

speedy access to these public resources and have a right to see that their money is being spent well.

The goal of our bipartisan legislation is to allow every citizen the same access to the wealth of CRS information as a Member of Congress enjoys today. CRS performs invaluable research and produces first-rate reports on hundreds of topics. American taxpayers have every right to have direct access to these wonderful resources.

Our legislation ensures that private CRS products will remain protected by giving the CRS Director the authority to hold back any products that are deemed confidential. Moreover, the Director may protect the identity of CRS researchers and any copyrighted material. We can do both—protect confidential material and empower our citizens through electronic access to invaluable CRS products.

The Internet offers us a unique opportunity to allow the American people to have everyday access to this public information. Our bipartisan legislation would harness the power of the Information Age to allow average citizens to see these public records of the Senate in their official form, in context and without editorial comment.

All of these reports are “public” for only those who can afford to hire a lawyer or lobbyist, or who can afford to physically travel to Washington to visit the Office of Public Records in the Hart Building and read them. Indeed, the Project on Government Oversight reports that over 150 registered lobbyists are former Members of Congress who have automatic access to CRS documents. That is not very “public,” and does almost nothing for the average voter in Vermont or the rest of this country who does not have easy access to Washington.

We can do better, and this resolution does better. Under our resolution, any citizen in any corner of this country with access to a computer at home, at the office or at the public library will be able to get on the Internet and get these important congressional documents under our resolution. It allows individual citizens to check the facts, to make comparisons, and to make up their own minds.

I commend the senior Senator from Arizona for his leadership on this and similar issues. I share his desire for the American people to have electronic access to many more congressional resources. I look forward to working with him in the coming days to let the information age open up the Halls of Congress to all our citizens.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote, “Information is the currency of democracy.” Our democracy is stronger if all citizens have equal access to at least the “congressional-type” of currency, and that is something in which Members on both sides of the aisle can celebrate and join.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4—WELCOMING THE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT OF 18 EUROPEAN NATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNSEL RESOLUTION 1441

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. BAYH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 4

Whereas on November 8, 2002, the United Nations Security Council approved Security Council Resolution 1441 under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter by a vote of 15–0, giving Iraq “a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations”;

Whereas on November 21, 2002, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s North Atlantic Council unanimously approved a declaration stating, “We deplore Iraq’s failure to comply fully with its obligations which were imposed as a necessary step to restore international peace and security and we recall that the Security Council has decided in its resolution to afford Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations under relevant resolutions of the Council.”;

Whereas the North Atlantic Council stated, “NATO Allies stand united in their commitment to take effective action to assist and support the efforts of the United Nations to ensure full and immediate compliance by Iraq, without conditions or restrictions, with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441. We recall that the Security Council in this resolution has warned Iraq that it will face serious consequences as a result of its continued violation of its obligations.”;

Whereas, on January 30, 2003, the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom, and the President of the Czech Republic (“The Eight”), issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441;

Whereas in their declaration, The Eight stated, “The transatlantic relationship must not become a casualty of the current Iraqi regime’s persistent attempts to threaten world security. . . . The Iraqi regime and its weapons of mass destruction represent a clear threat to world security. This danger has been explicitly recognized by the United Nations. All of us are bound by Security Council Resolution 1441, which was adopted unanimously.”;

Whereas The Eight stated, “Resolution 1441 is Saddam Hussein’s last chance to disarm using peaceful means. The opportunity to avoid greater confrontation rests with him. . . . Our governments have a common responsibility to face this threat. . . . [T]he Security Council must maintain its credibility by ensuring full compliance with its resolutions. We cannot allow a dictator to systematically violate those resolutions. If they are not complied with, the Security Council will lose its credibility and world peace will suffer as a result.”;

Whereas on February 5, 2003, the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (“The Ten”) issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441;

Whereas in their declaration, The Ten stated, “[T]he United States [has] presented compelling evidence to the United Nations Security Council detailing Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction programs, its active efforts to deceive United Nations inspectors, and its links to international terrorism. . . . The

transatlantic community, of which we are a part, must stand together to face the threat posed by the nexus of terrorism and dictators with weapons of mass destruction.”;

