

366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider our national capacity for producing innovation in energy technologies and the importance of this innovation to our global economic competitiveness. The Committee will also hear testimony describing the results of a forthcoming National Academy of Sciences report on this same topic.

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, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Dr. Kathryn Clay (202) 224-6224 or Steve Waskiewicz at (202) 228-6195.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on October 5, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: assessing the status of efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 5, 2005, at 2:15 p.m. to hold a Business Meeting on nominations.

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

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 5, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed briefing.

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

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet today, October 5, 2005, from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Hart 216 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE, TOURISM, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Trade, Tourism, and Economic Development be authorized to meet on October 5, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., on Spyware.

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

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privilege of the floor be granted to Jason Matthews and Kathleen Strotzman during consideration of this legislation.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1716

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I understand we are now in morning business. I ask unanimous consent that immediately upon the disposition of the Defense appropriations bill, on which we just voted cloture, that immediately following the vote on that bill that the Senate return to consideration of S. 1716, which is a bill by Senator GRASSLEY and Senator BAUCUS to provide emergency health care relief to the many victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita throughout the gulf coast and the needs of States throughout the Nation. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be brought up for consideration right after the final vote on the Defense appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. FRIST. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I will object shortly. As the distinguished Senator from Louisiana knows, the issue we are talking about is one that is very close to me, one on which she and I have had many conversations because it goes right to the heart of health care for hundreds of thousands of people. It is an issue we have to address. I personally have spent about an hour and a half today on this issue with the chairman and many others. We are not there yet. I pledge to keep working on this issue. I understand the time urgency of it.

As the distinguished Senator from Louisiana knows, there are several objections on our side, and on behalf of those colleagues, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, may I ask the majority leader a question?

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Through the Chair, first of all, I appreciate the work that he has been doing behind the scenes with the leadership in the Senate to press forward on this very important issue. But I would like to ask him what he thinks about the possibility of us going home on break for over a week before something can be determined definitively as to whether people who are without a home, without a job, without a church, without a neighborhood, without their family—does the Senator think we should possibly make

some decisions at least about their emergency health care needs before we leave?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the issue of health care and health care delivery among peoples who have lost their homes, who have lost shelters, security, family members, is something we need to address quickly, expeditiously, and we are going to continue to work on it.

At the same time, I wish to say to the American people who are listening to me—and the Senator from Louisiana and I have had the opportunity to travel together over the region she is about to discuss, and I observed firsthand. Those people now are getting health care, and health care is not being denied anybody. It cannot be denied, and it will not be denied. The real issue is to make sure that compensation for that health care does flow and does flow in a timely fashion to where the patient is displaced or to the State of Louisiana or it might be Alabama or Mississippi. How that is done most appropriately and fairly where the funds can follow the individual and follow the patient, the family, is what is being addressed.

The issue is not as to whether or not health care is being provided. Health care is being provided. It is available to those people who need it.

Mr. President, I would like to proceed with a couple of items of business, and then I know that the Senator from Louisiana has the floor and has a number of very important things to address.

I should also say that Senator LANDRIEU and I have been in discussion over the course of today on a number of issues that she provided in a letter to me which addresses health care issues, small business issues, education issues, and community disaster loans. I continue to aggressively address all four of those issues with my colleagues as well.

#### APPOINTMENT

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, in accordance with the qualifications specified under section 1238(b)(3)(E) of Public Law 106-398, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic leader, in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, reappoints the following individuals to the United States-China Economic Security and Review Commission: C. Richard D'Amato of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2006 and expiring December 31, 2007 and William A. Reinsch of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2006 and expiring December 31, 2007.