

- (5) fight disease and promote better health;
- (6) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;
- (7) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunities and healthy working conditions;
- (8) defend and secure critical infrastructure;
- (9) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;
- (10) teach and work in our schools and libraries;
- (11) improve and secure our transportation systems;
- (12) keep the Nation's economy stable; and
- (13) defend our freedom and advance United States interests around the world;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances, and contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflict in defense of this Nation and its ideals and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 1 through 7, 2006, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 22nd anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;
- (2) salutes their unyielding dedication and spirit for public service;
- (3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;
- (4) calls upon a new generation of workers to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and
- (5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

RECONVENING THE PARLIAMENT OF NEPAL

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

CONGRATULATING CHARTER SCHOOLS

HONORING MALCOLM P. McLEAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the en bloc consideration of S. Res. 451, S. Res. 452, S. Res. 453, and S. Res. 454, which are at the desk.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. RES. 451

Whereas, in 1990, Nepal adopted a constitution that enshrined multi-party democracy under a constitutional monarchy, ending 3 decades of absolute monarchical rule;

Whereas, since 1996, Maoist insurgents have waged a violent campaign to replace the constitutional monarchy with a communist republic, which has resulted in widespread human rights violations by both sides and the loss of an estimated 12,000 lives;

Whereas the Maoist insurgency grew out of the radicalization and fragmentation of left wing parties following Nepal's transition to democracy in 1990;

Whereas, on June 1, 2001, King Birendra, Queen Aishwarya and other members of the Royal family were murdered, leaving the throne to the slain King's brother, the current King Gyanendra;

Whereas, in May 2002, in the face of increasing Maoist violence, Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba dissolved the Parliament of Nepal;

Whereas, in October 2002, King Gyanendra dismissed Prime Minister Deuba;

Whereas, in June 2004, after the unsuccessful tenures of 2 additional palace-appointed prime ministers, King Gyanendra reappointed Prime Minister Deuba and mandated that he hold general elections by April 2005;

Whereas, on February 1, 2005, King Gyanendra accused Nepali political leaders of failing to solve the Maoist problem, seized absolute control of Nepal by dismissing and detaining Prime Minister Deuba and declaring a state of emergency, temporarily shut down Nepal's communications, detained hundreds of politicians and political workers, and limited press and other constitutional freedoms;

Whereas, in November 2005, the mainstream political parties formed a seven-party alliance with the Maoists and agreed to a 12 point agenda that called for a restructuring of the government of Nepal to include an end to absolute monarchical rule and the formation of an interim all-party government with a view to holding elections for a constituent assembly to rewrite the Constitution of Nepal;

Whereas, since February 2005, King Gyanendra has promulgated dozens of ordinances without parliamentary process that violate basic freedoms of expression and association, including the Election Code of Conduct that seeks to limit media freedom in covering elections and the Code of Conduct for Social Organizations that bars staff of nongovernmental organizations from having political affiliations;

Whereas King Gyanendra ordered the arrest of hundreds of political workers in January 2006 before holding municipal elections on February 8, 2006, which the Department of State characterized as "a hollow attempt by the King to legitimize his power";

Whereas the people of Nepal have been peacefully protesting since April 6, 2006, in

an attempt to restore the democratic political process;

Whereas on April 10, 2006, the Department of State declared that King Gyanendra's February 2005 decision "to impose direct palace rule in Nepal has failed in every regard" and called on the King to restore democracy immediately and to begin a dialogue with Nepal's political parties;

Whereas King Gyanendra ordered a crackdown on the protests, which has left at least 14 Nepali citizens dead and hundreds injured by the security forces of Nepal;

Whereas the people of Nepal are suffering hardship due to food shortages and lack of sufficient medical care because of the prevailing political crisis;

Whereas King Gyanendra announced on April 21, 2006, that the executive power of Nepal shall be returned to the people and called on the seven-party alliance to name a new prime minister to govern the country in accordance with the 1990 Constitution of Nepal;

Whereas the seven-party alliance subsequently rejected King Gyanendra's April 21, 2006 statement and called on him to reinstate parliament and allow for the establishment of a constituent assembly to draw up a new constitution;

Whereas on April 24, 2006, King Gyanendra announced that he would reinstate the Parliament of Nepal on April 28, 2006, and apologized for the deaths and injuries that occurred during the recent demonstrations, but did not address the issue of constitutional revision;

Whereas political party leaders have welcomed King Gyanendra's April 24th announcement and stated that the first action of the reconvened parliament will be the scheduling of elections for a constituent assembly to redraft the Constitution of Nepal.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) expresses its support for the reconvening of the Parliament of Nepal and for an immediate, peaceful transition to democracy;
- (2) commends the desire of the people of Nepal for a democratic system of government and expresses its support for their right to protest peacefully in pursuit of this goal;
- (3) acknowledges the April 24, 2006 statement by King Gyanendra regarding his intent to reinstate the Parliament of Nepal;
- (4) urges the Palace, the political parties, and the Maoists to immediately support a process that returns the country to multi-party democracy and creates the conditions for peace and stability in Nepal;
- (5) declares that the transition to democracy in Nepal must be peaceful and that violence conducted by any party is unacceptable and risks sending Nepal into a state of anarchy;
- (6) calls on security forces of Nepal to exercise maximum restraint and to uphold the highest standards of conduct in their response to the protests;
- (7) urges the immediate release of all political detainees and the restoration of full civilian and political rights, including freedom of association, expression, and assembly;
- (8) urges the Maoists to lay down their arms and to pursue their goals through participation in a peaceful political process; and
- (9) calls on the Government of the United States to work closely with other governments, including the governments of India, China, the United Kingdom, and the European Union, and with the United Nations to ensure a common and coherent international approach that helps to bring about an immediate peaceful transition to democracy and to end the violent insurgency in Nepal.

S. RES. 452

Whereas American Ballet Theatre (known as "ABT") is recognized as one of the world's great dance companies;

Whereas ABT is dedicated to bringing dance to the United States and dance of the United States to the world;

Whereas, over its 65-year history, ABT has appeared in all 50 States of the United States, in a total of 126 cities, and has performed for more than 600,000 people annually;

Whereas ABT has performed in 42 countries as perhaps the most representative ballet company of the United States, with many of those engagements sponsored by the Department of State;

Whereas ABT has been home to the world's most accomplished dancers and has commissioned works by all of the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century;

Whereas President Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized ABT's ability to convey through the medium of ballet "some measure of understanding of America's cultural environment and inspiration";

Whereas over the years ABT has performed repeatedly at the White House, most recently in December 2005;

Whereas ABT is committed to bringing dance to a broad audience and provides exposure to dance to more than 20,000 underprivileged children and their families each year;

Whereas ABT's award-winning Make a Ballet program and its other outreach initiatives help to meet the need for arts education in underserved schools and communities;

Whereas ABT's Studio Company brings world class ballet to smaller communities like—

- (1) Rochester, New York;
- (2) Stamford, Connecticut;
- (3) Sanibel, Florida;
- (4) South Hadley, Massachusetts; and
- (5) Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and

Whereas the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at ABT and the ABT's other artistic development initiatives provide the highest quality training consistent with the professional standards of ABT: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and commends the American Ballet Theatre for over 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company", during which it has provided world class art to audiences in all 50 States;

(2) recognizes that the American Ballet Theatre also serves as a true cultural ambassador for the United States, by having performed in 42 countries and fulfilling its reputation as one of the world's most revered and innovative dance companies; and

(3) recognizes that the American Ballet Theatre's extensive and innovative education, outreach, and artistic development programs both train future generations of great dancers and expose students to the arts.

S. RES. 453

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality education and challenge our students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public entity that are responding to the needs of our communities, families, and students and promoting the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;

Whereas in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, they are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their financial and other operations;

Whereas 40 States and the District of Columbia have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas more than 3,600 charter schools are now operating in 40 States and the District of Columbia, serving more than 1,000,000 students;

Whereas over the last 12 years, Congress has provided nearly \$1,775,000,000 in support to the charter school movement through facilities financing assistance and grants for planning, startup, implementation, and dissemination;

Whereas charter schools improve their students' achievement and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools must meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the same manner as traditional public schools, and often set higher and additional individual goals to ensure that they are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas charter schools give parents new freedom to choose their public school, routinely measure parental satisfaction levels, and must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and their communities;

Whereas nearly 56 percent of charter schools report having a waiting list, and the total number of students on all such waiting lists is enough to fill over 1,100 average-sized charter schools;

Whereas charter schools nationwide serve a higher percentage of low-income and minority students than the traditional public system;

Whereas charter schools have enjoyed broad bipartisan support from the Administration, Congress, State Governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the United States; and

Whereas the seventh annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 1 through 6, 2006, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate acknowledges and commends charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education and improving and strengthening our public school system;

(2) the Senate supports the seventh annual National Charter Schools Week; and

(3) it is the sense of the Senate that the people of the United States should conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this week long celebration in communities throughout the United States.

S. RES. 454

Whereas Malcom P. McLean is widely recognized as the father of containerization;

Whereas the innovative idea of using intermodal containers suitable for rail, truck, and maritime transportation revolutionized and streamlined the process of shipping goods, allowed products to be moved to the market more quickly, and reduced prices for consumers;

Whereas the use of containerization in shipping practices enabled the United States to increase international trade by modernizing and globalizing the economy of the United States;

Whereas Mr. McLean launched numerous successful transportation businesses that were located in the Port of Newark, New Jersey, including—

- (1) the Pan-Atlantic Steamship Company; and

- (2) Sea-Land Service Incorporated;

Whereas those businesses were crucial to the growth of shipping and industry in New Jersey;

Whereas the innovations of Mr. McLean have enabled businesses to create thousands of jobs that provide liveable wages for the citizens of New Jersey and other citizens of the United States;

Whereas, on April 26, 1956, the first ship loaded with goods to be transported from the United States in intermodal containers, the Ideal X, set sail from Port Newark under the direction of Mr. McLean;

Whereas 2006 marks the 50th anniversary of that historic event;

Whereas the Containerization and Intermodal Institute in Holmdel, New Jersey, has planned activities to commemorate that occasion; and

Whereas Mr. McLean was a transportation pioneer whose remarkable achievements are worthy of recognition and commemoration: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the remarkable contributions of Malcom P. McLean to the development of a new era of trade and commerce in the United States through the containerization of cargo;

(2) honors the 50th anniversary of containerization, and recognizes the crucial role that containerization has played in the modernization of—

(A) shipping practices; and

(B) the economy of the United States; and

(3) encourages all citizens to promote and participate in celebratory activities that commemorate that landmark anniversary.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am pleased that today the Senate passed a resolution to designate the week of May 1 through May 6, 2006 as National Charter Schools Week. I was joined in offering this resolution by Senators LIEBERMAN, GREGG, FRIST, CARPER, VITTER, LANDRIEU, BURR, COLEMAN, ALLARD, DEMINT, and MARTINEZ.

One of my last official acts as U.S. Secretary of Education in 1992 was to write a letter to every school superintendent in America urging them to create charter schools. That year, the Nation's first charter school had opened its doors in St. Paul, Minnesota. I saw charter schools as ways to remove burdensome rules, regulations, and overhead so that teachers could have more opportunities to use their good judgment to help children and so parents could have more choices of schools. This was the time when General Motors' newest automobile plant was a start-from-scratch facility making Saturn cars. Al Shanker, the late president of the American Federation of Teachers, said then, "If we can have a Saturn plant, why not a Saturn school?" A lot of educators agreed.

Today, there are over 3,600 charter schools serving more than 1 million students in 40 states and the District of Columbia. Over half of these schools report having waiting lists, and there are enough students on these waiting lists to fill another 1,100 average-sized charter schools.

Charter schools play a unique role in public education by offering students a variety of options to meet their different learning needs and styles. They

vary in specific mission and focus, but not in their commitment to excellence and preparing students to succeed. In return for autonomy and freedom from burdensome regulations and policies, they accept strict accountability for academic and fiscal success. If charter schools fail to educate their students well and meet the goals of their charters, they are closed.

Charter schools are raising student achievement. Research shows that charter school students are more likely to be proficient in reading and math than students in neighboring traditional schools, and that the greatest achievement gains can be seen among African American, Hispanic, and low-income students. Research also shows that the longer charter schools have been in operation, the more they outdistance traditional schools in student performance.

It is worth noting that not all charter schools are high-quality, and not all are outperforming traditional public schools. But charter schools whose students don't perform academically will close—as they should. It is also worth noting the impact charter schools are having on their neighboring traditional public schools. Districts with a large number of charter schools have reported that they are increasing interaction with parents and creating new education programs, many of which are similar to those offered by charter schools. These improvements benefit all our students, not just those who choose charter schools.

I am pleased that twelve charter schools have opened in Tennessee since passage of the State's charter school law in 2002. Ten of these charter schools are located in Memphis, where they enjoy critical support from local school officials, dedicated private partners, and philanthropic organizations.

Options for Memphis students range from programs for elementary students that stress mastery of reading, math, and foreign language skills to middle schools focused on health sciences and business. High school options include charter schools that emphasize science, liberal arts, or visual and performing arts.

I had an opportunity to visit one of these outstanding charter schools, the Memphis Academy of Science and Engineering (MASE), which was the first charter school established in Tennessee. MASE provides an academically challenging program to prepare at-risk students for college through an intensive math, science, engineering, and technology curriculum in grades 7–9, including the first ninth grade AP Biology class in the state. The school was established as an innovative public/private initiative aimed not only at training a well-educated workforce for the city's rapidly growing bioscience industry, but also helping students excel in a technology-based environment, regardless of the career path they choose.

I am impressed by the school's clear record of achievement results. By the

end of eighth grade, MASE students—who were failing or at risk of failing in their previous schools—more than doubled their pass rates on State reading, math and science tests compared to their achievement in sixth grade prior to entering MASE. Last year, MASE was the second highest performing school—public or charter—in Memphis, and a University of Memphis study found that MASE seventh graders scored better on the state math assessment than similar students in public schools.

Unfortunately, Tennessee's highly restrictive charter school law does not create the conditions that would enable more students to benefit from attending schools like MASE. The law received a grade of C in a recent Center for Education Reform study, which found that higher student achievement and higher-quality, more viable charter schools are found in States with stronger charter school laws.

Strong laws grant the power to approve charter schools to more than one entity, including local school boards, State education agencies, colleges and universities, and non-profit organizations. Strong laws also grant greater freedom and independence to charter schools, guarantee full per-pupil funding, and do not restrict the number of schools that may open or students who may enroll.

States should take the opportunity during National Charter Schools Week to examine their statutes and ensure that they create the conditions necessary to allow high-quality charter schools, and thereby options for students, to flourish.

Charter schools are also a key element of the education revival taking place in New Orleans, where Hurricane Katrina dealt a devastating blow to a school system already plagued by low achievement and corruption. The city has a truly historic opportunity to transform its education system into a network of high-performing charter schools that could serve as a model for urban education in the rest of the Nation.

So far, 25 of 117 public schools have reopened in New Orleans. 70 percent of these schools are charter schools managed by the Recovery School District, the Orleans Parish School Board, or the State Board of Education.

New Orleans officials are working diligently to open more schools to serve students as they return to the city. They have been assisted by a \$21 million Federal Charter Schools Program grant, which helped reopen charter schools damaged by the hurricanes, create new charter schools, and expand existing charter schools to accommodate displaced students. I am encouraged that Louisiana continues to receive applications to open charter schools in New Orleans, but more work needs to be done to ready facilities for approved schools to accommodate the substantial student enrollment projected for this fall.

Charter schools in other parts of the country also leapt into action to serve students impacted by Katrina. After the hurricane, the high-performing Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP), in partnership with the Houston Independent School District and Teach For America, exhibited extraordinary leadership by quickly opening a new charter school in Houston—New Orleans West College Prep—to serve over 300 students in grades K-8 displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

According to KIPP co-founder Mike Feinberg, "When there's a problem, we at KIPP roll up our sleeves and look for a solution. Together with the [Houston Independent] District and Teach For America, we hope to provide students not only with a safe haven, but also with a rigorous academic environment. Even if they are not at home, these students will receive a top-notch education with caring, committed teachers." Mr. Feinberg's comments exemplify the attitude that motivates so many in the charter school community—that of doing whatever it takes to get the job done.

I expect that we will see charter schools continue to expand across the Nation as word of their success spreads. Four years ago, the President signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act, which contains several programs that support charter school development, and provides school districts with the option of converting low-performing schools into charter schools. As we prepare to reauthorize No Child Left Behind, we'll take a close look at how these programs are performing to ensure that the Federal Government is doing everything it can to help create and sustain viable, high-achieving charter schools.

I commend the charter school students, parents, teachers, community leaders and others who, working together, are helping transform our system of public education. I encourage my colleagues to visit a charter school during National Charter Schools Week to witness firsthand the ways in which these innovative schools are making a difference in students' lives and in their communities.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. Res 454 honoring a true transportation pioneer, Malcom McLean. His use of the intermodal shipping container—first used successfully in the United States 50 years ago yesterday—streamlined the shipping process and set the stage for our modern globalized economy through containerization.

Before the age of containerization, shipping raw materials and consumer goods was an extremely arduous process; to transfer goods from a ship to a train, or from a train to a truck, the merchandise first needed to be unloaded, sorted, and reloaded. As a truck driver in 1937, Malcom McLean realized that the goods could be shipped more cheaply, efficiently, and quickly if they didn't need to be unloaded and re-

loaded into different shipping containers on each leg of a trip. He invented a type of container that was durable and versatile enough to be attached to a train, loaded onto a tractor-trailer, and secured to the deck of a ship; the revolutionary idea created efficiencies in the process by making loading and un-loading at each step of the intermodal shipping process obsolete.

