

Whereas many of those properties continue to be endangered and governments and communities continue to face fundamental and compelling challenges in the preservation of those properties;

Whereas experts within Lithuania and from around the world believe that the cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, is an historic Jewish cemetery and is sacred ground;

Whereas, in 2005, municipal authorities in Vilnius, Lithuania, approved the construction of an apartment building at the outer edge of that Jewish cemetery;

Whereas that cemetery dates to the 15th century and is known by scholars in Lithuania and around the world as the first Jewish cemetery in Vilnius;

Whereas it is believed that, before the Government closed the cemetery in the early 1800s, more than 50,000 Jews were buried there;

Whereas, in December 2006, several months after experts and groups from around the world expressed grave concern about the desecration of the Snipiskes cemetery, the Prime Minister of Lithuania established a working group to define the cemetery's borders and to consider how to memorialize it;

Whereas, in 2007, before the conclusion of the working group, authorities of the Government of Lithuania approved additional construction on the disputed ground;

Whereas, in May 2007, the working group, consisting of historians, scientists, and rabbis from Lithuania and around the world, called for a halt in construction activity until completion of a site study to be undertaken using ground-penetrating radar;

Whereas, on September 3, 2008, a group commissioned by the Government of Lithuania to study the area using the ground-penetrating radar concluded that the boundaries of the cemetery included the disputed apartment buildings;

Whereas the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania released a statement dismissing the study as inconclusive;

Whereas the fact that the Government of Lithuania has allowed construction to take place at the Jewish cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, and that desecration of sacred sites continues into the 21st century, is an affront to the international Jewish community, the people of the United States, and everyone who values religious freedom and ethnic diversity around the world;

Whereas the United States and Lithuania signed the Agreement on the Protection and Preservation of Certain Cultural Properties on October 15, 2002;

Whereas Article 1 of the Agreement states, "Each Party will take appropriate steps to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of all national, religious or ethnic groups . . . who reside or resided in its territory and were victims of genocide in its territory during the Second World War. The term 'cultural heritage' for purposes of this Agreement means . . . cemeteries and memorials to the dead. . . .";

Whereas cemeteries are sacred sites and are established to remain undisturbed in perpetuity, and the sanctity of a cemetery is determined by the bodies buried in the cemetery; and

Whereas, while vandalism of headstones or construction of a commercial building on the site disgraces the cemetery, it does not change its sacred status: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses strongly to the Government of Lithuania that the cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, which is an important part of the cultural

heritage of the Jewish people, should not be further desecrated;

(2) urges the Government of Lithuania to take all the necessary steps to immediately stop and, if necessary, reverse, construction on that cemetery;

(3) reaffirms that constructive bilateral relations between Lithuania and the United States are important to the Governments and citizens of both countries; and

(4) expresses strong support for the work of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad and for the European countries that continue to work to preserve sacred historical sites, despite ongoing challenges.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5692. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 440, providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses.

SA 5693. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska (for Mr. DORGAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 6469, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize increased Federal funding for the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network.

SA 5694. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska (for Mrs. LINCOLN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 616, reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad.

SA 5695. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. LEVIN to the bill H.R. 7222, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5692. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 440, providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike "from Monday, September 29, 2008, through Friday, October 3, 2008,"

On page 2, line 2, strike "that" and all that follows through line 9 and insert:

"the Senate may adjourn or recess at any time from Thursday, October 2, 2008, through January 3, 2009, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee until such time as specified in that motion, but not beyond noon on January 3, 2009, and it may reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution."

On page 2, line 15, strike "time" and insert "respective time".

SA 5693. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. DORGAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 6469, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize increased Federal funding for the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Stephanie Tubbs Jones Organ Transplant Authorization Act of 2008".

##### SEC. 2. INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK.

Section 372(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274(a)) is amended by striking "\$2,000,000" and inserting "\$7,000,000".

