

Whereas the March 2010 Report on Human Rights issued by the Department of State identifies "insurgent and extremist violence, coupled with weak government performance in upholding the rule of law" resulting in "widespread and severe human rights abuses" as among the significant and continuing human rights problems in Iraq;

Whereas although violence has impacted all aspects of society in Iraq, there have been alarming levels of religiously motivated violence in Iraq in recent years;

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom continues to recommend that the Secretary of State designate Iraq as a "country of particular concern" under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, because of the systematic, ongoing, egregious violations of religious freedom in Iraq;

Whereas scores of holy sites in Iraq have been bombed since 2004;

Whereas members of small religious minority communities in Iraq do not have militia or tribal structures to defend them, often receive inadequate official protection, and are legally, politically, and economically marginalized;

Whereas in the Nineveh and Kirkuk governorates, where control is disputed between the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan regional government, religious minorities have been targeted for abuse, violence, and discrimination;

Whereas before 1951, non-Muslims comprised some 6 percent of the population of Iraq, with Jews as the oldest and largest of these communities, tracing back to the Babylonian captivity of the sixth century BCE, but today the Jewish community in Iraq numbers in the single digits and essentially lives in hiding;

Whereas religious minorities in Iraq, who made up about 3 percent of the population of Iraq in 2003, make up a disproportionately high percentage of registered Iraqi refugees;

Whereas the number of Christians in Iraq was approximately 1,400,000 according to the 1987 Iraqi census but, according to the 2009 Report on International Religious Freedom issued by the Department of State, may now number only 500,000 to 600,000;

Whereas the United States is gravely concerned about the viability of the indigenous Christian communities of Iraq and other religious minority communities, and the possible disappearance of their ancient languages, culture, and heritage;

Whereas the Sabean Mandaean community in Iraq reports that almost 90 percent of its members have fled Iraq, leaving only about 3,500 to 5,000 Mandeans in Iraq as of 2009;

Whereas the Baha'i faith, estimated to have fewer than 2,000 adherents in Iraq, remains prohibited in Iraq under a 1970 law;

Whereas although hundreds of thousands of Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons have returned to their areas of origin, the numbers of religious minority returnees to Iraq are disproportionately low; and

Whereas members of religious minority communities of Iraq in diaspora have organized to support their communities in Iraq in ways that also benefit the whole of Iraq society by encouraging the rule of law, enhanced security, employment, education and health services: Now therefore be it

The resolution (S. Res. 322), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate

completes its business today, it adjourn under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 307 until 2:30 p.m. on Monday, September 13; that following the prayer and the 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; that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 552, the nomination of Jane Stranch to be a circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit, as provided under a previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on that date; that is, Monday, September 13, the filing deadline on the small business jobs bill would be at 3 p.m. that day, all first-degree amendments, and we, on Tuesday, would convene at 10 o'clock a.m.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote on the Johanns amendment vote occur at 11 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, September 14.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will have the judge vote on Monday when we come back; we will have the filing deadline that afternoon at 3 o'clock on the small business jobs bill; that Tuesday we will come in immediately and have no more business, and begin debate on that matter, the small business matter; and the first vote that day would be the cloture vote on the Johanns amendment.

Mr. President, first of all, I express my appreciation to the Presiding Officer. We appreciate his being here. This has been a long day. And for those who may not know this, next Tuesday the Presiding Officer's wife is going to have their baby, and she is anxious for him to get home. I am sorry it took so long for us to finish today.

I appreciate, as I always do, the extremely fine work of all of the staff. We are here and we talk, and people on C-SPAN see us. But we are instruments of our staff. They work very hard to make sure that everything works out very well. I am very proud of the staff, Democrats and Republicans. They work so well together. They set an example for the rest of the Senate, frankly. So I appreciate all of their good work.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 AT 2:30 P.M.

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, and pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res 307, the Senate stands adjourned until 2:30 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2010.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:02 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JACOB J. LEW, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE PETER R. ORSZAG, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

SCOTT C. DONEY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE CHIEF SCIENTIST OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, VICE KATHRYN D. SULLIVAN.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NANCY E. LINDBORG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE MICHAEL E. HESS, RESIGNED.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

KEVIN GLENN NEALER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2011, VICE SANFORD GOTTESMAN, TERM EXPIRED.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

WILFREDO MARTINEZ, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010, VICE TOMMY EDWARD JEWELL, III, TERM EXPIRED.

WILFREDO MARTINEZ, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2013. (REAPPOINTMENT)

CHASE THEODORA ROGERS, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2012, VICE ARTHUR A. MCGIVERIN, TERM EXPIRED.

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

JUAN F. VASQUEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS. (REAPPOINTMENT)

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DONALD KENNETH STEINBERG, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE FREDERICK W. SCHIECK, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

CORA B. MARRETT, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, VICE KATHIE L. OLSEN.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ALLISON BLAKELY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2016, VICE CRAIG HAPFNER, TERM EXPIRED.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

DAVID B. BUCKLEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE JOHN LEONARD HELGERSON.

NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE PRESIDENT

Thursday, August 5, 2010

The following nominations transmitted by the President of the United States to the Senate during the second session of the 111th Congress, and upon which no action was had at the time of the August adjournment of the Senate, failed of confirmation under the provisions of Rule XXXI, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Warren F. Miller, Jr., of New Mexico, to be Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy.