

87,300 of whom are on the beat, fighting crime, and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods and schools;

(8) the COPS program has assisted in advancing community policing nationwide;

(9) 86 percent of the Nation is served by a law enforcement agency that has full-time officers engaged in community policing activities;

(10) the continuation and full funding of the COPS program through fiscal year 2009 is supported by several major law enforcement organizations, including—

(A) the International Association of Chiefs of Police;

(B) the International Brotherhood of Police Officers;

(C) the Fraternal Order of Police;

(D) the National Sheriffs' Association;

(E) the National Troopers Coalition;

(F) the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association;

(G) the National Association of Police Organizations;

(H) the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives;

(I) the Police Executive Research Forum; and

(J) the Major Cities Chiefs;

(11) several studies have concluded that the implementation of community policing as a law enforcement strategy is an important factor in the reduction of crime in our communities;

(12) Congress appropriated \$1,050,000,000 for the COPS program for fiscal year 2002 and \$928,900,000 for fiscal 2003; and

(13) the President requested \$164,000,000 for the COPS program for fiscal year 2004, \$886,000,000 less than the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2002.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this resolution assume that an increase of \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Justice's community oriented policing program will be provided without reduction and consistent with previous appropriated and authorized levels.

SA. 274. Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Governments for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 79, after line 22, add the following:
SEC. 308. SOCIAL SECURITY RESTRUCTURING.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) Social Security is the foundation of retirement income for most Americans;

(2) preserving and strengthening the long term viability of Social Security is a vital national priority and is essential for the retirement security of today's working Americans, current and future retirees, and their families;

(3) Social Security faces significant fiscal and demographic pressures;

(4) the nonpartisan Office of the Chief Actuary at the Social Security Administration reports that—

(A) the number of workers paying taxes to support each Social Security beneficiary has dropped from 16.5 in 1950 to 3.3 in 2002;

(B) within a generation there will be only 2 workers to support each retiree, which will substantially increase the financial burden on American workers;

(C) the implementation of a Social Security "lockbox" would have no direct effect on the future solvency of Social Security;

(D) without structural reform, the Social Security system, beginning in 2018, will pay out more in benefits than it will collect in taxes;

(E) without structural reform, the Social Security system, by 2042, will be insolvent and unable to pay full benefits on time;

(F) without structural reform, Social Security tax revenue in 2042 will only cover 73 percent of promised benefits, and will decrease to 65 percent by 2077;

(G) without structural reform, payroll taxes will have to be raised 50 percent over the next 75 years to pay full benefits on time, resulting in payroll tax rates of 16.9 percent by 2042 and 18.9 percent by 2077;

(H) without structural reform, Social Security's total cash shortfall over the next 75 years is estimated to be more than \$25,000,000,000,000 in constant 2003 dollars;

(I) without structural reform, real rates of return on Social Security contributions will continue to decline dramatically for all workers; and

(J) absent structural reforms, spending on Social Security will increase from 4.4 percent of gross domestic product in 2003 to 7.0 percent in 2077; and

(5) the Congressional Budget Office, the General Accounting Office, the Congressional Research Service, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, and the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security have all warned that failure to enact fiscally responsible Social Security reform quickly will result in 1 or more of the following:

(A) Higher tax rates.

(B) Lower Social Security benefit levels.

(C) Increased Federal debt.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President and Congress should work together at the earliest opportunity to enact legislation to achieve a solvent and permanently sustainable Social Security system; and

(2) Social Security reform—

(A) must protect current and near retirees from any changes to Social Security benefits;

(B) must preserve Social Security's disability and survivors insurance programs;

(C) must not allow the government to invest directly the Social Security trust funds in the stock market;

(D) must not raise Social Security payroll tax rates;

(E) must reduce the pressure on future taxpayers and on other budgetary priorities;

(F) must provide competitive rates of return on Social Security contributions; and

