

a key role in ensuring full and open competition for Government contracts, and improved the economic environment in which small business concerns compete;

Whereas for over 50 years, the Small Business Administration has helped millions of entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of owning a small business concern and has played a key role in fostering economic growth; and

Whereas the President has designated the week beginning May 17, 2009, as “National Small Business Week”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, beginning May 17, 2009;

(2) applauds the efforts and achievements of the owners of small business concerns and their employees, whose hard work and commitment to excellence have made them a key part of the Nation’s economic vitality;

(3) recognizes the work of the Small Business Administration and its resource partners in providing assistance to entrepreneurs and small business concerns; and

(4) strongly urges the President to take steps to ensure that—

(A) the applicable procurement goals for small business concerns, including the goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, HUBZone small business concerns, and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, are reached by all Federal agencies;

(B) guaranteed loans, microloans, and venture capital, for start-up and growing small business concerns, are made available to all qualified small business concerns;

(C) the management assistance programs delivered by resource partners on behalf of the Small Business Administration, such as small business development centers, women’s business centers, veterans business outreach centers, and the Service Corps of Retired Executives, are provided with the Federal resources necessary to do their jobs;

(D) reforms to the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration are implemented as quickly as possible;

(E) tax policy spurs small business growth, creates jobs, and increases competitiveness;

(F) the Federal Government reduces the regulatory compliance burden on small businesses; and

(G) broader health reforms efforts address the specific needs of small businesses and the self-employed in providing quality and affordable health insurance coverage to their employees.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, May 20; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2346, the supplemental appropriations bill, as provided for under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, under the previous order, there will be up to 2 hours for debate in relation to the Inouye amendment regarding funding with respect to detainees at the Naval Station in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, prior to a vote in relation to the amendment. Senators should expect the first vote of the day to begin around 11:30 a.m. tomorrow. Under rule XXII, the filing deadline for first-degree amendments to H.R. 2346 is 1 p.m. tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:33 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PHILIP L. VERVEER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION POLICY IN THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC, ENERGY, AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND U.S. COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION POLICY.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate, Tuesday, May 19, 2009:

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

GARY GENSLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2012.

GARY GENSLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

KRISTINA M. JOHNSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF ENERGY.

STEVEN ELLIOT KOONIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

SCOTT BLAKE HARRIS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LARRY J. ECHO HAWK, OF UTAH, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES’ COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.