

consistent with the provisions of this title as the Board may delegate.

(b) **APPOINTMENT.**—The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Board and shall be a member of the Senior Executive Service. The Executive Secretary shall have demonstrated significant management experience and shall possess a high level of expertise in the recruitment and retention of personnel.

(c) **TERM OF OFFICE.**—The Executive Secretary shall serve for a term of 5 years, and may be reappointed. The Executive Secretary may be removed by a vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Board membership.

(d) **COMPENSATION.**—The Board shall appoint and fix the compensation of the Executive Secretary at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate for a member of the Senior Executive Service.

SEC. 7110. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) **POWERS OF THE FOUNDATION.**—In order to carry out this title, the Foundation may—

(1) appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as may be necessary, at rates not to exceed level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) procure temporary and intermittent services of experts and consultants as are necessary to the extent authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates not to exceed the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code;

(3) prescribe such regulations as it considers necessary to carry out its functions under this title;

(4) receive money and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction other than that it be used for the purposes of the Foundation, and to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of such property for the purpose of carrying out its functions;

(5) accept and utilize the services of voluntary and non-compensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code;

(6) enter into contracts, grants, or other arrangements, or modifications thereof, to carry out such provisions of this title, and such contracts or modifications may, with the concurrence of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members of the Board, be entered into without performance or other bonds, and without regard to section 5 of title 41, United States Code;

(7) rent office space in the District of Columbia; and

(8) make other necessary expenditures.

(b) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—The Foundation shall submit to the President and to the Congress an annual report on its operations under this title.

(c) **CONTRACT AUTHORITY.**—The Foundation may enter into contracts under this title only to such extent or in such amounts as may be provided for in advance in appropriations Acts.

SEC. 7111. ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FOUNDATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In addition to its other functions, the Foundation shall—

(1) create, maintain, and promote an online directory of all Federal scholarship opportunities available to individuals pursuing temporary or permanent employment with the Federal Government;

(2) in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Chief Human Capital Officers Council, create and maintain an online directory of current mission-critical occupational areas;

(3) partner with Federal agencies to place Roosevelt Scholars in positions in the Federal Government;

(4) to the extent practical, assist Federal agencies and other Federal scholarship foundations in placing Federal scholarship recipients in positions in the Federal Government;

(5) design and implement mandatory extracurricular programs and activities that—

(A) promote team-building and create a network and community for past, present, and future Roosevelt Scholars;

(B) motivate Roosevelt Scholars to become career Federal employees;

(C) are offered regularly during each year in which an individual is receiving a Roosevelt Scholarship, including during intervals between periods of enrollment;

(D) expose Roosevelt Scholars to the business, political, demographic, cultural, and economic climate of the Federal Government; and

(E) help Roosevelt Scholars to develop leadership qualities; and

(6) within 2 years after the date of the enactment of this title, submit to Congress (and make available to the public) a report regarding—

(A) any barriers to appointing Roosevelt Scholars and other Federal scholarship recipients to positions in the Federal Government; and

(B) recommendations to—

(i) remove barriers to appointing Roosevelt Scholars and other Federal scholarship recipients to positions in the Federal Government; and

(ii) educate Federal agencies on the best use of personnel flexibilities in the appointment of Federal scholarship recipients, including Roosevelt Scholars.

(b) **SECURITY CLEARANCES.**—The Foundation may, consistent with regulations of the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, request and fund security clearances for Roosevelt Scholars, as necessary.

SEC. 7112. EXCLUSION OF ROOSEVELT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FROM GROSS INCOME.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 117 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to qualified scholarships) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **ROOSEVELT SCHOLARSHIPS.**—Gross income shall not include any amount awarded under section 7104 of the Roosevelt Scholars Act of 2009.”

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this title.

SEC. 7113. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for succeeding fiscal years.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. MIKULSKI. 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 March 24, 2009 at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Modernizing Bank Supervision and Regulation, Part II.”

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Alleviating Global Hunger: Challenges and Opportunities for U.S. Leadership.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Ms. MIKULSKI. 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 “Addressing Insurance Market Reform in Health Care Reform” on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. The hearing will commence at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 24, 2009 at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND THE COURTS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Abusive Credit Card Practices and Bankruptcy?” on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAR AIR AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear

Safety of the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing entitled, "Three Mile Island—Looking Back on Thirty Years of Lessons Learned."

