

Recess: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 7:46 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9347.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FOOD MARKETING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government to examine childhood obesity and the impact of food marketing to children, after receiving testimony from Julie L. Gerberding, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Administrator, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Department of Health and Human Services; Jon Leibowitz, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; Kevin J. Martin, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; J. Michael McGinnis, National Academies, Washington, D.C.; Marc S. Firestone, Kraft Foods, Inc., Northfield, Illinois; Marva Smalls, Nickelodeon/MTV Networks Kids and Family Group, New York, New York; and Patti Miller, Children Now, Oakland, California.

IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the situation in Iraq and Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Robert M. Gates, Secretary, and General James E. Cartwright, USMC, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

CURRENT CREDIT MARKETS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine turmoil in United States credit markets, focusing on recent actions regarding government sponsored entities, investment banks and other financial institutions, after receiving testimony from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury; Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; former Representative Christopher Cox, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; and James B. Lockhart III, Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the transition to digital television, focusing on the February 2009 deadline, after receiving testi-

mony from Kevin J. Martin, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Meredith Attwell Baker, Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration; Mark L. Goldstein, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; Josefina Carbonell, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Aging; and Mayor Bill Saffo, Wilmington, North Carolina.

DIESEL PRICES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reasons that diesel fuel prices have been so high and action that can be taken to address this situation, after receiving testimony from Howard Gruenspecht, Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; former Representative Dave McCurdy, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, and Gregory M. Scott, National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, both of Washington, D.C.; and Barbara Windsor, American Trucking Associations, Inc., New Market, Maryland.

CLEAN AIR ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine regulation of greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act (Public Law 101-549), after receiving testimony from Robert J. Meyers, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Mary D. Nichols, California Air Resources Board, Sacramento; and David Bookbinder, Sierra Club, William L. Kovacs, United States Chamber of Commerce, Marlo Lewis, Competitive Enterprise Institute, and Jason Burnett, all of Washington, D.C.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine covering the uninsured and reforming the healthcare system, focusing on the rating practices of the private health insurance market, after receiving testimony from Kim Holland, Commissioner of Insurance, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; John Bertko, RAND Corporation, Flagstaff, Arizona; Andrew Dreyfus, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Boston; and Pam MacEwan, Group Health Cooperative, Seattle.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Croatia adopted at Brussels on July 9,

2008, and signed that day on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty (Treaty Doc. 110–20);

Amendments to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) (Geneva 1992), as amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto 1994), together with declarations and reservations by the United States as contained in the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis 1998) (Treaty Doc. 108–05), Amendments to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992), as amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), together with the declarations and reservations by the United States, all as contained in the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) (Treaty Doc. 109–11), Amendments to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992), as Amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002), Together with the Declarations and Reservations by the United States, all as Contained in the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) (Treaty Doc. 110–16);

S. 2609, to establish a Global Service Fellowship Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3103, to amend the Iran, North Korea, and Syria nonproliferation Act to allow certain extraordinary payments in connection with the International Space Station;

S. 1007, to direct the Secretary of State to work with the Government of Brazil and other foreign governments to develop partnerships that will strengthen diplomatic relations and energy security by accelerating the development of biofuels production, research, and infrastructure to alleviate poverty, create jobs, and increase income, while improving energy security and protecting the environment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3426, to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to extend comparability pay adjustments to members of the Foreign Service assigned to posts abroad, and to amend the provision relating to the death gratuity payable to surviving dependents on Foreign Service employees who die as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty abroad;

S. Res. 598, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the United States to lead renewed international efforts to assist developing nations in conserving natural resources and preventing the impending extinction of a large portion of the world's plant and animal species;

An original bill to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal years 2009 and 2010;

S. 3548. An original bill to approve the United States-India Agreement for Cooperation on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy; and

The nominations of Brian H. Hook, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, Sung Y. Kim, of California, a Foreign Service Officer of Class One, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador and to be Alternate Representative of the United States to the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, Clifford D. May, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, C. Steven McGann, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati, Dennis M. Mulhaupt, of California, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, Matthew A. Reynolds, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, Carol Ann Rodley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

HURRICANES GUSTAV AND IKE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery concluded a hearing to examine the actions of federal, state, and local activities to respond and recover from Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, after receiving testimony from Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., Deputy Administrator, Chief Operating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Edward J. Hecker, Chief, Office of Homeland Security, Provost Marshal, Directorate of Civil Works, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Mitchell J. Landrieu, Baton Rouge; Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, Austin; Louisiana State Senator Reggie P. Dupre, Jr., Houma; Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas, Galveston, Texas; Mayor Cedric B. Glover, Shreveport, Louisiana; and Mayor Bill White, Houston, Texas.

2010 CENSUS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services,

and International Security concluded a hearing to examine reducing the undercount in the 2010 census, including key activities the Census Bureau plans to use to help reduce the differential undercount and improve participation, the various challenges and opportunities that might affect the Bureau's ability to improve coverage in 2010, and how different population estimates can impact the allocation of federal grant funds, after receiving testimony from Steve H. Murdock, Director, United States Census Bureau, Department of Commerce; Robert Goldenkoff, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Joseph J. Salvo, New York City Department of City Planning Population Division, and Kenneth Prewitt, former Census Bureau Director, Columbia University, both of New York, New York; and Roderick Harrison, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Karen K. Narasaki, Asian American Justice Center, and Arturo Vargas, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 3474, to amend title 44, United States Code, to enhance information security of the Federal Government, with an amendment;

S. 3384, to amend section 11317 of title 40, United States Code, to require greater accountability for cost overruns on Federal IT investment projects, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 2631, to strengthen efforts in the Department of Homeland Security to develop nuclear forensics capabilities to permit attribution of the source of nuclear material, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 6098, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 3815, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to make full and efficient use of open source information to develop and disseminate open source homeland security information products, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

An original bill to establish a controlled unclassified information framework;

H.R. 6073, to provide that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically, to amend title 5, United States Code, to

provide for 8 weeks of paid leave for Federal employees giving birth;

S. 3350, to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances;

S. 3477, to amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 5975 and S. 3317, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office";

H.R. 6092, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building";

S. 3309, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2523 7th Avenue East in North Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the Mayor William "Bill" Sandberg Post Office Building; and

H.R. 6437, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 North Texas Avenue in Odessa, Texas, as the "Corporal Alfred Mac Wilson Post Office"; and

The nominations of Ruth Y. Goldway, of California, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, and Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, and Thomas M. Beck, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine the elements of the Federal Government responsible for coordinating our public diplomacy, including their respective missions, organizational structures, workforce, and management, after receiving testimony from Christopher Midura, Acting Director, Office of Policy, Planning and Resources, Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Scott H. DeLisi, Director, Career Development and Assignments, Bureau of Human Resources, Rick Ruth, Director, Office of Policy and Evaluation, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and Peter Kovach, Director, Global Strategic Engagement Center, all of the Department of State; Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Vice Chairman, United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy; Douglas Bereuter, Asia Foundation, San Francisco, California; and Stephen M. Chaplin, American Academy of Diplomacy, Ronna

A. Freiberg, Legislative Strategies, and Jill A. Schuker, all of Washington, D.C.

SKILLED WORKFORCE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety concluded a hearing to examine investing in a skilled workforce, focusing on making the best use of tax payer dollars to maximize results, including the intent of the grant initiatives and the extent to which the Department of Labor will be able to assess their effects, the extent to which the process used competition, was adequately documented, and included key players, and what the Department is doing to monitor individual grantee compliance with grant requirements, after receiving testimony from George A. Scott, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audit, and Brent R. Orrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Employment and Training Administration, both of the Department of Labor.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

H.R. 5680, to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans, with an amendment;

H.R. 2963, to transfer certain land in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, from the Bureau of Land Management to the United States to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, with an amendment;

S. 3194, to transfer surplus Federal land administered by the Coast Guard in the State of Oregon;

S. 3128, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide a loan to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for use in planning, engineering, and designing a certain water system project, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3381, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to develop water infrastructure in the Rio Grande Basin, and to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Pueblos of Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Tesuque, and Taos.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine equal pay for equal work, including S. 1843 and H.R. 2831, bills to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, after receiving testimony from Lawrence Z. Lorber, Proskauer Rose, LLP, and Cyrus Mehri, Mehri and Skalet, PLLC, both of Washington, D.C.; and Lilly Ledbetter, Jacksonville, Alabama.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Anthony John Trenga, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, who was introduced by Senators Warner and Webb, C. Darnell Jones II, Mitchell S. Goldberg, and Joel H. Slomsky, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, who were introduced by Senators Specter and Casey, and Eric F. Melgren, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, who was introduced by Senators Brownback and Roberts, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the new Attorney General guidelines for domestic intelligence collection, after receiving testimony from Elisebeth Collins Cook, Assistant Attorney General, and Valerie Caproni, General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Investigation, both of the Department of Justice.