Whereas The Ten stated, “[I]t has now become clear that Iraq is in material breach of United Nations Security Council resolutions, including United Nations Resolution 1441. . . . The clear and present danger posed by Saddam Hussein’s regime requires a united response from the community of democracies. We call upon the United Nations Security Council to take the necessary and appropriate action in response to Iraq’s continuing threat to international peace and security.”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress welcomes—

(1) the expression of support from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and the United Kingdom for Iraq’s full compliance with Security Council Resolution 1441; and

(2) their expression of solidarity with the United States in calling for the demands of the Security Council to be met with regard to Iraq’s full disarmament.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Thursday, February 13, 2003, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct its organization meetings and to conduct a hearing on those Senate Committees that have presented budgets above guidelines for the 108th Congress.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Susan Wells at the Rules Committee on 224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. 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 Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 10 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on the semi-annual monetary policy report of the Federal Reserve. The Committee will also vote on the nomination of Mr. William H. Donaldson to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. on FAA reauthorization.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. 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 Tuesday, February 11 at 10 a.m. to consider the president's proposed FY 2004 budget for the Department of the Interior.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. 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 Tuesday, February 11, at 2:30 p.m. to consider the nomination of Joseph T. Kelliher to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on Examination of Proposals for Economic Growth and Job Creation: Incentives for Consumption.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. to hold a Hearing on the Future of Iraq.

Agenda

Witnesses:

Panel 1: The Honorable Marc I. Grossman, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC., The Honorable Douglas J. Feith, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense, Washington, DC.

Panel 2: Colonel Scott R. Feil (Ret.), Executive Director, Role of American Military Power, Arlington, VA. General Anthony Zinni, (Ret.), Former Commander in Chief of U.S. Central Command, Washington, DC., Professor Anthony H. Cordesman, Arleigh A. Burke Chair for Strategy, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet for a joint hearing on Patient Access Crisis: The Role of Medical Litigation during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. in SD-106.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a joint hearing on "Patient Access Crisis: The Role of the Medical Litigation" on Tuesday, February 11, 2003 in Dirksen Room 106 at 2:30 p.m.

Witness List

Laurie Peel, Raleigh, NC, Linda McDougal, Woodville, Wisconsin, Leanne Dyess, Vicksburg, MS, Jay Angoff, Of Counsel, Roger G. Brown & Associates, Jefferson City, MO, José Montemayor, Commissioner of Insurance, Austin, TX, Shelby Wilbourn, MD, Physician, on behalf of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Belfast, ME, Lawrence E. Smarr, President, Physician Insurers Association of America, Rockville, MD.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at 10 a.m. to hold an open hearing and 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Michael Zubrensky, a detailee on my staff from the Department of Justice, be granted the privilege of the floor during the remainder of the first session of the this Congress.

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

DISCHARGES AND REFERRALS—S.
277 AND S. RES. 51

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of S. 277 and that the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Governmental Affairs Committee be discharged from further action on S. Res. 51 and that the matter be referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 108-2

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on February 11, 2003, by the President of the United States:

Amendments to the 1987 Treaty on Fisheries with Pacific Island States (Treaty Document No. 108-2).

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith Amendments to the 1987 Treaty on Fisheries Between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America, with Annexes and agreed statements, done at Port Moresby, April 2, 1987 (the Treaty), done at Koror, Palau, March 30, 1999, and at Kiritimati, Kiribati, March 24, 2002. I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Secretary of State with respect to these Amendments, related Amendments to the Treaty Annexes, and the Memorandum of Understanding regarding provisional application. The United States enjoys positive and constructive fisheries relations with the Pacific Island Parties through the implementation and operation of the Treaty, which is one of the cornerstones of our overall foreign relations with the Pacific Island Parties. This Treaty, and the good relationships it has fostered, has provided new opportunities for collaboration between the Pacific Island Parties and the United States on fisheries conservation and management issues. The relationships established as a result of the Treaty have also helped to safeguard U.S. commercial and security interests in the region.

The Amendments to the Treaty will, among other things, allow U.S. longline vessels to fish in high seas portions of the Treaty Area; streamline the way amendments to the Treaty Annexes are agreed; and allow the Parties to consider the issue of capacity in the Treaty Area and, where appropriate, to promote consistency between the Treaty and the relevant fisheries management convention, which is likely to come into force during the duration of the extended operation of the Treaty. Therefore, no new legislation is necessary in order for the United States to