

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., in open session, to receive testimony on ongoing military operations and reconstruction efforts in Iraq.

Witnesses

Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq;

General John P. Abizaid, USA, Commander, United States Central Command.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. VOINOVICH. 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 September 25, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. to conduct a hearing on "Counterterrorism Initiatives in the Terror Finance Program."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 25, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on European Nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on the reauthorization of the Head Start program.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

Agenda

I. Nominations

Henry W. Saad to be United States Circuit Judge, for the Sixth Circuit; Mauricio J. Tamargo to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States; Carlos T. Bea to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; Charles H. Pickering, Sr. to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit; Marcia A. Crone to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of

Texas; Philip S. Figa to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado; William Q. Hayes to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California; John A. Houston to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California; Robert Clive Jones to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada; Ronald A. White to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Oklahoma; John F. Bardelli to be United States Marshal for the District of Connecticut.

II. Bills

S. 1451, Runaway, Homeless, and Missing Children Protection Act [Hatch, Leahy];

S. 1293, A bill to criminalize the sending of predatory and abusive e-mail [Leahy, Hatch, DeWine, Edwards, Feinstein, Grassley, Schumer];

S. 1580, Religious Workers of Act of 2003 [Hatch, Kennedy, DeWine];

S. Res. 209, Recognizing and honoring Woodstock, Vermont native Hiram Powers for his extraordinary and enduring contributions to American sculpture [Jeffords, Leahy, DeWine, Feinstein, Grassley, Hatch, Schumer, Specter];

S. Res. 222, Designating October 17, 2003, as National Mammography Day [Biden, Chambliss, DeWine, Edwards, Feinstein, Grassley, Hatch, Kennedy, Leahy, Schumer, Specter];

S. Res. 98, Expressing the Sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week of October 12, 2003, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week [Campbell, Biden, DeWine, Grassley, Specter].

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SPACE

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space be authorized to meet on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at 2:30 pm on scientific and medical advances in the field of in utero surgery.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

On Tuesday, September 23, 2003, the Senate passed H.R. 2691, as follows:

H.R. 2691

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2691) entitled "An Act to making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to Public Law 96-487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), \$847,091,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$1,000,000 is for high priority projects, to be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps; \$2,484,000 is for assessment of the mineral potential of public lands in Alaska pursuant to section 1010 of Public Law 96-487; (16 U.S.C. 3150); and of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be derived from the special receipt account established by the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-6a(i)); and of which \$3,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2004 subject to a match by at least an equal amount by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for cost-shared projects supporting conservation of Bureau lands; and such funds shall be advanced to the Foundation as a lump sum grant without regard to when expenses are incurred; in addition, \$32,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program; to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from annual mining claim fees so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$847,091,000; and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities: Provided, That appropriations herein made shall not be available for the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros in the care of the Bureau.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses for fire preparedness, suppression operations, fire science and research, emergency rehabilitation, hazardous fuels reduction, and rural fire assistance by the Department of the Interior, \$698,725,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$12,374,000 shall be for the renovation or construction of fire facilities: Provided, That such funds are also available for repayment of advances to other appropriation accounts from which funds were previously transferred for such purposes: Provided further, That persons hired pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1469 may be furnished subsistence and lodging without cost from funds available from this appropriation: Provided further, That notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 1856d, sums received by a bureau or office of the Department of the Interior for fire protection rendered pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1856 et seq., protection of United States property, may be credited to the appropriation from which funds were expended to provide that protection, and are available without fiscal year limitation: Provided further, That using the amounts designated under this title of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into procurement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, for hazardous fuels reduction activities, and for training and monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels reduction activities, on Federal land, or on adjacent non-Federal land for activities that benefit resources on Federal land: Provided further, That notwithstanding requirements of the Competition in Contracting Act, the Secretary, for purposes of hazardous fuels reduction activities, may obtain maximum practicable competition among: (A) local private, nonprofit, or cooperative entities; (B)