#### SEC. 3. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall request that the Executive Director of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network submit to Congress, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a report that shall include—

(1) the identity of transplant programs that have become inactive or have closed since the heart allocation policy change of 2006;

(2) the distance to the next closest operational heart transplant center from such inactivated or closed programs and an evaluation of whether or not access to care has been reduced to the population previously serviced by such inactive or closed program;

(3) the number of patients with rural zip codes that received transplants after the heart allocation policy change of 2006 as compared with the number of such patients that received such transplants prior to such heart allocation policy change;

(4) a comparison of the number of transplants performed, the mortality rate for individuals on the transplant waiting lists, and the post-transplant survival rate nationally and by region prior to and after the heart allocation policy change of 2006; and

(5) specifically with respect to allosensitized patients, a comparison of the number of heart transplants performed, the mortality rate for individuals on the heart transplant waiting lists, and the post heart transplant survival rate nationally and by region prior to and after the heart allocation policy change of 2006.

(b) LIMITATION ON FUNDING.—The increase provided for in the amendment made by section 2 shall not apply with respect to contracts entered into under section 372(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274(a)) after the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act if the Executive Director of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network fails to submit the report under subsection (a).

SA 5694. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mrs. LINCOLN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 616, reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad; as follows:

On page 3, line 4, strike "greater" and insert "more effective".

On page 3, lines 6 and 7, strike "maternal health as a human right" and insert "that the right to access quality and affordable health care is essential to improving maternal health".

SA 5695. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. LEVIN to the bill H.R. 7222, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 208 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3206) is amended to read as follows:

##### "SEC. 208. TERMINATION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—No duty-free treatment or other preferential treatment extended to beneficiary countries under this title shall—

"(1) remain in effect with respect to Colombia or Peru after December 31, 2009;

"(2) remain in effect with respect to Ecuador after June 30, 2009, except that duty-free

treatment and other preferential treatment under this title shall remain in effect with respect to Ecuador during the period beginning on July 1, 2009, and ending on December 31, 2009, unless the President reviews the criteria set forth in section 203, and on or before June 30, 2009, reports to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives pursuant to subsection (b) that—

“(A) the President has determined that Ecuador does not satisfy the requirements set forth in section 203(c) for being designated as a beneficiary country; and

“(B) in making that determination, the President has taken into account each of the factors set forth in section 203(d); and

“(3) remain in effect with respect to Bolivia after June 30, 2009, except that duty-free treatment and other preferential treatment under this title shall remain in effect with respect to Bolivia during the period beginning on July 1, 2009, and ending on December 31, 2009, only if the President reviews the criteria set forth in section 203, and on or before June 30, 2009, reports to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives pursuant to subsection (b) that—

“(A) the President has determined that Bolivia satisfies the requirements set forth in section 203(c) for being designated as a beneficiary country; and

“(B) in making that determination, the President has taken into account each of the factors set forth in section 203(d).

“(b) REPORTS.—On or before June 30, 2009, the President shall make determinations pursuant to subsections (a)(2)(A) and (a)(3)(A) and report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives on—

“(1) such determinations; and

“(2) the reasons for such determinations.”.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN APPAREL ARTICLES.—Section 204(b)(3) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 3203(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (iii)—

(i) in subclause (II), by striking “6 succeeding 1-year periods” and inserting “7 succeeding 1-year periods”; and

(ii) in subclause (III)(bb), by striking “and for the succeeding 1-year period” and inserting “and for the succeeding 2-year period”; and

(B) in clause (v)(II), by striking “5 succeeding 1-year periods” and inserting “6 succeeding 1-year periods”; and

(2) in subparagraph (E)(ii)(II), by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

## SEC. 2. EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 109-53; 119 Stat. 495) is amended by adding at the end the following:

### “SEC. 404. EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE PROGRAM.

“(a) PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Eligible apparel articles wholly assembled in an eligible country and imported directly from an eligible country shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric or yarns from which the articles are made, if such apparel articles are accompanied by an earned import allowance certificate that reflects the amount of credits equal to the total square meter equivalents of fabric in such apparel articles, in accordance with the program established under subsection (b).

“(2) DETERMINATION OF QUANTITY OF SME.—For purposes of determining the quantity of

square meter equivalents under paragraph (1), the conversion factors listed in ‘Correlation: U.S. Textile and Apparel Industry Category System with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States of America, 2008’, or its successor publications, of the United States Department of Commerce, shall apply.

“(b) EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE PROGRAM.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall establish a program to provide earned import allowance certificates to any producer or entity controlling production of eligible apparel articles in an eligible country for purposes of subsection (a), based on the elements described in paragraph (2).

