

Whereas from 1992 to 1997, men's athletic operating budgets increased by 139 percent while women's athletic operating budgets increased by only 89 percent;

Whereas compliance with title IX does not require schools to eliminate men's sports teams, nor does title IX impose strict quotas; and

Whereas all the Federal courts of appeals that have considered the constitutionality of title IX have upheld the regulations and requirements issued under title IX: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment—

(A) to ending all discrimination against women and girls in elementary, secondary, and higher education; and

(B) to equal opportunities for women and girl in athletics;

(2) recognizes the continued importance of title IX in providing needed protections for women and girls;

(3) expresses its concern that rolling back title IX regulations and compliance requirements may jeopardize the extraordinary progress of women and girl athletes; and

(4) requests that the President maintain the integrity of title IX by rejecting any attempts to weaken current regulations and interpretations.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, this afternoon the President's Commission on Opportunity in Athletics recommended changes to Title IX. While the changes they proposed are not as sweeping as feared, by a tie vote they included in their report a provision that could weaken current compliance requirements for women and girls in sports. While I commend the Commission for rejecting some of the more radical changes considered, I would implore President Bush and Secretary Paige to reject the notion of making any changes that diminish the protections of Title IX, including the so called "50-50" compliance provision.

As you know Title IX has had an enormous influence on all aspects of education, but particularly in the realm of women's and girls' sports. Since enactment the number of female college athletes has increased nearly five fold from fewer than 32,000 prior to enactment to over 150,000 today. At the high school level almost 3 million girls are playing competitive sports today compared to fewer than 300,000 prior to passage. But this isn't just about the numbers. Girls who participate in sports are less likely to take drugs, drink alcohol, smoke or become pregnant than their non-participating peers. They are also more likely to graduate. Through their participation in sports, women and girls are provided opportunities for leadership, teamwork and competition, gain a more positive body image, and are accorded contact with adult role models in their communities. And yet, even with gains and achievements, more needs to be done.

In Division I schools women represent 53 percent of the student body, but receive only 43 percent of the total athlete scholarship dollars, 32 percent of the recruiting dollars and 36 percent of the operational budgets. And for every dollar at a Division I school spent on women's sports, almost two dollars are spent on men's sports.

We've come a long way, but we should not turn the clock back now. I

submit today a resolution that not only recognizes the importance of Title IX and a continued need for Title IX protections, but also calls on the Administration to reject any changes weakening current regulations and interpretations of this very important law.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the nominations of the Honorable Paul McHale to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for homeland defense and Mr. Christopher Ryan Henry to be Deputy under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. 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 Thursday, January 30, 2003, at 10 a.m. to conduct an Executive Session for the purpose of approving the committee budget and the committee rules.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, January 30, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. on pending committee business. Then, immediately following, a full committee hearing on Media Ownership: Radio.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., to hear testimony on U.S. Borders: Safe or Sieve?

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 2003, at a time to be determined, to Report out the Nomination of John W. Snow to be Secretary of the United States Treasury.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on 30, January 2003, at 10:00 a.m., to hold a hearing on The January 27 UNMOVIC and IAEA Reports to the UN Security Council on Inspections in Iraq.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on The Smallpox Vaccination Plan: Challenges and Next Steps during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 30, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, January 30, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

I. Nominations: Miguel Estrada to be a U.S. Circuit Court Judge for the D.C. circuit.

II. Bills: S. 151, PROTECT Act [Hatch/Leahy]; S. 153, Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act [Feinstein/Kyl/Grassley/Sessions]; S. 205, Iraqi Scientists Immigration Act of 2003 [Biden/Lugar/Specter/Hatch/Leahy].

III. Committee Resolution Honoring Beryl Howell.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Thursday, January 30, 2003 from 2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. in Dirksen 430 for the purpose of conducting an organizational meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Nos. 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions, and any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

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

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

John W. Snow, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Treasury.