

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Andrew Imparato of the committee staff on (202) 228-3453.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider a recently released report by the National Park Service: *A Call to Action Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement*.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by email to Jake\_McCook@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact please contact David Brooks (202) 224-9863 or Jake McCook (202) 224-9313.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO  
MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 8, 2011, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC  
WORKS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 8, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 8, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Tax Reform Options: International Issues."

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,  
AND PENSIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to

conduct a hearing entitled "Examining Quality and Safety in Child Care: Giving Working Families Security, Confidence, and Peace of Mind" on September 8, 2011, at 10:15 a.m., in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 8, 2011, at 10 a.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, CIVIL  
RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 8, 2011, at 2 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "New State Voting Laws: Barriers to the Ballot?"

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

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOREIGN  
ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AND INTER-  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SUB-  
COMMITTEE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 8, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection subcommittee hearing entitled, "Afghanistan: Right Sizing the Development Footprint."

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

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE  
CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to consideration of H. Con. Res 67, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 67) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be adopted, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 67) was agreed to.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCI-  
PATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL  
VISITOR CENTER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 28 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Cons. Res. 28) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

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

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

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 28) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 28

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR  
EVENT TO AWARD THE CONGRES-  
SIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on November 2, 2011, to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

NATIONAL FETAL ALCOHOL SPEC-  
TRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS  
DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 259, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 259) designating September 9, 2011, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day."

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 259) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 259

Whereas the term “fetal alcohol spectrum disorders” includes a broader range of conditions than the term “fetal alcohol syndrome” and therefore has replaced the term “fetal alcohol syndrome” as the umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are the leading cause of cognitive disability in Western civilization, including the United States, and are 100 percent preventable;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a major cause of numerous social disorders, including learning disabilities, school failure, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness, and crime;

Whereas the incidence rate of fetal alcohol syndrome is estimated at 1 out of 500 live births and the incidence rate of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders is estimated at 1 out of every 100 live births;

Whereas, although the economic costs of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are difficult to estimate, the cost of fetal alcohol syndrome alone in the United States was approximately \$6,000,000,000 in 2007, and it is estimated that each individual with fetal alcohol syndrome will cost the taxpayers of the United States between \$860,000 and \$4,000,000 during the lifetime of the individual;

Whereas, in February 1999, a small group of parents of children who suffer from fetal alcohol spectrum disorders came together with the hope that they could make the world aware of the devastating consequences of alcohol consumption during pregnancy by establishing International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day;

Whereas the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day was observed on September 9, 1999;

Whereas Bonnie Buxton of Toronto, Canada, the co-founder of the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day, asked “What if ... a world full of FAS/E [Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Effect] parents all got together on the ninth hour of the ninth day of the ninth month of the year and asked the world to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol ... would the rest of the world listen?”; and

Whereas on the ninth day of the ninth month of each year since 1999, communities around the world have observed International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 9, 2011, as “National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States—

(A) to observe National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day with appropriate ceremonies—

(i) to promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(ii) to increase compassion for individuals affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(iii) to minimize the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol; and

(iv) to ensure healthier communities across the United States; and

(B) to observe a moment of reflection during the ninth hour of September 9, 2011, to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol.

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 260, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 260) commemorating the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 260) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 260

Whereas the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park corresponds with the Civil War sesquicentennial, enriching the heritage of both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States;

Whereas in the early to mid-1920s, as a result of the efforts of the citizen-driven Shenandoah Valley, Inc. and the Shenandoah National Park Association, the congressionally appointed Southern Appalachian National Park Committee recommended that Congress authorize the establishment of a national park in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia for the purpose of providing the western national park experience to the populated eastern seaboard;

Whereas, in 1935, the Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, accepted the land deeds for what would become Shenandoah National Park from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and, on July 3, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated Shenandoah National Park “to this and to succeeding generations for the recreation and re-creation they would find”;

Whereas the Appalachian Mountains extend through 200,000 acres of Shenandoah National Park and border the 8 Virginia counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Greene, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, Rockingham, and Warren;

Whereas Shenandoah National Park is home to a diverse ecosystem of 103 rare and endangered species, 1,405 plant species, 51 mammal species, 36 fish species, 26 reptile species, 23 amphibian species, and more than 200 bird species;

Whereas the proximity of Shenandoah National Park to heavily populated areas, including Washington, District of Columbia, promotes regional travel and tourism, providing thousands of jobs and contributing millions of dollars to the economic vitality of the region;

Whereas Shenandoah National Park, rich with recreational opportunities, offers 520 miles of hiking trails, 200 miles of which are designated horse trails and 101 miles of which are part of the 2,175-mile Appalachian National Historic Trail, more than 90 fishable streams, 4 campgrounds, 7 picnic areas, 3 lodges, 6 backcountry cabins, and an extensive, rugged backcountry open to wilderness camping to the millions of people who annually visit the Park;

Whereas the Park protects significant cultural resources, including—

(1) Rapidan Camp, once a summer retreat for President Herbert Hoover and now a national historic landmark;

(2) Skyline Drive, a historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places;

(3) Massanutten Lodge, a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places;

(4) 360 buildings and structures included on the List of Classified Structures;

(5) 577 significant, recorded archeological sites, 11 of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

(6) more than 100 historic cemeteries;

Whereas Congress named 10 battlefields in the Shenandoah Valley for preservation in the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District and Commission Act of 1996 (section 606 of Public Law 104-333; 110 Stat. 4174), and Shenandoah National Park, an integral partner in that endeavor, provides visitors with outstanding views of pristine, natural landscapes that are vital to the Civil War legacy;

Whereas Shenandoah National Park also protects intangible resources, including aspects of the heritage of the people of the United States through the rigorous commitments of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the advancement of Civil Rights as Shenandoah’s “separate but equal” facilities became the first to desegregate in Virginia;

Whereas, on October 20, 1976, Public Law 94-567 was enacted, designating 79,579 acres within Shenandoah National Park’s boundaries as wilderness under the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), which protects the wilderness character of the lands “for the permanent good of the whole people”; and

Whereas Congress should support efforts to preserve the ecological and cultural integrity of Shenandoah National Park, maintain the infrastructure of the Park, and protect the famously scenic views of the Shenandoah Valley: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park; and

(2) acknowledges the historic and enduring scenic, recreational, and economic value of the Park.

RECESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 6:30 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:12 p.m., recessed until 6:30 p.m., and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. FRANKEN).

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to receive a message from the President of the United States.