

GASOLINE FOR AMERICA'S  
SECURITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3893, the Gasoline for America's Security Act.

While I believe our Nation needs to improve and increase our refining capacity, I voted against H.R. 3893, because it would weaken and eliminate important public health and environmental regulations. Specifically, H.R. 3893 would delay existing smog cleanup deadlines in cities with some of the most persistent smog problems—a provision that would likely hurt minority and low-income areas the worst. In addition, this legislation is not only harmful to the environment but it also creates a fiscally

irresponsible “Standby Refinery Support Account,” which would compensate corporations if their refinery construction is delayed by State or local laws or litigations. At a time when some refineries are turning record profits, taxpayers should not be paying for the legal costs of refineries, when they are facing legitimate challenges to their evasion of State, local, or Federal regulations.

Instead, I supported a substitute amendment offered by Representative Bart Stupak, which would: Create a strategic refinery reserve based upon the strategic petroleum reserve; allow the President to declare a “Federal energy emergency”; and prohibit gasoline price gouging in times of such emergencies. Under this substitute amendment, the Department of Energy, DOE, would operate a strategic refinery reserve from either constructing new refineries or opening closed refineries to create this reserve, which would have a capacity of 5 percent of the daily U.S. demand for gasoline, home heating oil, and other re-

fining petroleum products. I believe this is an important proposal, which would help address our strained refining capacity in times of emergency. In addition, the substitute amendment would provide explicit authority for the FTC to define price gouging for the first time, and would provide them with the authority to prosecute any entity in the chain of gasoline production, including refineries and not just retailers, for engaging in price gouging.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita further highlighted the instability of energy prices and the fragility of our Nation's energy infrastructure, particularly our domestic refining capacity.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, our domestic refining industry was already operating at near capacity, with 176 refineries closing in the U.S. over the past 25 years. While we need to strengthen our energy infrastructure, it is essential that the Federal Government does not do this at the expense of important environmental regulations, which protect the safety and health of our communities.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the *Extensions of Remarks* section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## OCTOBER 19

- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the potential of stem cell and nuclear transplantation research. SD-138
- 10 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
Business meeting to consider recommendations which it will make to the Committee on the Budget with respect to spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010. SR-328A
- Energy and Natural Resources  
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-366
- Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine United States foreign policy relating to Iraq. SD-106
- 10:30 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine issues and implications regarding reporters' privilege legislation. SD-226
- 2 p.m.  
Judiciary  
Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine video competition in 2005. SD-226
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Employment and Workplace Safety Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine enhancing cooperation between employers and guardsmen/reservists. SD-430

2:30 p.m.

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David M. Hale, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. SD-419

## Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters. SH-219

## OCTOBER 20

9:30 a.m.

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Benson K. Whitney, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to Norway, Roland Arnall, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Susan Rasinski McCaw, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Austria, and Nicholas F. Taubman, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Romania. SD-419

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. SD-342

## Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-226

10 a.m.

## Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the implementation of the Exon-Florio provision by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), Department of the Treasury, which seeks to serve U.S. investment policy through reviews that protect national security while maintaining the credibility of open investment policy. SD-538

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine S. 1052, to improve transportation security, including public and private sector actions taken since September 11, 2001, and the attacks on rail systems overseas, to enhance the security of passenger and freight rail transportation. SD-562

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine IT Management by the VA. SR-418

## Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook. Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.

## Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine USDA Farm Service Agency Office consolidation plan known as FSA Tomorrow. SR-328A

2 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider proposed DTV bill, S. 1753, to establish a unified national hazard alert system, S. 967, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that prepackaged news stories contain announcements that inform viewers that the information within was provided by the United States Government, and S. 1063, to promote and enhance public safety and to encourage the rapid deployment of IP-enabled voice services. SR-325

## Judiciary

## Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the constitutional amendment on marriage. SD-226

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine Federal employment programs for persons with disabilities. SD-430

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1016, to direct the Secretary of Energy to make incentive payments to the owners or operators of qualified desalination facilities to partially offset the cost of electrical energy required to operate the facilities, and S. 1860, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve energy production and reduce energy demand through improved use of reclaimed waters. SD-366

## Foreign Relations

## Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine U.S. foreign policy, petroleum, and the Middle East. SD-419

## Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters. SH-219

## OCTOBER 25

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John J. Young, Jr., of Virginia, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, Dorrance Smith, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Delores M. Etter, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, and General Burwell B. Bell, III, USA, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command, and Commander, United States Forces Korea. SD-106

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine U.S.-Saudi Arabia relations relating to the war on terror. SD-226

10 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1829, to repeal certain sections of the Act of May 26, 1936, pertaining to the Virgin Islands, S. 1830, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and S. 1831, to convey certain submerged land to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. SD-366

## OCTOBER 26

9:30 a.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine In Re Tribal Lobbying Matters, Et Al. SH-216

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Streamlined Procedures Act relating to Habeas Reform. SD-226