

Whereas the goals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week are—

(1) to invite people to join the movement to end multiple sclerosis;

(2) to encourage each individual in the United States to do something that demonstrates a commitment to moving toward a world free of multiple sclerosis; and

(3) to acknowledge those individuals who have dedicated their time and talent to helping to promote multiple sclerosis research and programs; and

Whereas in 2011, the week of March 14, 2011, through March 20, 2011, has been designated as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

(2) encourages the States, territories, possessions, and localities of the United States to support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week by issuing proclamations designating Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

(3) encourages media organizations to participate in Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week by helping to educate the public about multiple sclerosis;

(4) commends the efforts of the States, territories, possessions, and localities of the United States that support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

(5) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of the United States to creating a world free of multiple sclerosis by—

(A) promoting awareness about people who are living with multiple sclerosis; and

(B) promoting new education programs, supporting research, and expanding access to medical treatment;

(6) recognizes all people in the United States living with multiple sclerosis and expresses gratitude to their family members and friends who are a source of love and encouragement to those individuals; and

(7) salutes the health care professionals and medical researchers who—

(A) provide assistance to those individuals in the United States living with multiple sclerosis; and

(B) continue to work to find ways to stop the progression of the disease, restore nerve function, and end multiple sclerosis forever.

#### AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF LEGAL EXPENSES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 92, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 92) to authorize the payment of legal expenses of Senate employees out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, earlier this week the joint leadership group of the Senate made the following recommendation to Senate legal counsel regarding representation of two Senate employees in an upcoming judicial proceeding:

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION TO AVOID CONFLICT OR INCONSISTENCY IN THE REPRESENTATION OF SENATE PARTIES

Having been notified of an apparent conflict of interest by the Senate Legal Counsel pursuant to §710(a) of the Ethics in Govern-

ment Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §288i(a), and as contemplated by §710(b) and (d) of that Act, 2 U.S.C. §288i(b) and (d), it is recommended that the Senate Legal Counsel take the following action in order to avoid a potential conflict that could arise between the Legal Counsel's responsibilities to the Select Committee on Ethics and representation of Jean Manning and Erica Watkins, Senate employees who are being subpoenaed to testify and produce documents before a federal grand jury. In the event that Ms. Manning or Ms. Watkins requests legal representation in connection with her appearance before the grand jury, the Senate Legal Counsel shall refer Ms. Manning and Ms. Watkins to the Committee on Rules and Administration for assistance in arranging for the employment of private counsel to represent them with respect to official actions and responsibilities.

The Joint Leadership Group  
March \_\_, 2011

Mr. SCHUMER. Ms. Manning and Ms. Watkins have now contacted the Committee on Rules and Administration for assistance in arranging for the employment of private counsel to represent them with respect to testimony and document production before the Federal grand jury in the District of Columbia.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 92) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 92

*Resolved*,

#### SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF THE PAYMENT OF LEGAL EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to pay out of the contingent fund of the Senate the legal expenses incurred by Jean Manning and Erica Watkins for the employment of private counsel to represent them with respect to official actions and responsibilities before the grand jury in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

(b) DETERMINATION.—The amount of expenses paid pursuant to subsection (a) shall be determined by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that there be no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of these nominations; that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Daniel L. Shields III, of Pennsylvania, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Brunei Darussalam.

Pamela L. Spratlen, of California, 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 Kyrgyz Republic.

Sue Kathrine Brown, of Texas, 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 Montenegro.

David Lee Carden, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Eric G. Postel, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, March 7, 2011, at 4:30 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 4, 32, and 33; that there be an hour of debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of that time, Calendar No. 32 be confirmed and the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on Calendar No. 33 and Calendar No. 4, in that order; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that there be no intervening action or debate; that there be no further motions in order to these nominations; that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 4

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there is a bill at the desk due for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 4) to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for a second reading on this matter in order to place the bill on the calendar, but under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

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ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 4,  
2011

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Friday, March 4; 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 following any leader remarks there be a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that time.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as a result of cloture being filed on S. 23, the America Invents Act, the filing deadline for first-degree amendments is 1 p.m. tomorrow. Senators should expect a series of three rollcall votes to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Monday. The first two votes will be on those judicial nominations we have already spoken of this evening, and the third vote will be on cloture on the America Invents Act.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate this evening, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the provisions of S. Res. 89 as a further mark of respect to the memory of Frank W. Buckles, the longest surviving U.S. veteran of World War I.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:39 p.m., adjourned until Friday, March 4, 2011, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate, Thursday, March 3, 2011:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DANIEL L. SHIELDS III, OF PENNSYLVANIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM.

PAMELA L. SPRATLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, 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 KYRGYZ REPUBLIC.

SUE KATHRINE BROWN, OF TEXAS, 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 MONTENEGRO.

DAVID LEE CARDEN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

ERIC G. POSTEL, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

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.