

approach to eradicating poverty on the reservation by reaching out to private businesses to invest in the tribe has been very successful for the Choctaws.

I commend Chief Martin for believing in his tribe and taking the risk to develop the enterprises on the Choctaw Reservation. The restoration of the Choctaw Indian tribe is a great American success story of self-reliance and sheer determination that we all can be proud.

---

HUMAN SERVICES  
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

---

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM BLILEY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 14, 1998*

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2206, the "Community Opportunities, Accountability, and Training and Educational Services Act of 1998." Title III of the legisla-

tion reauthorizes the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through fiscal year 2001, and authorizes \$1.1 billion in funding for fiscal year 2000. The legislation also extends the authorization for the President to release contingency funds to meet the additional home energy assistance needs of one or more States arising from a natural disaster or other emergency. The LIHEAP program is a State block grant program that provides assistance to 4.3 million low income households to help families pay their heating and cooling bills. It is a sound program and should be reauthorized.

On the whole, the legislation does not make significant changes to the LIHEAP program. However, the bill does make one improvement to the program, by clarifying the circumstances under which the President can release contingency funds to meet the additional needs arising from a natural disaster or emergency. There have been problems releasing emergency LIHEAP funds in the past. For example, after ice storms in New England earlier this year the President was constrained by the

provisions of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act regarding the release of contingency funds, since the Act does not define "natural disaster" or "emergency." The bill defines these terms in order to expedite the future release of contingency funds.

The Committee on Commerce has jurisdiction over the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981. As indicated in the exchange of correspondence in the report filed by the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the Committee on Commerce waived referral of the legislation reported by the Committee on Education and the Workforce, H.R. 4271, the Community Services Block Grant Amendments of 1998, in order to expedite floor consideration. However, that does not constitute a waiver of jurisdiction. The exchange of letters also commemorates that the Committee on Education and the Workforce will support a request by the Committee on Commerce for conferees in the event there is a conference.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 2206.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## SEPTEMBER 22

9:00 a.m.

## Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on S. 2470, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.  
SD-406

10:00 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on the nominations of Sylvia De Leon, of Texas, Linwood Holton, of Virginia, and Amy M. Rosen, of New Jersey, each to be a Member of the Reform Board (AMTRAK).  
SR-253

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the quality of care in the VA health care system.  
SR-418

2:00 p.m.

## Judiciary

## Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues with regard to the BP/Amoco merger.  
SD-226

## SEPTEMBER 23

9:00 a.m.

## Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine public and private forestry issues.  
SR-328A

## Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on H.R. 1833, to provide for further self-governance by Indian tribes.  
SD-562

9:30 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.  
SR-253

## Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.  
SD-366

## Environment and Public Works

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.  
SD-406

## Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.  
SD-430

10:00 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

## International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee

To resume hearings on information security issues.  
SD-342

10:30 a.m.

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nominations of Richard Henry Jones, of Nebraska, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Robert Patrick John Finn, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan.  
SD-419

2:00 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

## Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States commercial space launch industry activities.  
SR-253

2:30 p.m.

## Environment and Public Works

## Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the proposed consolidation of the Patent and Trademark Office.  
SD-406

## SEPTEMBER 24

9:30 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

## Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To resume hearings to examine the safety of food imports, focusing on legislative, administrative and regulatory remedies.  
SD-342

10:00 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine recent Midwest electricity price spikes.  
SD-366

2:00 p.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on H.R. 1805, to amend the Auburn Indian Restoration act to establish restrictions related to gaming on and use of land held in trust for the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California, and S. 2010, to provide for business de-

velopment and trade promotion for Native Americans.  
SR-485

## SEPTEMBER 25

9:30 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

## Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To continue hearings to examine the safety of food imports, focusing on legislative, administrative and regulatory remedies.  
SD-342

## SEPTEMBER 29

10:00 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the status of United States military forces and their ability to successfully execute the National Military Strategy.  
SH-216

## SEPTEMBER 30

9:30 a.m.

## Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1870, to provide the National Indian Gaming Commission with resources to monitor and regulate certain Indian gaming operations, H.R. 1805, to establish restrictions related to gaming on and use of land held in trust for the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California, and H.R. 1833, to provide for further self-governance by Indian tribes; to be followed by hearings on S. 2010, to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans.  
SR-485

## OCTOBER 1

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

## Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the Forest Service cabin fees.  
SD-366

## OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.  
345 Cannon Building

## CANCELLATIONS

## SEPTEMBER 24

2:00 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

## National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1372, to provide for the protection of farmland at the Point Reyes National Seashore in California.  
SD-366