

(6) RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and is deemed to be part of the rules of each House, respectively but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of bill under this section, and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as they relate to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

**SA 3257.** Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 352, line 8, strike “50” and insert “500”.

On page 352, line 13, strike “50” and insert “500”.

On page 352, line 16, strike “50” and insert “500”.

On page 352, line 20, strike “50” and insert “500”.

**SA 3258.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 869, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

**SEC. 3143. FLOOR ON AREA WAGE INDEX.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning with discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2009, for purposes of section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)), the area wage index applicable under such section to hospitals with Medicare provider numbers 300001, 300003, 300005, 300011, 300012, 300014, 300017, 300018, 300019, 300020, 300023, 300029, and 300034 shall not be less than the post-reclassification area wage index applicable to the hospital for purposes of determining payments during the period beginning on or after October 1, 2006, and before October 1, 2007.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall make a proportional adjustment in the standardized amounts determined under section 1886(d)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)) to assure that the provisions of this section do not result in aggregate payments under section 1886 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww) that are greater or less than those that would otherwise be made. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of making adjustments under this subsection, the Secretary shall not further

adjust the wage index or standardized amounts for any area, State, or region within the United States.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. BAUCUS. 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 December 16, at 11:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. BAUCUS. 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 December 16, 2009, at 10 a.m.

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

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 3 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Judicial Nominations.”

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

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009.

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICES, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs’ Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be au-

thorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, “Tools to Combat Deficits and Waste: Enhanced Rescission Authority”.

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW**

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 16, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Law of the Land: U.S. Implementation of Human Rights Treaties.”

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

**HONORING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN**

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 376, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 376) honoring the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the 10th anniversary of the accession to the throne of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, today, I am supporting this resolution to honor the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, as well as to honor the 10th anniversary of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein’s accession to the throne. I am pleased to be joined in this endeavor by Senator GREGG.

Since establishing diplomatic relations, Jordan has worked together with the U.S. towards the mutual goal of peace in the Middle East. In 1994, King Hussein and Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, signed the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, ending nearly 50 years of war between the two countries. The government of Jordan has been an instrumental partner in the fight against al-Qaida and terrorism. As a result, the people of Jordan have also suffered devastating losses at the hands of terrorists.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor to this legislation.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to,