

of the highest marks in competitive readiness and maintenance exercises and competitions;

Whereas, for the past 65 years, Ellsworth Air Force Base has—

(1) been home to the 28th Bomb Wing and some of the most impressive aircraft in the United States, including the B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-29 Superfortress, the RB-36 Peacemaker, the B-52 Stratofortress, the KC-135 Stratotanker, KC-97 Stratofreighter and the B-1B Lancer; and

(2) for parts of 4 decades, served as an important cog in the missile defense system of the United States, featuring the Titan and Minuteman missile systems;

Whereas Ellsworth Air Force Base continues to evolve and is preparing to welcome the MQ-9 Reaper mission later in 2012; and

Whereas, Ellsworth Air Force Base and the communities of Rapid City and Box Elder, South Dakota have and will continue to enjoy a long standing, mutually beneficial relationship; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the contributions of Ellsworth Air Force Base to the security of the United States;

(2) commemorates 70 years of excellence and service by Ellsworth Air Force Base to the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to recognize and honor the dedicated and exemplary service of the airmen and their families, past and present, stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base.

SENATE RESOLUTION 465—RECOGNIZING THAT THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO HAS PROCLAIMED 2012 AS THE “YEAR OF WATER”

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 465

Whereas water is a precious and limited natural resource;

Whereas a clean and sustainable water supply is essential to the high quality of life enjoyed by Coloradans;

Whereas a clean and sustainable water supply is essential to the success of all aspects of the economy of the State of Colorado, including the agricultural, municipal, industrial, and recreational economies;

Whereas as a headwaters State, the health of the water in the State of Colorado has a direct impact on neighboring States;

Whereas the population of the State of Colorado is predicted to double by 2050;

Whereas educating the public about limited water resources will be critical in meeting the increasing demands placed on water in the future;

Whereas 2012 marks the—

(1) 100th anniversary of the construction of the Rio Grande Reservoir;

(2) 90th anniversary of the Colorado River Compact of 1922;

(3) 75th anniversary of the creation of the Colorado Water Conservation Board;

(4) 75th anniversary of the creation of the Colorado River Water Conservation District;

(5) 75th anniversary of the creation of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the Colorado-Big Thompson Project;

(6) 50th anniversary of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, administered by the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District;

(7) 10th anniversary of the Colorado Foundation for Water Education; and

(8) 10th anniversary of the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District; and

Whereas the Governor of the State of Colorado has proclaimed 2012 as the “Year of

Water” in the State of Colorado: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that the Governor of the State of Colorado has proclaimed 2012 as the “Year of Water” in the State of Colorado.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CONRAD. 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 May 16, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, “Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Identifying Opportunities for Health Care Delivery System Reform: Lessons from the Front Line” on May 16, 2012, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CONRAD. 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 May 16, 2012, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on May 16, 2012, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.”

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Children’s Health and Environmental Responsibility of the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2012, at 10 a.m. in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to con-

duct a hearing entitled, “Growing Long-Term Value: Corporate Environmental Responsibility and Innovation.”

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Chantel Boyens, a detailee to the Budget Committee, be given floor privileges for the pendency of the debate on the budget resolutions and S. 2516, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Laura Sands and Katrine Lazar of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today’s proceedings.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 17, 2012, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 646 and 647; that there be 90 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form to run concurrently on both nominations en bloc; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that the nominations be subject to a 60-vote threshold; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action and the Senate then resume legislative session; further, that the cloture votes with respect to these nominations be vitiated.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration en bloc of the following resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 463, S. Res. 464, and S. Res. 465.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senate will proceed to consider the resolutions en bloc.

S. RES. 463

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a pretty common sense goal—getting more kids outside and engaged in the great outdoors.