

“(C) Recruiting other individuals with demonstrated management experience or expertise into pro bono service opportunities with such organization or agency.”.

SA 714. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. GREGG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 687 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 235, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

SEC. 1713. VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT CORPS STUDY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Many managers seek opportunities to give back to their communities and address the Nation’s challenges.

(2) Managers possess business and technical skills that make them especially suited to help nonprofit organizations and State and local governments create efficiencies and cost savings and develop programs to serve communities in need.

(3) There are currently a large number of businesses and firms who are seeking to identify savings through sabbatical opportunities for senior employees.

(b) STUDY AND PLAN.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall—

(1) conduct a study on how best to establish and implement a Volunteer Management Corps program; and

(2) submit a plan regarding the establishment of such program to Congress and to the President.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the study described in subsection (b)(1), the Corporation may consult with experts in the private and nonprofit sectors.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding section 6101, this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 715. Mr. ENSIGN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 692 submitted by Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the amendment SA 687 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; as follows:

On page 2, line 20, insert before the period the following: “which shall include crisis pregnancy centers, organizations that serve battered women (including domestic violence shelters), and organizations that serve victims of rape or incest”. These organizations must be charities within the meaning of the United States tax code.

SA 716. Mr. THUNE proposed an amendment to amendment SA 687 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) President John F. Kennedy said, “The raising of extraordinarily large sums of money, given voluntarily and freely by millions of our fellow Americans, is a unique American tradition . . . Philanthropy, charity, giving voluntarily and freely . . . call it

what you like, but it is truly a jewel of an American tradition”.

(2) Americans gave more than \$300,000,000,000 to charitable causes in 2007, an amount equal to roughly 2 percent of the gross domestic product.

(3) The vast majority of those donations, roughly 75 percent or \$229,000,000,000, came from individuals.

(4) Studies have shown that Americans give far more to charity than the people of any other industrialized nation—more than twice as much, measured as a share of gross domestic product, than the citizens of Great Britain, and 10 times more than the citizens of France.

(5) 7 out of 10 American households donate to charities to support a wide range of religious, educational, cultural, health care, and environmental goals.

(6) These charities provide innumerable valuable public services to society’s most vulnerable citizens during difficult economic times.

(7) Congress has provided incentives through the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage charitable giving by allowing individuals to deduct income given to tax-exempt charities.

(8) 41,000,000 American households, constituting 86 percent of taxpayers who itemize deductions, took advantage of this deduction to give to the charities of their choice.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should preserve the full income tax deduction for charitable contributions through the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and look for additional ways to encourage charitable giving rather than to discourage it.

SA 717. Ms. LANDRIEU proposed an amendment to amendment SA 687 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; as follows:

On page 92, strike line 1 and insert the following:

“(H) A program that seeks to expand the number of mentors for youth in foster care through—

“(i) the provision of direct academic mentoring services for youth in foster care;

“(ii) the provision of supportive services to mentoring service organizations that directly provide mentoring to youth in foster care, including providing training of mentors in child development, domestic violence, foster care, confidentiality requirements, and other matters related to working with youth in foster care; or

“(iii) supporting foster care mentoring partnerships, including statewide and local mentoring partnerships that strengthen direct service mentoring programs.

“(I) Such other national service programs

SA 718. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 147(d) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as added by section 1404, strike “, for each of not more than 2 of such terms of service.”.

SA 719. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In subsection (c)(8)(B)(iii) of section 119 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as added by section 1204, strike “of \$500 or \$750”.

In section 147(d) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as added by section 1404, strike “equal to” and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: “equal to \$1,000 (or, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, equal to \$1,500 in the case of a participant who is economically disadvantaged).”.

SA 720. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 183, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1518. ADDITIONAL CAMPUS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

(a) FLORIDA CAMPUS.—The Director of the National Civilian Community Corps under subtitle E of title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.) shall establish a campus described in section 155 of such Act (as amended by section 1505 of this Act) (42 U.S.C. 12615) for such Corps in the State of Florida.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for the establishment of the campus required under subsection (a).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Corporation for National and Community Service shall submit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the expansion of the National Civilian Community Corps in addressing the effects of hurricanes and tropical storms in the southern region of the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. DURBIN. 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, March 25, 2009 at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing entitled, “The Need for Transportation Investment.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Foreign Policy and the Global Economic Crisis.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Southern Border Violence: Homeland Security Threats, Vulnerabilities, and Responsibilities."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation" on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 10:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009. The Committee will meet in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION OPERATIONS,
SAFETY, AND SECURITY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 9:45 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Energy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 2 p.m., in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Health Care of the Committee on Finance will meet on

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Dirksen 106 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH
26, 2009

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, March 26; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then proceed to a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half; further, that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1388, the national service legislation.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, tomorrow, at 4 p.m. in room 217 of the Capitol Visitor Center, there will be a classified Senators-only briefing with Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator BARRASSO.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period of morning business tomorrow be limited to 1 hour.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-83, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the National Council of the Arts: the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE of Rhode Island.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 105, adopted April 13, 1989, as amended by S. Res. 149, adopted October 5, 1993, as amended by Public Law 105-275, adopted October 21, 1998, further amended by S. Res. 75, adopted March 25, 1999, amended by S. Res. 383, adopted October 27, 2000, and amended by S. Res. 355, adopted November 13, 2002, and further amended by S. Res. 480 adopted November 21, 2004, the appointment of the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 111th Congress: the Senator from Florida, Mr. NELSON, and the Senator from Connecticut, Mr. LIEBERMAN.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I make a note that these appointments to the National Security Working Group were inadvertently left off the March 9, 2009, appointment to this group.

SENIORS MENTAL HEALTH
ACCESS AND IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleague from Arkansas, Senator BLANCHE LINCOLN, in introducing Nos. 671, the Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act.

For over a decade, Senator LINCOLN has been a strong voice advocating for health care policies in the Senate that apply specifically to rural communities. I am proud to join her as we fight to ensure Medicare patients living in rural and in frontier States have access to and a choice of their mental health professionals.

The Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act will permit marriage and family therapists and licensed professional counselors to bill Medicare directly. These providers will then receive 75 percent of the rate that psychiatrists and psychologists receive for the same services.