

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BENNETT. 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 Thursday, February 3, at 10 a.m., to receive testimony regarding forecasting the future: U.S. energy challenges in the global context.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, February 3, 2005 at 9:30 a.m., in the Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 226.

Agenda:

Legislation: S. 5, Class Action Fairness Act of 2005; GRASSLEY, FEINSTEIN, HATCH, KOHL, KYL, SCHUMER, SESSIONS. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 3, 2005, for a full committee hearing on Benefits for Survivors.

The hearing will take place in Room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet today, Thursday, February 3, 2005, from 2 p.m.–5 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

THE WEEK IN THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, after the first complete week that we have been in session, looking back over the last several days, we have had a productive week. Today, we confirmed Judge Alberto Gonzales as U.S. Attorney General. I talked to him a few moments ago. As we heard from so many, Judge Gonzales is an outstanding choice to lead the Justice Department. In that phone call, I had the opportunity to congratulate him and to express my optimistic anticipation of working with him in what I know will be a very productive and important several years.

From very humble beginnings in Humble, TX, he has climbed to those

highest peaks, in Government and law. As friend and fellow Texan Henry Cisneros attests, Judge Gonzales has a personal story that allows him to understand the realities so many Americans face in their everyday lives.

A former Texas Supreme Court Justice, over the last 4 years as White House Counsel to the President, Judge Gonzales is eminently qualified to be our Nation's top law enforcement officer.

Candid and thoughtful and always a straight shooter, for him the law is the law—exactly what is needed for this high post. I am confident he will serve with distinction and with honor. I applaud his confirmation.

In addition to confirming Judge Gonzales, we passed the Family Entertainment and Copyright Act of 2005 this week. It didn't get a lot of fanfare, but this new legislation is another very important tool to help families protect their children from violent and explicit movie content. We have the V-chip, and we have television ratings. Now parents will have even more ways to stop inappropriate images from coming into and flooding their homes.

As Senator HATCH, the lead sponsor of this bill, says, parents, not Hollywood, should decide what kids see today.

The bill also provides a uniform Federal law to help crack down on international piracy, which is a huge problem in a creative industry.

I mention that, in part, because I am from a part of the country in Tennessee that has a rich music tradition, extending from the Grand Ole Opry to the Country Music Hall of Fame. From Elvis Presley to Johnny Cash, throughout Tennessee, artists and musicians have shaped popular music the world over.

Their contributions deserve to be celebrated. But they also deserve to be protected. That is what this legislation does. The legislation will help stop the Internet theft that threatens this creative industry and, indeed, the creative arts more broadly.

I thank Senator ORRIN HATCH, Senator PATRICK LEAHY, Senator JOHN CORNYN, who is occupying the Chair, and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN for their hard work on this important issue.

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a final note, tomorrow, February 4—I mention this because we will not be in session tomorrow—is called National Wear Red Day. So I put my red tie on a little bit earlier, and I will be wearing it tomorrow because tomorrow all across the country men and women will be wearing this red color of dress, or pant suit, or tie, or maybe jackets, all to raise awareness for heart disease in women.

A lot of people do not realize that this year more women will die of heart disease than men. People think heart disease, unfortunately, is a men's disease. More women will die of heart disease than men. It is true this year, last

year, the year before that—all the way back to 1984. It is a fact.

Last week, I had the pleasure of joining WomenHeart, which is the Nation's only patient advocacy organization for women with heart disease. I shared my experiences with them as a heart surgeon, as a heart and lung transplant surgeon, and the importance of awareness of early detection and prevention and treatment.

It is not a "man's disease" and it is not an "elderly disease." It is a disease that affects all people. There are over 8 million women nationwide who have heart disease right this very second. That is more than the number of women—if you added them together—in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

Women who experience heart problems—it is interesting—die at a higher rate after their first heart attack than men. So you have a man and woman, they both have a heart attack, but the woman is more likely to die of a heart attack. We don't know exactly why that is the case, which is one of the things we need to continue to investigate.

In my own State of Tennessee, the death rate for women with heart disease is 70 percent higher than men.

These are the sorts of observations of phenomena that need to be even more aggressively investigated. And part of wearing red tomorrow is this awareness—the necessity of research, the focus on prevention and diagnosis of heart disease in women.

We have made huge strides in treating heart disease in women.

In January, the American Cancer Society released its annual statistical report, citing that mortality rates for heart disease are dropping dramatically. I am encouraged by this news. But we can't be complacent. Heart disease is still the second leading cause of death in the United States.

While we can't control our genes—which is a large predeterminant—we can eat a healthy diet, get active, stay in shape, absolutely stop smoking, and reduce stress in our daily lives.

Those are all the controllable variables which we know can have a dramatic impact on improving quality of life, if you have heart disease, or avoiding heart disease altogether. If we live by these very simple principles, we can live a healthier life and have a more optimistic outlook on life.

In celebration of National Wear Red Day, in the spirit of the Heart Truth Campaign, I call upon each and every American to take action—take charge of your health and this Friday wear red.

I actually have a little pin on as well that has a red dress. You will see a lot of women wearing red dresses tomorrow.

By encouraging awareness, you will help women across the country—mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends—to learn the facts about this deadly disease.