of this Act for the United States to provide compensation, monetary payments, or other assistance to civilians who incur harm due directly or indirectly to the combat activities of the United States Armed Forces.

(2) A description of the practices in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act for the United States to provide ex gratia, solatia, or other types of condolence payments to civilians who incur harm due directly or indirectly to the combat activities of the United States Armed Forces.

(3) A discussion of the historic practice of the United States to provide compensation, other monetary payments, or other assistance to civilian foreign nationals who incur harm due directly or indirectly to combat activities of the United States Armed Forces.

(4) A discussion of the practice of the United States in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom to provide compensation, other monetary payments, or other assistance to civilian foreign nationals who incur harm due directly or indirectly to the combat activities of the United States Armed Forces, including the procedures and guidelines used and an assessment of its effectiveness. This discussion will also include estimates of the total amount of funds disbursed to civilian foreign nationals who have incurred harm since the inception of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. This discussion will also include how such procedures and guidelines compare to the processing of claims filed under the Foreign Claims Act.

(5) A discussion of the positive and negative effects of using different authorities, procedure, and guidelines to provide monetary assistance to civilian foreign nationals, based upon the culture and economic circumstances of the local populace and the operational impact on the military mission. This discussion will also include whether the use of different authorities, procedures, and guidelines has resulted in disparate monetary assistance to civilian foreign nationals who have incurred substantially similar harm, and if so, the frequency and effect of such results.

(6) A discussion of the positive and negative effects of establishing general uniform procedures and guidelines for the provision of such assistance, based upon the goals of timely commencement of a program of monetary assistance, efficient and effective implementation of such program, and consistency in the amount of assistance in relation to the harm incurred. This discussion will also include whether the implementation of general procedures and guidelines would create a legally enforceable entitlement to ''compensation'' and, if so, any potential significant operational impact arising from such an entitlement.

(7) Assuming general uniform procedures and guidelines were to be established, a discussion of the following:

(A) Whether such assistance should be limited to specified types of combat activities or operations, e.g., such as during counterinsurgency operations.

(B) Whether such assistance should be contingent upon a formal determination that a particular combat activity/operation is a qualifying activity, and the criteria, if any, for such a determination.

(C) Whether a time limit from the date of loss for providing such assistance should be prescribed.

(D) Whether only monetary or other types of assistance should be authorized, and what types of nonmonetary assistance, if any, should be authorized.

(E) Whether monetary value limits should be placed on the assistance that may be provided, or whether the determination to provide assistance and, if so, the monetary value of such assistance, should be based, in whole or in part, on a legal advisor's assessment of the facts.

(G) Whether a written record of the determination to provide or to not provide such assistance should be maintained and a copy made available to the civilian foreign national.

(H) Whether in the event of a determination to not provide such assistance the civilian foreign national should be afforded the option of a review of the determination by a higher ranking authority.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall include in the report such recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate for legislative or administrative action with respect to the matters discussed in the report.

(d) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—The report shall be submitted not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. 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 July 23, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 23, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND THE COURTS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on July 23, 2009, at 10 a.m. in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''The Worsening Foreclosure Crises: Is It Time to Reconsider Bankruptcy Reform?''

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

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

Mr. LIEBERMAN. 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, July 23, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, ''D.C. Public Schools: Taking Stock of Education Reform.''

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on Thursday, on July 23, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator BINGAMAN, I ask unanimous consent that Abdullah Feroze, Nora Lamm, and Van Snow, from Senator BINGAMAN's office be given privileges of the floor for the pendency of S. 1390, the Defense authorization bill, and all votes thereon.

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

BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 56, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 56) approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

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

RENEWAL OF THE BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge passage of H.J. Res. 56, the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act, which is now on its way to the President's desk for his signature.

As in years past, this resolution will extend import sanctions for another year against Burmese goods in order to maintain economic pressure on the ruling State Peace and Development

Council—SPDC. It also continues the Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE Act, which was enacted last year and further increased sanctions against the junta.

In some circles the value of sanctions has been questioned and, at some point, greater engagement with the regime may be in order. However, by passing this measure, Congress has clearly concluded that such a change in policy would be premature, and for good reason. The very fact that Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has been put on trial by the regime for trumped-up charges reflects how essential it is to continue these measures against the SPDC. To do otherwise would implicitly condone the junta's actions in trying her. It also would turn a blind eye to the regime having imprisoned Suu Kyi for 13 of the past 20 years, to say nothing of the scores of less well-known political prisoners who currently languish in Burmese prisons.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's recent trip to Burma, I think, demonstrates yet again the true nature of this regime. During his visit, he was denied access to Suu Kyi and apparently received no concessions from the junta. This reflects that it is the SPDC that does not want to engage meaningfully with the international community, not the other way around. Therefore, my colleagues and I believe that sanctions against the junta should remain in place until such time as the regime truly commits itself to a course of democratization and reconciliation.

Nor should anyone be fooled by the junta's transparent efforts to legitimize its rule through the scheduled 2010 elections. By excluding Suu Kyi from participating in the elections and by including provisions that would permanently entrench military rule, the new Burmese charter is no more legitimate than the regime that sponsored it. More than halfway through 2009, it is hard to see how next year's elections in Burma are redeemable.

Congress's posture toward the Burmese regime is not just borne out of humanitarian concerns; it also involves important national security considerations. Just this week, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton publicly raised questions about alleged military links between the junta and North Korea. The details of the Burmese-North Korean relationship are murky but, according to the Washington Post, concern has been raised among U.S. officials about a possible budding nuclear relationship between the two autocracies.

Finally, I note that this resolution has brought together 66 Members of this Chamber as cosponsors, more cosponsors than any previous year. This showing reflects yet again the genuine bipartisan support for the people of Burma and opposition to the junta's rule. In this effort, I was pleased to work closely again with my friend Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, who has long been a vigorous advocate for the Burmese people. Senators MCCAIN and DURBIN have also been stalwarts in their support for freedom in Burma, and they once again were at the vanguard of this legislative undertaking. I would close by thanking Brandi White and Ally Bird of my staff for their hard work on this bill.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 56) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

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

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

AMENDMENTS TO DOD AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I indicated there were 18 amendments that had been cleared by Senator MCCAIN and the leadership and myself, which under the previous UC would then be automatically adopted and made part of the bill. In fact, there were 19 amendments on this list as it now appears, including that modified Sessions amendment. So I wanted to clarify the RECORD on that point. There are 19 amendments on that list, No. 19 being one that we, frankly, thought we previously approved but apparently had not. So it is intended that it is on that list, and we are assured by the staff that this is the way we can correct that problem.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The RECORD will so note.

Mr. LEVIN. I thank the Presiding Officer. And I thank Senator MCCAIN's staff for bringing that to our attention.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, July 24; 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; that there then be a moment of silence in honor of the fallen Capitol Police officers, and that following the moment of silence, there be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, there will be no rollcall votes during tomorrow's session of the Senate. Senators should expect the next vote to begin around 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:10 p.m., adjourned until Friday, July 24, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

KETANJI BROWN JACKSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 31, 2013, VICE MICHAEL E. HOROWITZ, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE SERVING AS THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 3047, 3064 AND 624:

To be lieutenant general

BRIG. GEN. DANA K. CHIPMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 3037, AND 3064:

To be brigadier general, judge advocate general's corps

COL. THOMAS E. AYRES
COL. MARK S. MARTINS
COL. JOHN W. MILLER II

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JANE B. PRATHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

HUNT W. KERRIGAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHELE L. HILL
WILLIAM S. LIKE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

WARREN G. THOMPSON
FREDERICK M. KARRER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

YVONNE S. BREECE
RYAN S. JONES
HAROLD P. XENITELIS

To be major

RICHARD R. ABELKIS
TODD H. BONHAM
WILLIE L. CASEY
ROBERT B. LACKEY
SAMUEL LOPEZSANTANA
CHRISTOPHER R. MORSE
CHARLES B. TIERNEY
PAMELA L. TINGLE
SHARON D. TYLER
MICHAEL J. UFFORD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624: