

emergency declaration under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191), or in connection with any procurement of property or services related to any emergency or major disaster declaration as a prime contractor with the United States or as a subcontractor or supplier on a contract in which there is a prime contract with the United States, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 30 years, or both.

“(b) A circumstance described in this subsection is any instance where—

“(1) the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of the benefit is in or affects interstate or foreign commerce;

“(2) the benefit is transported in the mail at any point in the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of that benefit; or

“(3) the benefit is a record, voucher, payment, money, or thing of value of the United States, or of any department or agency thereof.

“(c) In this section, the term ‘benefit’ means any record, voucher, payment, money or thing of value, good, service, right, or privilege provided by the United States, a State or local government, or other entity.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1040. Fraud in connection with major disaster or emergency benefits.”.

(b) INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ENGAGING IN WIRE, RADIO, AND TELEVISION FRAUD DURING AND RELATION TO A PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.—Section 1343 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting: “occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit authorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in connection with, a presidentially declared major disaster or emergency (as those terms are defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)), or” after “If the violation”.

(c) INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ENGAGING IN MAIL FRAUD DURING AND IN RELATION TO A PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.—Section 1341 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting: “occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit authorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in connection with, a presidentially declared major disaster or emergency (as those terms are defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)), or” after “If the violation”.

(d) DIRECTIVE TO SENTENCING COMMISSION.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this subsection, the United States Sentencing Commission forthwith shall—

(A) promulgate sentencing guidelines or amend existing sentencing guidelines to provide for increased penalties for persons convicted of fraud or theft offenses in connection with a major disaster declaration under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) or an emergency declaration under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191); and

(B) submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives an explanation of actions taken by the Commission pursuant to subparagraph (A) and any additional policy recommendations the Com-

mission may have for combating offenses described in that subparagraph.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Sentencing Commission shall—

(A) ensure that the sentencing guidelines and policy statements reflect the serious nature of the offenses described in paragraph (1) and the need for aggressive and appropriate law enforcement action to prevent such offenses;

(B) assure reasonable consistency with other relevant directives and with other guidelines;

(C) account for any aggravating or mitigating circumstances that might justify exceptions, including circumstances for which the sentencing guidelines currently provide sentencing enhancements;

(D) make any necessary conforming changes to the sentencing guidelines; and

(E) assure that the guidelines adequately meet the purposes of sentencing as set forth in section 3553(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code.

(3) EMERGENCY AUTHORITY AND DEADLINE FOR COMMISSION ACTION.—The Commission shall promulgate the guidelines or amendments provided for under this subsection as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than the 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1987, as though the authority under that Act had not expired.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, April 11, 2007, at 10 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on the Smithsonian Institution.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Howard Gantman at the Rules and Administration Committee on 224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a Roundtable Discussion during the session of the Senate on Monday, March 26, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the Roundtable is to discuss the progress of the European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme and to receive information on lessons learned for policymakers who want to better understand how a market-based trading program could operate efficiently and effectively in the United States.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Mon-

day, March 26, 2007, at 2 p.m., to receive a briefing on the reorganization of the office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law be authorized to meet on Monday, March 26, 2007, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on “Legal Options to Stop Human Trafficking,” in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Grace Chung Becker, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC; Katherine Kaufka, Supervising Attorney, Counter-Trafficking Services Program, National Immigrant Justice Center, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, Chicago, IL; Martina E. Vandenberg, Attorney, Jenner & Block, Washington, DC; and Holly J. Burkhalter, Vice President, International Justice Mission, Washington, DC.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Monday, March 26, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing entitled, Understanding the Realities of REAL ID: A Review of Efforts to Secure Drivers' Licenses and Identification Cards.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Yvonne Stone, a detailee from the Department of Veterans Affairs, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on H.R. 1591, the emergency war supplemental.

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

Mr. COCHRAN. I also ask unanimous consent that Earl Rilington and Eric Perritt, Fellows serving in my office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on H.R. 1591, the fiscal year 2007 emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

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

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Adam Morrison and Tad Gallion be granted floor privileges during the debate on this measure.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent that my State Department fellow, Mike Stanton, and my Marine Corps fellow, Mark Carlton, be granted floor