee or subcommittee business, other than for reporting a measure or recommendation to the Senate or the taking of testimony, shall consist of one-third of the members of the committee or subcommittee, including at least one member from each party.

5.3 REPORTING.—A majority of the membership of the committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting bills, nominations, matters, or recommendations to the Senate. No measure or recommendation shall be ordered reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee members are physically present. The vote of the committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of those members who are physically present at the time the vote is taken.

##### RULE 6—VOTING

6.1 ROLLCALLS.—A roll call vote of the members shall be taken upon the request of any member.

6.2 PROXIES.—Voting by proxy as authorized by the Senate rules for specific bills or subjects shall be allowed whenever a quorum of the committee is actually present.

6.3 POLLING.—The committee may poll any matters of committee business, other than a vote on reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations or a vote on closing a meeting or hearing to the public, provided that every member is polled and every poll consists of the following two questions:

(1) Do you agree or disagree to poll the proposal; and

(2) Do you favor or oppose the proposal.

If any member requests, any matter to be polled shall be held for meeting rather than being polled. The chief clerk of the committee shall keep a record of all polls.

#### RULE 7—SUBCOMMITTEES

7.1 ASSIGNMENTS.—To assure the equitable assignment of members to subcommittees, no member of the committee will receive assignment to a second subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the committee have chosen assignments to one subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignment to a third subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two subcommittees.

7.2 ATTENDANCE.—Any member of the committee may sit with any subcommittee during a hearing or meeting but shall not have the authority to vote on any matter before the subcommittee unless he or she is a member of such subcommittee.

7.3 EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The Chairman and ranking minority member shall serve as nonvoting ex officio members of the subcommittees on which they do not serve as voting members. The Chairman and ranking minority member may not be counted toward a quorum.

7.4 SCHEDULING.—No subcommittee may schedule a meeting or hearing at a time designated for a hearing or meeting of the full committee. No more than one subcommittee business meeting may be held at the same time.

7.5 DISCHARGE.—Should a subcommittee fail to report back to the full committee on any measure within a reasonable time, the Chairman may withdraw the measure from such subcommittee and report that fact to the full committee for further disposition. The full committee may at any time, by majority vote of those members present, discharge a subcommittee from further consideration of a specific piece of legislation.

7.6 APPLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES TO SUBCOMMITTEES.—The proceedings of each subcommittee shall be governed by the rules of the full committee, subject to such authorizations or limitations as the committee may from time to time prescribe.

#### RULE 8—INVESTIGATIONS, SUBPOENAS AND DEPOSITIONS

8.1 INVESTIGATIONS.—Any investigation undertaken by the committee or a subcommittee in which depositions are taken or subpoenas issued, must be authorized by a majority of the members of the committee voting for approval to conduct such investigation at a business meeting of the committee convened in accordance with Rule 1.

8.2 SUBPOENAS.—The Chairman, with the approval of the ranking minority member of the committee, is delegated the authority to subpoena the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials at a hearing of the committee or a subcommittee or in connection with the conduct of an investigation authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.1. The Chairman may subpoena attendance or production without the approval of the ranking minority member when the

Chairman has not received notification from the ranking minority member of disapproval of the subpoena within 72 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, of being notified of the subpoena. If a subpoena is disapproved by the ranking minority member as provided in this paragraph the subpoena may be authorized by vote of the members of the committee. When the committee or Chairman authorizes subpoenas, subpoenas may be issued upon the signature of the Chairman or any other member of the committee designated by the Chairman.

8.3 NOTICE FOR TAKING DEPOSITIONS.—Notices for the taking of depositions, in an investigation authorized by the committee, shall be authorized and be issued by the Chairman or by a staff officer designated by him. Such notices shall specify a time and place for examination, and the name of the Senator, staff officer or officers who will take the deposition. Unless otherwise specified, the deposition shall be in private. The committee shall not initiate procedures leading to criminal or civil enforcement proceedings for a witness' failure to appear unless the deposition notice was accompanied by a committee subpoena.

8.4 PROCEDURE FOR TAKING DEPOSITIONS.—Witnesses shall be examined upon oath administered by an individual authorized by local law to administer oaths. The Chairman will rule, by telephone or otherwise, on any objection by a witness. The transcript of a deposition shall be filed with the committee clerk.