(G) must preserve and strengthen the safety net for vulnerable populations.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I announce that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will conduct a hearing on March 20, 2003, in SR-328A at 10:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing will be to consider the nomination of Vernon Bernard Parker to be Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources scheduled for March 25 has been modified to

include additional agenda items. In addition to the original intent of the hearing, the Subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 634, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to study the feasibility of designating the Trail of the Ancients as a national historic trail, and S. 635, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

The hearing will take place on March 25, 2003, 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, United States Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact: Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Pete Lucero at (202) 224-6293.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 25, at 10:00 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 520, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities to the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District in the State of Idaho; and S. 625 a bill to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to conduct certain feasibility studies in the Tualatin River Basin in Oregon, and for other purposes. (Contact: Shelly Randel 202-224-7933 or Jared Stubbs at 202-224-7556).

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, 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 Subcommittee on Water and Power, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 27, at 9:30 a.m. in Room SD-106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on various electricity

proposals including, but not limited to, S. 475, the Electric Transmission and Reliability Enhancement Act of 2003.

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, 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, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I announce that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will conduct a hearing on March 26, 2003, in SR-328A at 10 a.m. The purpose of this hearing will be to review the reauthorization of child nutrition programs.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on ballistic missile defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2004.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 18, 2003, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "Proposals To Regulate Illegal Internet Gambling."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing on "Diplomacy and the War on Terrorism."

Agenda

Witnesses

Panel 1: The Honorable Marc Grossman, Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC, and The Honorable Grant Green, Undersecretary for Management, Department of State, Washington, DC.

Panel 2: The Honorable J. Cofer Black, Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Department of State, Washington, DC; Mr. Jon Pistole, Deputy Assistance Director of the Counter Intelligence Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC; and Juan C. Zarate, Esq., Deputy Assistant Secretary, Executive Office for Terrorist Financing and Financial

Crimes, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at 4 p.m., to hold a hearing on the current hostage situation in Colombia.

Briefer: The Honorable Marc Grossman, Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled "Small Business Continue to Lose Federal Jobs by the Bundle" and other matters on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND WATER

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 18, at 11 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the proposed 2004 Fish and Wildlife Service budget. The meeting will be held in SD 406.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Alisa Blum, Renee Johnson, Mark Kirbabas, Rhonda Sinkfield, Tyler Garrett, Marques Matthews, and Shawn White, all individuals from the Finance Committee staff, be granted the privilege of the floor during the duration of the debate on the budget resolution.

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

COLUMBIA ORBITER MEMORIAL ACT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 628 which was introduced by Senator STEVENS and is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 628) to require construction at Arlington National Cemetery of a memorial to the crew of the Columbia Orbiter.

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 628) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 628

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Columbia Orbiter Memorial Act".

SEC. 2. CONSTRUCTION OF MEMORIAL TO CREW OF COLUMBIA ORBITER AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

(a) CONSTRUCTION REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Army shall, in consultation with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, construct at an appropriate place in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, a memorial marker honoring the seven members of the crew of the Columbia Orbiter who died on February 1, 2003, over the State of Texas during the landing of space shuttle mission STS-107.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Of the amount appropriated or otherwise made available by title II of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 107-248) under the heading "OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY", \$500,000 shall be available for the construction of the memorial marker required by subsection (a).

SEC. 3. DONATIONS FOR MEMORIAL FOR CREW OF COLUMBIA ORBITER.

(a) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT DONATIONS.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration may accept gifts and donations of services, money, and property (including personal, tangible, or intangible property) for the purpose of an appropriate memorial or monument to the seven members of the crew of the Columbia Orbiter who died on February 1, 2003, over the State of Texas during the landing of space shuttle mission STS-107, whether such memorial or monument is constructed by the Administrator or is the memorial marker required by section 2.

(b) TRANSFER.—(1) The Administrator may transfer to the Secretary of the Army any services, money, or property accepted by the Administrator under subsection (a) for the purpose of the construction of the memorial marker required by section 2.

(2) Any moneys transferred to the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be merged with amounts in the account referred to in subsection (b) of section 2, and shall be available for the purpose referred to in that subsection.

(c) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Administrator to accept gifts and donations under subsection (a) shall expire five years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

COMMEMORATION OF DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 40 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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