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, March 25, at 12 noon, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 27, the nomination of David S. Kris to be an Assistant Attorney General, and that the Senate then immediately vote on the confirmation of the nomination; that upon confirmation, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, no further motions be in order; that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 33, the nomination of Gary Locke to be Secretary of Commerce; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that no further motions be in order; that any statements relating to this nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Gary Locke, of Washington, to be Secretary of Commerce.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NOMINATION OF GARY LOCKE

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise to thank my colleagues for the expeditious approval of former Washington Gov. Gary Locke as the 36th Secretary of Commerce.

I have known Gary Locke for more than 20 years and I can say to my colleagues you did the right thing tonight by approving him for this job.

He has helped our State with broadband service delivery to rural communities. Under his leadership, Washington State used E-rate funds to help develop a K-20 network, a high-speed, high-capacity network linking K-12 schools and universities across the State of Washington.

He has been involved with both public and private sector trade missions in helping to promote U.S. products abroad. At the International Trade Administration within Commerce, he will put that experience to good use. Part of that agency's mission is to provide for advocacy for American companies abroad, and it can mean the difference between whether major foreign sales opportunities go to U.S. companies or to foreign competitors.

At NOAA, which is over half the Department of Commerce's budget, Governor Locke's prior experience with the complexities of Puget Sound, endangered salmon species, and the hazards of oil spills, will all be invaluable. As Governor, Gary Locke dealt with many of our most trying fishing issues and was in charge of appointing members to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

Fisheries in the North Pacific have been recognized by many organizations, including the U.S. Oceans Commission and the Pew Oceans Commission, as some of the best managed fisheries in the world.

In addition to that effort, Governor Locke has dealt with the complexities of endangered salmon species and getting the first locally developed regional salmon recovery plan for Washington State. I know that this expertise will be put to good use at NOAA.

Many of my colleagues understand that there are challenges at the Department of Commerce, including management challenges—from the set-top box program for the digital television transition, to getting the NOAA satellite program back on track, to wisely investing the \$4.7 billion of broadband grants as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

I know Governor Locke, who has never shied away from management challenges, will put his expertise to good work in making sure these programs are implemented effectively.

He worked with Democrats and Republicans in our State after the tech bubble crisis to come up with a budget and spending reduction proposals that were certainly unpopular at the time,

but what the State budget needed. I know he will continue in the same bipartisan fashion as Secretary of Commerce.

I believe Governor Locke will help round out the President's economic team. He is someone who understands the challenges many Americans face as we try to stabilize our economy. Governor Locke was born and raised in public housing. He combined an intense work ethic with part-time jobs and financial aid, and graduated from Yale University and received a subsequent law degree from Boston University.

He became the first Chinese American elected Governor in the United States when he was elected to be Governor of the State of Washington.

He is a testament to the American dream.

So I hope that as we have approved this nomination, he will get started immediately on helping our economy return to robust growth and use the great resourcefulness he has demonstrated as Governor of Washington State. He will make sure the Commerce Department plays a key role in getting our economy moving.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Washington State, Senator CANTWELL, this evening to congratulate Gary Locke on his confirmation now as our next Secretary of Commerce. This confirmation comes at an important time in our Nation's history as we all work very hard to recover from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. We need a Commerce Secretary with the dedication and expertise to carry out policies that are going to strengthen our economy far into the future. Gary Locke is uniquely qualified for that task because he does have a lifetime of experience built on hard work, a wealth of knowledge, and a unique appreciation of the American dream.

Governor Locke understands the importance of the American dream because he lived it. His grandfather emigrated from China, and he worked as a servant about a mile from the Governor's mansion in Olympia that one day his grandson would call home. There are a lot of reasons why Governor Locke is an ideal Commerce Secretary, but I wish to tell a personal story this evening that I think illustrates his commitment to public service and to making sure we make the best decision for our taxpayers.

I first met Governor Locke when he was in the Washington State legislature and he was chair of the House Appropriations Committee and I was a new State Senator trying to get a piece of legislation passed that was critical to my constituents. As part of getting that bill passed, I had to go before then-Gov. Gary Locke as chair of that Appropriations Committee, and it was one of the toughest political experiences of my lifetime. He knew the