Mr. President, yesterday marked the 50th anniversary of the Ideal X setting sail from Port Newark, in my home State of New Jersey, and bound for Houston, TX. This historic trip marked the first successful implementation of Malcom McLean's grand idea: it was the first time a ship left U.S. loaded with intermodal containers, 58 in total. Putting these containers on ships allowed for great cost savings in shipping—as much as 25 percent or more—and the triumphant voyage of the Ideal X signaled that the exciting new method was indeed practical and worthwhile.

It is nearly impossible to overstate the importance of his innovation. If you enjoy consumer products imported from overseas, or from distant areas of our own country, you can credit Malcom McLean's revolutionary idea for making them more affordable. If you enjoy fresh produce or baked goods from your local grocery store, thank McLean's innovation for bringing them to market more quickly. Containerization surely has made the world a smaller place by allowing goods from all over the world arrive at their destinations more cheaply and more quickly, and our standard of living in America has improved markedly in the process.

Before I was elected to the Senate, I served as commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey from 1978 until 1982. I had the opportunity to get to know Malcom McLean, a singularly focused man, who was successful in nearly all of his pursuits because of his strong work ethic and unmatched talent for innovation. While Mr. McLean passed away in 2001, his legacy lives on through his widow Irena McLean and his family, and through his lasting contributions to industry in New Jersey, the United States, and the entire world.

I encourage the Senate to adopt this resolution and honor a great American.

HONORING AND THANKING TERRANCE W. GAINER, FORMER CHIEF OF U.S. CAPITOL POLICE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 455, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 455) honoring and thanking Terrance W. Gainer, former Chief of United States Capitol Police.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 455) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 455

Whereas former Chief of Police Terrance W. Gainer, a native of the State of Illinois, had served the United States Capitol Police with distinction since his appointment on June 3, 2002;

Whereas Chief Gainer had served in various city, state and federal law enforcement positions throughout his thirty-eight year career; and

Whereas Chief Gainer holds Juris Doctor and Master's degrees from DePaul University and a Bachelor's degree from St. Benedict's College, as well as numerous specialized law enforcement and security training accomplishments and honors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate hereby honors and thanks Terrance W. Gainer and his wife, Irene, and his entire family, for a professional commitment of service to the United States Capitol Police and the United States Congress.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this Senate resolution we just agreed to thanks Terrance Gainer, former Chief of the U.S. Capitol Police. Although I don't have a formal statement, I have had an opportunity to work with Chief Gainer very closely over the last several years. Although many of those interactions were in routine business, what we regard as routine business, at every moment he stood ready with the Capitol Police for any unexpected event. And those unexpected, tragic events that I was able to work with him on, led me—seeing the way he addressed these issues, with dignity, with discipline, with a real understanding of what was at stake—to have a great deal of respect for him, his approach, his character, his integrity and his professionalism.

It wasn't too long ago that many people were stranded inside of the Russell Building parking garage for an alarm that went off. I was able to go and talk to Chief Gainer about that, as they were determining what the etiology of that alarm was, and I got to see the full force of that integrity and that discipline and that level of sophistication.

I wish him the best of luck and good fortune as he leaves behind his tremendous service here at the Capitol.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 1. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to

date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 4939, the Supplemental Appropriations bill.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we have made some progress on the Iraq supplemental bill this week. I thank Chairman COCHRAN for his leadership, for his patience, and for his hard work.

The Senate will not be in session tomorrow, as I indicated earlier.

We have a lot to do before we complete action on this crucial funding bill. In order to make sure that we can get the bill finished in a timely manner, I filed cloture a few moments ago. That cloture vote will occur on Tuesday morning.

Senators should expect full days with multiple votes next week.

I expect cloture will be invoked.

As we all know, there will be a number of other amendments that will be dealt with.

We will also be voting on Monday at approximately 5:30. Several district judges have been reported by the Judiciary Committee, and we anticipate voting on at least one of those on Monday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:59 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 1, 2006, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 27, 2006:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT J. PORTMAN, OF OHIO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE JOSHUA B. BOLTEEN.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROBERT ANTHONY BRADTKE, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

JAMES B. LOCKHART III, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL HOUSING ENTERPRISE OVERSIGHT, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE ARMANDO FALCON, JR., RESIGNED.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DALE KLEIN, OF TEXAS, TO BE MEMBER OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2011, VICE NILS J. DIAZ, TERM EXPIRING.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. KEVIN P. CHILTON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE