

Army Infantry and the establishment of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center.

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3229) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### REQUIRING THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO MINT COINS IN COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5872, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5872) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 5872) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PERSONNEL REIMBURSEMENT FOR INTELLIGENCE COOPERATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2008

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 1052, H.R. 6098.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6098) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Personnel Reimbursement for Intelligence Cooperation and Enhancement of Homeland Security Act of 2008" or the "PRICE of Homeland Security Act".*

##### SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION ON USE OF FUNDS.

*Section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (a)—*

*(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "Grants" and all that follows through "used" and inserting the following: "The Administrator shall permit the recipient of a grant under section 2003 or 2004 to use grant funds"; and*

*(B) in paragraph (10), by inserting ", regardless of whether such analysts are current or new full-time employees or contract employees" after "analysts"; and*

*(2) in subsection (b)—*

*(A) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and*

*(B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:*

*"(3) LIMITATIONS ON DISCRETION.—*

*"(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the use of amounts awarded to a grant recipient under section 2003 or 2004 for personnel costs in accordance with paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Administrator may not—*

*"(i) impose a limit on the amount of the award that may be used to pay for personnel, or personnel-related, costs that is higher or lower than the percent limit imposed in paragraph (2)(A); or*

*"(ii) impose any additional limitation on the portion of the funds of a recipient that may be used for a specific type, purpose, or category of personnel, or personnel-related, costs.*

*"(B) ANALYSTS.—If amounts awarded to a grant recipient under section 2003 or 2004 are used for paying salary or benefits of a qualified intelligence analyst under subsection (a)(10), the Administrator shall make such amounts available without time limitations placed on the period of time that the analyst can serve under the grant."*

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill, (H.R. 6098), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

#### CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009—Continued

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I wish to proceed to the hour that I have asked the leader to set aside for the purpose of discussing, in my view, a grave oversight that can be corrected if there is enough political will to do so. So the purpose of this hour is to try to lay out a case so that we can build, over the course of the next few days and weeks, the will necessary to take action that if not taken could literally result in the bankruptcy of thousands of people and individuals in rural communities throughout Louisiana and the Nation who, through no fault of their own, have been caught up in the disasters of the last few weeks and months.

The disasters I speak of are not like the manmade disaster that is happening on Wall Street as we speak. It is not the purpose for which a group of Senators, both Republicans and Democrats, have been meeting around the clock for hours. They are disasters of nature's making—hurricanes, strong winds, and heavy rains that no one could prevent, but we most certainly can stop the economic downturn in the aftermath that will occur.

I am here today because it looks to me and several of my colleagues as though this Congress intends to leave without taking any action whatsoever, to give even hope to people, thousands of hard-working taxpayers who are in this situation.

I will speak for an hour, but this cartoon says it all. This was in the USA TODAY newspaper yesterday. I don't think it needs any explanation. I represent the lower ninth ward. I am proud to represent the ninth ward and the lower ninth ward. I also represent St. Bernard Parish and Plaquemines Parish and Terrebonne Parish and others that were devastated and basically have been abandoned in large measure by aspects of this Government that did not come to their aid. This cartoon says we have been building a levee for the last several weeks—or trying to build a levee—around Wall Street. Meanwhile, the rest of the country—whatever.

Out there in the rest of the country—whatever—which is what I represent—are thousands of farmers. This is what their fields look like. They are completely underwater, not because they left the hose on too long or failed to do the proper irrigation techniques but because we had Hurricane Gustav, Hurricane Ike, and Hurricane Fay, which did not hit just Florida, but that storm, as the Presiding Officer will remember, dropped significant rains throughout large parts of the country right before harvest time. Then, a few weeks later—because the farmers in many districts who watch the weather, of course, every day, made the decision to wait until these rains were done, they would then go into their fields and harvest the thousands of acres that were planted in Louisiana in cotton, soybean, rice, sugarcane, sweet potatoes, and our beautiful pecan trees. They would wait until those rains subsided and then they would go to their fields for the harvest that they were expecting to be quite spectacular despite price inputs at the front of the season: high fuel and fertilizer costs. But then Hurricane Ike came and Hurricane Gustav, and the water just never went away. There was nowhere for it to go.

The State I represent, as people will know their geography, is the State that basically drains, through the Mississippi River, the Arkansas, the Missouri River, comes down through the Mississippi River to Louisiana. There was simply nowhere for the water to go. It broke levees everywhere. The