#### RULE 9—AMENDING THE RULES

These rules shall become effective upon publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by the committee, provided that all members are present or provide proxies or if a notice in writing of the proposed changes has been given to each member at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken. The changes shall become effective immediately upon publication of the changed rule or rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, or immediately upon approval of the changes if so resolved by the committee as long as any witnesses who may be affected by the change in rules are provided with them.

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

Thad Cochran, MS, Chairman, Richard G. Lugar, IN, Mitch McConnell, KY, Pat Roberts, KS, Peter Fitzgerald, IL, Saxby Chambliss, GA, Norm Coleman, MN, Mike Crapo, ID, James M. Talent, MO, Elizabeth Dole, NC, Charles E. Grassley, IA, Tom Harkin, IA, Ranking Democratic Member, Patrick J. Leahy, VT, Kent Conrad, ND, Thomas A. Daschle, SD, Max Baucus, MT, Blanche L. Lincoln, AR, Zell Miller, GA, Debbie Stabenow, MI, E. Benjamin Nelson, NE, Mark Dayton, MN.

JURISDICTION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY (108TH)

#### PRODUCTION AND PRICE COMPETITIVENESS

Jurisdiction over legislation on agricultural commodities, including cotton, dairy products, feed grains, wheat, tobacco, peanuts, sugar, wool, rice, oilseeds, and soybeans; price and income support programs.

Elizabeth Dole, Chair, Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Saxby Chambliss, Norm Coleman, Charles E. Grassley, Kent Conrad, Ranking Democrat, Thomas A. Daschle, Zell Miller, Max Baucus, Blanche L. Lincoln.

#### MARKETING, INSPECTION, AND PRODUCT PROMOTION

Jurisdiction over legislation on foreign agricultural trade; foreign market develop-

ment; agriculture product promotion and domestic marketing programs; oversight of international commodity agreements and export controls on agricultural commodities; foreign assistance programs and Food for Peace; marketing orders; inspection and certification of meat, flowers, fruit, vegetables, and livestock.

James M. Talent, Chair, Pat Roberts, Peter Fitzgerald, Saxby Chambliss, Charles E. Grassley, Max Baucus, Ranking Democrat, E. Benjamin Nelson, Kent Conrad, Debbie Stabenow.

#### FORESTRY, CONSERVATION, AND RURAL REVITALIZATION

Jurisdiction over rural development legislation and rural electrification legislation; oversight of rural electrification, agricultural credit, the Farm Credit System, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Farmers Home Administration and its successor agencies; and crop insurance; forestry in general and forest reserves that were acquired from state, local, or private sources, soil conservation, stream channelization, watershed and flood control programs involving structures of less than 4,000 acre-feet storage capacity.

Mike Crapo, Chair, Richard G. Lugar, Norm Coleman, James M. Talent, Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Blanche L. Lincoln, Ranking Democrat, Mark Dayton, Patrick J. Leahy, Thomas A. Daschle, E. Benjamin Nelson.

#### RESEARCH, NUTRITION, AND GENERAL LEGISLATION

Jurisdiction over legislation on agricultural education and research; animal welfare; legislation on or relating to food, nutrition and hunger; commodity donations; food stamps; national school lunch program; school breakfast program; summer food service program; special milk program for children; special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children; nutritional programs for the elderly; Commodity Futures Trading Commission and Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act; and general legislation.

Peter Fitzgerald, Chair, Richard G. Lugar, Mitch McConnell, Mike Crapo, Elizabeth Dole, Patrick J. Leahy, Ranking Democrat, Debbie Stabenow, Zell Miller, Mark Dayton.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about my friend Chad Debnam and the need for hate crimes legislation. In the last Congress Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would expand current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

Each day since the introduction of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, I have detailed for the RECORD a hate crime that has affected our fellow citizens. Today, I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred very recently, on January 19, 2003, in my home State of Oregon. Four young men went on a shooting spree through Northeast Portland because, according to police, they thought the neighborhood was predominantly African American. The four fired shots into cars and homes as they drove down the street. Although no one was physically injured, the incident opened painful wounds in a community that, like so