“(2) ELEMENTS.—The elements referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

“(A) One credit shall be issued to a producer or an entity controlling production for every two square meter equivalents of qualifying fabric that the producer or entity controlling production can demonstrate that it has purchased for the manufacture in an eligible country of articles like or similar to any article eligible for preferential treatment under subsection (a). The Secretary of Commerce shall, if requested by a producer or entity controlling production, create and maintain an account for such producer or entity controlling production, into which such credits may be deposited.

“(B) Such producer or entity controlling production may redeem credits issued under subparagraph (A) for earned import allowance certificates reflecting such number of earned credits as the producer or entity may request and has available.

“(C) Any textile mill or other entity located in the United States that exports qualifying fabric to an eligible country may submit, upon such export or upon request, the Shipper’s Export Declaration, or successor documentation, to the Secretary of Commerce—

“(i) verifying that the qualifying fabric was exported to a producer or entity controlling production in an eligible country; and

“(ii) identifying such producer or entity controlling production, and the quantity and description of qualifying fabric exported to such producer or entity controlling production.

“(D) The Secretary of Commerce may require that a producer or entity controlling production submit documentation to verify purchases of qualifying fabric.

“(E) The Secretary of Commerce may make available to each person or entity identified in the documentation submitted under subparagraph (C) or (D) information contained in such documentation that relates to the purchase of qualifying fabric involving such person or entity.

“(F) The program shall be established so as to allow, to the extent feasible, the submission, storage, retrieval, and disclosure of information in electronic format, including information with respect to the earned import allowance certificates required under subsection (a)(1).

“(G) The Secretary of Commerce may reconcile discrepancies in the information provided under subparagraph (C) or (D) and verify the accuracy of such information.

“(H) The Secretary of Commerce shall establish procedures to carry out the program under this section by September 30, 2008, and may establish additional requirements to carry out the program.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

“(2) the term ‘eligible apparel articles’ means the following articles classified in chapter 62 of the HTS (and meeting the requirements of the rules relating to chapter 62 of the HTS contained in general note 29(n) of the HTS) of cotton (but not of denim): trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, skirts and divided skirts, and pants;

“(3) the term ‘eligible country’ means the Dominican Republic; and

“(4) the term ‘qualifying fabric’ means woven fabric of cotton wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States and certified by the producer or entity controlling production as being suitable for use in the manufacture of apparel items such as trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, skirts and divided skirts or pants, all the foregoing of cotton, except that—

“(A) fabric otherwise eligible as qualifying fabric shall not be ineligible as qualifying fabric because the fabric contains nylon filament yarn with respect to which section 213(b)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act applies;

“(B) fabric that would otherwise be ineligible as qualifying fabric because the fabric contains yarns not wholly formed in the United States shall not be ineligible as qualifying fabric if the total weight of all such yarns is not more than 10 percent of the total weight of the fabric, except that any elastomeric yarn contained in an eligible apparel article must be wholly formed in the United States; and

“(C) fabric otherwise eligible as qualifying fabric shall not be ineligible as qualifying fabric because the fabric contains yarns or fibers that have been designated as not commercially available pursuant to—

“(i) article 3.25(4) or Annex 3.25 of the Agreement;

“(ii) Annex 401 of the North American Free Trade Agreement;

“(iii) section 112(b)(5) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act;

“(iv) section 204(b)(3)(B)(i)(III) or (ii) of the Andean Trade Preference Act;

“(v) section 213(b)(2)(A)(v) or 213A(b)(5)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act; or

“(vi) any other provision, relating to determining whether a textile or apparel article is an originating good eligible for preferential treatment, of a law that implements a free trade agreement entered into by the United States that is in effect at the time the claim for preferential treatment is made.

“(d) REVIEW AND REPORT.—

“(1) REVIEW.—The United States International Trade Commission shall carry out a review of the program under this section annually for the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of, and making recommendations for improvements in, the program.

“(2) REPORT.—The United States International Trade Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees annually a report on the results of the review carried out under paragraph (1).

“(e) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—

“(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The program under this section shall be in effect for the 10-year period beginning on the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that sections A, B, C, and D of the Annex to Presidential Proclamation 8213 (December 20, 2007) have taken effect.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—The program under this section shall apply with respect to qualifying fabric exported to an eligible country on or after August 1, 2007.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Dominican Republic-Central

America-United States Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 403 the following:

“Sec. 404. Earned import allowance program.”.

