October 31, 2007

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. 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 October 31, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Climate Disclosure: Measuring Financial Risks and Opportunities.”

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing entitled, “Examination of the Licensing Process for the Yucca Mountain Repository.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DORGAN. 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 31, 2007, at 11 a.m. in order to hold a business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “FISA Amendments: How to Protect America’s Security and Privacy and Preserve the Rule of Law and Government Accountability” on Wednesday, October 31, 2007. The hearing will commence at 10 a.m. in room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness list


Panel II: Edward Black, President and CEO, Computer & Communications Industry Association, Washington, DC; Patrick F. Philbin, Partner, Kirkland & Ellis, Washington, DC; Morton H. Halperin, Director of U.S. Advocacy, Open Society Institute, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, in order to conduct a hearing on the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act. The Committee will meet in room SD–562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 9:30 a.m.

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

PERMITTING COLLECTION OF DONATIONS IN SENATE BUILDINGS TO BE SENT TO MILITARY PERSONNEL

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 361, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolution

SEC. 1. COLLECTION OF DONATIONS TO UNITED STATES MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(a) In General.—Notwithstanding any other provision of the rules or regulations of the Senate—

(1) a Senator, officer, or employee of the Senate may collect from another Senator, officer, or employee of the Senate within Senate buildings nonmonetary donations to be sent to United States military personnel on active duty overseas participating in or in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and the war on terrorism;

(2) a Senator, officer, or employee of the Senate may work with a nonprofit organization with respect to the delivery of donations that are collected as described in paragraph (1).

(b) Effective Period.—This resolution shall be in effect until December 31, 2007.

The resolution (S. Res. 361) was agreed to, as follows:

S. Res. 361

Resolved,

RECOGNIZING 2007 AS THE YEAR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONYM

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 392, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 392) recognizing 2007 as the year of the 100th anniversary of the American Society of Agronomy.

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

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that any statements relating thereto be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 362) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 362

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy was founded on December 31, 1907, with Mark A. Carleton as the first President of the Society;

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy is one of the premier scientific societies in the world, as demonstrated by first-class journals, international and regional meetings, and development of a broad range of educational opportunities;

Whereas the science and scholarship of the American Society of Agronomy are mission-directed, and seek to foster exploration and application of agronomic science, with the goal of increasing and disseminating knowledge concerning the nature, use, improvement, and utilization of plants, soil, water, and the environment;

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy strives to obtain that goal by promoting effective research, disseminating scientific information, facilitating technology transfer, fostering high standards of education, striving to maintain high standards of professional ethics, promoting advancement in the agronomy profession, and cooperating with other organizations with similar objectives;

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy significantly contributes to the scientific and technical knowledge necessary to protect and sustain natural resources in the United States;

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy has a critical international role in developing sustainable agricultural management standards for the protection of land resources;

Whereas the mission of the American Society of Agronomy continues to expand, from the development of sustainable production of food, fiber, and forage, to the production of renewable energy and biobased industrial products;

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy certifies a body of professional Certified Crop Advisers and Certified Professional Agronomists who work closely with agricultural producers to develop nutrient management plans that are designed to minimize environmental risk in production agriculture;

Whereas, in industry, extension, and basic research, the American Society of Agronomy has fostered a dedicated professional and scientific community that, in 2007, includes more than 8,015 members and 13,015 certified crop advisor professionals; and

Whereas the American Society of Agronomy was the parent society that led to the formation of both the Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America and later fostered the common overall management of these 3 related societies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes 2007 as the 100th anniversary year of the American Society of Agronomy;

(2) commends the American Society of Agronomy for 100 years of service to advance the science and practice of agronomy; and