

screening, such as false-positive rates and other quality indicators as determined by the Advisory Committee under section 1111.

“(b) INTERNET AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator, shall ensure that the clearinghouse described under subsection (a)—

“(1) is available on the Internet;

“(2) includes an interactive forum;

“(3) is updated on a regular basis, but not less than quarterly; and

“(4) provides—

“(A) links to Government-sponsored, non-profit, and other Internet websites of laboratories that have demonstrated expertise in newborn screening that supply research-based information on newborn screening tests currently available throughout the United States;

“(B) information about newborn conditions and screening services available in each State from laboratories certified under subpart 2 of part F of title III, including information about supplemental screening that is available but not required, in the State where the infant is born;

“(C) current research on both treatable and not-yet treatable conditions for which newborn screening tests are available;

“(D) the availability of Federal funding for newborn and child screening for heritable disorders including grants authorized under the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007; and

“(E) other relevant information as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(c) NONDUPLICATION.—In developing the clearinghouse under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that such clearinghouse minimizes duplication and supplements, not supplants, existing information sharing efforts.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$2,500,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$2,531,250 for fiscal year 2009, \$2,562,500 for fiscal year 2010, \$2,593,750 for fiscal year 2011, and \$2,625,000 for fiscal year 2012.”

SEC. 6. LABORATORY QUALITY AND SURVEILLANCE.

Part A of title XI of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300b-1 et seq.), as amended by section 5, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 1113. LABORATORY QUALITY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children established under section 1111, shall provide for—

“(1) quality assurance for laboratories involved in screening newborns and children for heritable disorders, including quality assurance for newborn-screening tests, performance evaluation services, and technical assistance and technology transfer to newborn screening laboratories to ensure analytic validity and utility of screening tests; and

“(2) appropriate quality control and other performance test materials to evaluate the performance of new screening tools.

“(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$5,062,500 for fiscal year 2009, \$5,125,000 for fiscal year 2010, \$5,187,500 for fiscal year 2011, and \$5,250,000 for fiscal year 2012.

“SEC. 1114. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON NEWBORN AND CHILD SCREENING.

“(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to—

“(1) assess existing activities and infrastructure, including activities on birth defects and developmental disabilities authorized under section 317C, in order to make recommendations for programs to collect, analyze, and make available data on the heritable disorders recommended by the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children under section 1111, including data on the incidence and prevalence of, as well as poor health outcomes resulting from, such disorders; and

“(2) make recommendations for the establishment of regional centers for the conduct of applied epidemiological research on effective interventions to promote the prevention of poor health outcomes resulting from such disorders as well as providing information and education to the public on such effective interventions.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Newborn and Child Screening (referred to in this section as the ‘Interagency Coordinating Committee’) to carry out the purpose of this section.

“(c) COMPOSITION.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee shall be composed of the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Administrator, the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health, or their designees.

“(d) ACTIVITIES.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee shall—

“(1) report to the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress on its recommendations related to the purpose described in subsection (a); and

“(2) carry out other activities determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$1,012,500 for fiscal year 2009, \$1,025,000 for fiscal year 2010, \$1,037,500 for fiscal year 2011, and \$1,050,000 for fiscal year 2012.”

SEC. 7. CONTINGENCY PLANNING.

Part A of title XI of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300b-1 et seq.), as amended by section 6, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 1115. NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR NEWBORN SCREENING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in consultation with the Administrator and State departments of health (or related agencies), shall develop a national contingency plan for newborn screening for use by a State, region, or consortia of States in the event of a public health emergency.

“(b) CONTENTS.—The contingency plan developed under subsection (a) shall include a plan for—

“(1) the collection and transport of specimens;

“(2) the shipment of specimens to State newborn screening laboratories;

“(3) the processing of specimens;

“(4) the reporting of screening results to physicians and families;

“(5) the diagnostic confirmation of positive screening results;

“(6) ensuring the availability of treatment and management resources;

“(7) educating families about newborn screening; and

“(8) carrying out other activities determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“SEC. 1116. HUNTER KELLY RESEARCH PROGRAM.

“(a) NEWBORN SCREENING ACTIVITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in conjunction with the Director of the National Institutes of Health and taking into consideration the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, may continue carrying out, coordinating, and expanding research in newborn screening (to be known as ‘Hunter Kelly Newborn Screening Research Program’) including—

“(A) identifying, developing, and testing the most promising new screening technologies, in order to improve already existing screening tests, increase the specificity of newborn screening, and expand the number of conditions for which screening tests are available;

“(B) experimental treatments and disease management strategies for additional newborn conditions, and other genetic, metabolic, hormonal and or functional conditions that can be detected through newborn screening for which treatment is not yet available; and

“(C) other activities that would improve newborn screening, as identified by the Director.

“(2) ADDITIONAL NEWBORN CONDITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘additional newborn condition’ means any condition that is not one of the core conditions recommended by the Advisory Committee and adopted by the Secretary.

“(b) FUNDING.—In carrying out the research program under this section, the Secretary and the Director shall ensure that entities receiving funding through the program will provide assurances, as practicable, that such entities will work in consultation with the appropriate State departments of health, and, as practicable, focus their research on screening technology not currently performed in the States in which the entities are located, and the conditions on the uniform screening panel (or the standard test existing on the uniform screening panel).

“(c) REPORTS.—The Director is encouraged to include information about the activities carried out under this section in the biennial report required under section 403 of the National Institutes of Health Reform Act of 2006. If such information is included, the Director shall make such information available to be included on the Internet Clearinghouse established under section 1112.

“(d) NONDUPLICATION.—In carrying out programs under this section, the Secretary shall minimize duplication and supplement, not supplant, existing efforts of the type carried out under this section.

“(e) PEER REVIEW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to interfere with the scientific peer-review process at the National Institutes of Health.”

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HARKIN. 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 December 13, 2007. At 10:30 a.m., in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Shopping Smart and Avoiding Scams: Financial Literacy During the Holiday Season.”

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, for the purposes of conducting a hearing.

At this hearing, the committee members will hear from the five Federal Communications Commission commissioners on current proceedings involving media and telecommunications policy.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. HARKIN. 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, December 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in order to conduct a hearing. At this hearing, the committee will hear testimony regarding forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction efforts in the forests of Oregon and Washington.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. HARKIN. 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 Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 9 a.m. in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in order to conduct a hearing entitled, "The Clean Water Act following the recent Supreme Court decisions in Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and Rapanos-Carabell."

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing entitled "The Housing Decline: The Extent of the Problem and Potential Remedies."

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at a time to be determined in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to consider the nominations of Christopher A. Padilla, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; Christina H. Pearson, to be Assistant Secretary Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Benjamin Eric Sasse, to be Assistant Secretary Planning and

Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Charles E.F. Millard, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to hold a hearing on global fight against AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HARKIN. 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 an Executive Business meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Agenda

I. Resolutions of Contempt
II. Bills

S. 2402, FISA Intelligence Surveillance Substitution Act of 2007, (Specter); S. 344, A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court Proceedings, (Specter, Grassley, Durbin, Schumer, Feingold, Cornyn); S. 1638, Federal Judicial Salary Restoration Act of 2007, (Leahy, Hatch, Feinstein, Graham, Kennedy); S. 1829, Protect Our Children First Act of 2007, (Leahy, Hatch, Schumer); S. 431, Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007, (Schumer, McCain, Grassley, Specter, Kyl); S. 2344, Internet Safety Education Act of 2007, (Menendez).

III. Resolution

S. Res. 388, Designating the week of February 4 through February 8, 2008, as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week", (Crapo, Biden).

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs to be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007. The Committee will meet off the Senate Floor in the Reception room to consider the nomination of LTG James B. Peake (Ret.) for Secretary of Veterans Affairs after the first Floor vote that occurs on Thursday.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to hold a closed hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled, "Prioritizing Management: Implementing Chief Management Officers at Federal Agencies."

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tess Mullen of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar Nos. 392, 397, 398, 399, and 400; and the Coast Guard nominations at the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

THE JUDICIARY

Amul R. Thapar, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, vice Joseph M. Hood, retiring.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Ronald Jay Tenpas, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Gregory A. Brower, of Nevada, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nevada for the term of four years.

Diane J. Humetewa, of Arizona, to be United States Attorney for the District of Arizona for the term of four years.

Edmund A. Booth, Jr., of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

PN1039 COAST GUARD nominations (271) beginning STEVEN C. ACOSTA, and ending Marc A. Zlomek, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 7, 2007.

PN1055 COAST GUARD nominations (4) beginning Damon L. Bentley, and ending Tanya C. Saunders, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 15, 2007.