**SEC. 3. AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 112 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3721) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(6)(A), by striking “ethnic” in the second sentence and inserting “ethnic”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “, and” and inserting “, and”;

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3);

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “Subsection (b)(3)(C)” and inserting “Subsection (b)(3)(B)”; and

(ii) by redesignating such paragraph (4) as paragraph (2); and

(D) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

“(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country’ means—

“(A) a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country that had a per capita gross national product of less than \$1,500 in 1998, as measured by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;

“(B) Botswana;

“(C) Namibia; and

“(D) Mauritius.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) apply to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REVIEW AND REPORTS.—

(1) ITC REVIEW AND REPORT.—

(A) REVIEW.—The United States International Trade Commission shall conduct a review to identify yarns, fabrics, and other textile and apparel inputs that through new or increased investment or other measures can be produced competitively in beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 7 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States International Trade Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Comptroller General a report on the results of the review carried out under subparagraph (A).

(2) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the submission of the report under paragraph (1)(B), the Comptroller General shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that, based on the results of the report submitted under paragraph (1)(B) and other available information, contains recommendations for changes to United States trade preference programs, including the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.) and the amendments made by that Act, to provide incentives to increase investment and other measures necessary to improve the competitiveness of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries in the production of yarns, fabrics, and other textile and apparel inputs identified in the report submitted under paragraph (1)(B), including changes to requirements relating to rules of origin under such programs.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

(A) the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the term “beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries” has the meaning given the term in section 506A(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2466a(c)).

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 6002(a)(2)(B) of Public Law 109–432 is amended by striking “(B) by striking” and inserting “(B) in paragraph (3), by striking”.

**SEC. 4. GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.**

Section 505 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465) is amended by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

**SEC. 5. CUSTOMS USER FEES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “November 14, 2017” and inserting “February 14, 2018”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “October 7, 2017” and inserting “January 31, 2018”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 15201 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246) is amended by striking subsections (c) and (d).

**SEC. 6. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.**

The percentage under subparagraph (C) of section 401(1) of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 2 percentage points.

**SEC. 7. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**

Section 15402 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a) and (b), by striking “Caribbean” each place it appears and inserting “Caribbean”; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking “231A(b)” and inserting “213A(b)”.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 695, 758, 759, 762, 763, 764, 767 to and including 770, 776, 777, 778, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790 to and including 804, 807 to and including 812, all nominations on the Secretary’s Desk in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy; that the Commerce Committee be discharged of PN2090, Coast Guard promotions; that the HELP Committee be discharged of the following: for membership on the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission: PN1828, Mary Lucille Jordan, and PN1976 Michael Young; for membership on the National Council on Disability: PN1503 Katherine O. McCary; PN1509 Chad Colley; PN1510 Victoria Ray Carlson; PN1511 Tony J. Williams; PN1512 John R. Vaughn; PN1761 Marlyn Andrea Howe; PN1762 Lonnie C. Moore; PN1763 Heather McCallum; for membership on the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: PN1687 John J. Faso; PN1688 Joe Manchin III; PN1689 Harvey M. Tettlebaum; for membership on the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: PN1977 Dave Heineman; for membership on the National Science Board, National Science Foundation: PN2023 Esin Gulari; PN2025 Diane Souvaine; for membership on the National Council

on the Arts: PN2102 JoAnn Falletta and PN2103 Lee Greenwood; that the Finance Committee be discharged of PN2017, Edwin Eck, Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged of the following: to serve as a U.S. Representative to the U.N. General Assembly: PN2055 Anthony H. Gioia and PN2056 Karen Elliott House; PN1751 James Franklin Jeffrey to be Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service; for various foreign service officers, consular officers and career members of the senior foreign service: PN1991, PN1998, PN1999 and PN2000; that the Judiciary Committee be discharged of PN1703 Dennis Michael Klein; that the Senate proceed to their consideration, en bloc; that the nominations be confirmed, en bloc; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the Record; provided further that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action and the Senate return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Christine O. Hill, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional Affairs).

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Matthew A. Reynolds, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

Brian H. Hook, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs).

C. Steven McGann, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati.

Carol Ann Rodley, of Virginia, 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 Kingdom of Cambodia.

Sung Y. Kim, of California, a Foreign Service Officer of Class One, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term expiring July 1, 2009 (Reappointment), to which position she was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

Thomas M. Beck, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2010.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

Ruth Y. Goldway, of California, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory