

and I understand that there is significant concern with some of the provisions of the House-passed version of this bill. That's to be expected. What is unexpected—and unacceptable—is that there would be an objection to a simple procedural step to get to conference to resolve these differences.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 816 through 823; that the nominations be confirmed; the motions to reconsider be laid on the table; any statements thereon be printed in the RECORD; the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate resume legislative session, with the preceding all occurring without any intervening action or debate.

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

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Steven M. Biskupic, of Wisconsin, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin for the term of four years

James E. McMahon, of South Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years

Jan Paul Miller, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois for the term of four years

Walter Robert Bradley, of Kansas, to be United States Marshal for the district of Kansas for the term of four years

Randy Paul Ely, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years

William P. Kruziki, of Wisconsin, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Wisconsin for the term of four years

Stephen Robert Monier, of New Hampshire, to be United States Marshal for the District of New Hampshire for the term of four years

Gary Edward Shovlin, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

COMMENDING PUBLIC SERVANTS DURING "PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK"

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 261, submitted earlier today by Senators AKAKA, CONRAD, and others.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 261) expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week.

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

Mr. AKAKA. Madam President, it is with pleasure that I support a resolution commending public servants, especially our federal workforce, for their dedication and continued service to the nation during Public Service Recognition Week, which began yesterday and runs through May 12, 2002. I am delighted to be joined in this effort by Senators COCHRAN, DURBIN, LEVIN, LIEBERMAN, VOINOVICH, COLLINS, and THOMPSON.

As my colleagues know, public service is a long and honored tradition in the United States. Today, more than ever, our nation is faced with challenges that affect not only our way of life, but also the security of our country. Although we are still grappling with these changes, there has been one steady and true beacon of hope and inspiration through this uncertainty—our federal workforce. Their dedication, commitment, and tireless service have contributed greatly to the country's recovery from the tragic events of September 11th and the anthrax attacks through the U.S. Mail.

Public Service Recognition Week represents an opportunity for us to honor and celebrate the commitment of individuals who serve the needs of the nation through work at all levels of government. Public Service Recognition Week is also a time to call on a new generation to consider public service. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services, I am pleased that there is renewed interest in working for the federal government. This trend is particularly heartening given that 50 percent of our federal workforce will be eligible to retire in the next five years. I also wish to point out that every federal agency has a role in ensuring that our nation is protected and that it prospers, not just those agencies and federal employees that are directly fighting the war on terrorism.

I invite my colleagues to honor the patriotic commitment to public service that our federal employees exemplify and to join in the federal government's annual celebration. From May 9–12, 2002, there will be an extensive exhibit on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., showcasing many of our federal agencies and branches of the military, as well as highlighting the services these agencies provide.

In addition to the Mall exhibits, I encourage my colleagues to recognize federal employees, as well as state and local government employees within their states, to let them know how much their work is appreciated. Our resolution details the tremendous contributions that our public servants make to their country and communities.

I am very proud of the men and women who serve our country, both in and out of uniform. I urge my fellow members to use next week to thank

our federal employees for their enthusiasm and selfless dedication to public service.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, all without any intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 261) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 261

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to honor and celebrate the commitment of individuals who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas over 20,000,000 men and women work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas the United States of America is a great and prosperous Nation, and public service employees have contributed significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas Americans benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

- (1) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;
- (2) fight crime and fire;
- (3) deliver the mail;
- (4) teach and work in the schools;
- (5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits;
- (6) fight disease and promote better health;
- (7) protect the environment and national parks;
- (8) improve transportation and the quality of water and food;
- (9) build and maintain roads and bridges;
- (10) provide vital strategic and support functions to our military;
- (11) keep the Nation's economy stable;
- (12) defend our freedom; and
- (13) advance United States interests around the world;

Whereas public servants at the Federal, State, and local level are the first line of defense in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas for every essential service disrupted by the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, public servants responded quickly and effectively, many giving their lives for their country;

Whereas public servants demonstrated once again on September 11, 2001, that civil servants at every level of government are decent, hard-working men and women, committed to doing a good job regardless of the circumstances;

Whereas America's Federal employees have risen to the occasion and demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and courage during the attacks of September 11, 2001, and in their aftermath;

Whereas after September 11, 2001, thousands of Federal employees were deployed in disaster response teams, and government employees continue to contribute in the war on terrorism as a part of their normal duties;

Whereas each agency has a role in ensuring that the Nation is secure and prosperous despite renewed attention to those agencies which are directly fighting the war on terrorism; and

Whereas May 6 through 12, 2002, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week