

Military contributions of the Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau / passing of Governor Tauese Sunia

Senator Daniel K. Akaka Papers

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SENATE OFFICE BLDG
WASHINGTON DC 20510

Mr. REID. I confirm that the Democratic leader has said he believes it is very important to finish this bill tomorrow. That way, we can conference this and have the bill on the President's desk before we take a break for Easter. As we know, this is wartime and we need to finish this legislation as quickly as we can. We are going to do everything within our power on this side, and I know the Senator from Alaska will do everything on his side, to move this along.

Mr. STEVENS. I thank the Senator from Nevada. He is very cooperative and very much aware of the problems dealing with the floor from his own experience, and I appreciate his help on this bill no end.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COLEMAN). The clerk will call the roll. The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business.

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

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS OF PROCEDURE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, the Senate Appropriations Committee has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 108th Congress. Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator BYRD, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE RULES—108TH CONGRESS

I. MEETINGS

The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairman.

II. QUORUMS

1. Reporting a bill. A majority of the members must be present for the reporting of a bill.

2. Other business. For the purpose of transacting business other than reporting a bill or taking testimony, one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

3. Taking testimony. For the purpose of taking testimony, other than sworn testimony, by the Committee or any subcommittee, one member of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony by the Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum, and for the taking of sworn testimony by any subcommittee, one member shall constitute a quorum.

III. PROXIES

Except for the reporting of a bill, votes may be cast by proxy when any member so requests.

IV. ATTENDANCE OF STAFF MEMBERS AT CLOSED SESSIONS

Attendance of Staff Members at closed sessions of the Committee shall be limited to those members of the Committee Staff that have a responsibility associated with the matter being considered at such meeting. This rule may be waived by unanimous consent.

V. BROADCASTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF COMMITTEE HEARING

The Committee or any of its subcommittees may permit the photographing and broadcast of open hearings by television and/or radio. However, if any member of a subcommittee objects to the photographing or broadcasting of an open hearing, the question shall be referred to the Full Committee for its decision.

VI. AVAILABILITY OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

To the extent possible, when the bill and report of any subcommittee are available, they shall be furnished to each member of the Committee thirty-six hours prior to the Committee's consideration of said bill and report.

VII. AMENDMENTS AND REPORT LANGUAGE

To the extent possible, amendments and report language intended to be proposed by Senators at Full Committee markups shall be provided in writing to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member and the appropriate Subcommittee Chairman and Ranking Minority Member twenty-four hours prior to such markups.

VIII. POINTS OF ORDER

Any member of the Committee who is floor manager of an appropriation bill, is hereby authorized to make points of order against any amendment offered in violation of the Senate Rules on the floor of the Senate to such appropriation bill.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the Rules of Procedure for the Committee on the Judiciary for the 108th Congress.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY—RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary on three days notice or in the alternative with the consent of the Ranking Minority Member or pursuant to the provision of the Standing Rules of the Senate, as amended.

2. Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Committee, at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

3. On the request of any Member, a nomination or bill on the agenda of the Committee will be held over until the next meeting of the Committee or for one week, whichever occurs later.

II. QUORUMS

1. Ten Members shall constitute a quorum of the Committee when reporting a bill or nomination; provided that proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

2. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony, a quorum of the Committee and each Subcommittee thereof, now or hereafter appointed, shall consist of one Senator.

III. PROXIES

When a record vote is taken in the Committee on any bill, resolution, amendment,

or any other question, a quorum being present, a Member who is unable to attend the meeting may submit his vote by proxy, in writing or by telephone, or through personal instructions. A proxy must be specific with respect to the matters it addresses.

IV. BRINGING A MATTER TO A VOTE

The Chairman shall entertain a non-debatable motion to bring a matter before the Committee to a vote. If there is objection to bring the matter to a vote without further debate, a rollcall vote of the Committee shall be taken, and debate shall be terminated if the motion to bring the matter to a vote without further debate passes with ten votes in the affirmative, one of which must be cast by the minority.

V. SUBCOMMITTEES

1. Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during its hearings or any other meeting, but shall not have the authority to vote on any matter before the Subcommittee unless he is a Member of such Subcommittee.

2. Subcommittees shall be considered de novo whenever there is a change in the Subcommittee chairmanship and seniority on the particular Subcommittee shall not necessarily apply.

3. Except for matters retained at the full Committee, matters shall be referred to the appropriate Subcommittee or Subcommittees by the Chairman, except as agreed by a major vote of the Committee or by the agreement of the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member.

VI. ATTENDANCE RULES

1. Official attendance at all Committee markups and executive sessions of the Committee shall be kept by the Committee Clerk. Official attendance at all Subcommittee markups and executive sessions shall be kept by the Subcommittee Clerk.

2. Official attendance at all hearings shall be kept, provided that Senators are notified by the Committee Chairman and ranking Member, in the case of Committee hearings, and by the Subcommittee Chairman and ranking Member, in the case of Subcommittee hearings, 48 hours in advance of the hearing that attendance will be taken; otherwise, no attendance will be taken. Attendance at all hearings is encouraged.

MILITARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, MICRONESIA AND PALAU

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I join my colleagues on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in clarifying the portrayal of the military contributions of three island nations with which the United States has a unique political relationship referred to as free association: the Republic of the Marshall Islands, RMI, Federated States of Micronesia, FSM, and Palau. Last week an article in The Washington Post entitled "White House Notebook: Many Willing, But Few Are Able" referenced the military contributions of the Freely Associated States, FAS, in a droll and flippant manner. Regrettably, this poorly researched attempt at wit missed its mark. I want to set the record straight.

The Compact of Free Association between the United States and these strategic Pacific island nations serves our national security interests in the Pacific region by providing the U.S.

strategic denial in the region. While title I of the Compact of Free Association recognizes that the peoples of the FSM and RMI are self-governing and retain authority over their internal affairs, it mandates consultation with the United States on any defense and security matters. In addition, FAS citizens may volunteer in the U.S. Armed Forces, and FAS citizens who reside in the U.S. under the compact's provisions are subject to our Selective Service laws, and in the event of the return of conscription, could be drafted for military duty.

There are hundreds of FAS citizens currently serving in the U.S. military, including a number of soldiers assigned to the 101st Airborne Division and 3rd Infantry Division, Mechanized, currently deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in support of our military efforts. FAS citizens have served in the U.S. military for decades, and have participated in combat in every major U.S. engagement since the Korean war. Given the small populations of the island nations, almost every citizen has a relative or friend currently serving in the U.S. military, including FSM President Leo Falcam, whose son is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps.

I have worked with FAS citizens for a number of years. I have visited these islands and have worked with my colleagues to successfully accomplish the goals of the Compact of Free Association. I applaud the patriotism of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines, as well as their families, who are volunteering to defend our great Nation.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to one of our Nation's greatest public servants: Daniel Patrick Moynihan. As a professor, as an advisor to four presidents, and through 24 years in the Senate, he lent us the wisdom of his experience, the insights of his keen mind, and above all, the honor of his friendship.

Senator Moynihan's example reminds all of us of what a Senator was intended to be. He was a leader who not only addressed the needs of his State, but who wrestled with the challenges facing the Nation. Senator Moynihan was a great servant to the people of New York. But the legacy of accomplishments he leaves reaches beyond New York's borders to touch the lives of every American.

With a brilliant intellect and an unwavering dedication, Senator Moynihan helped us to think through some of the toughest issues before this body, from welfare reform to tax policy. He worked to return secrecy to its limited but necessary role in government, an effort which I applaud, and an effort which we should continue to maintain even in times of national crisis. Especially right now with our Nation at war, I know we all miss Senator Moynihan's keen grasp of international relations, his ability to put world events

into a historical context, and his talent to tell us where they will lead us.

Senator Moynihan's lifetime of public service, his wisdom and experience, were a wonderful gift to this body. I know my colleagues join me in my admiration for Senator Moynihan as a public servant, my respect for him as a colleague, and my appreciation for him as a friend. It was a distinct honor for me to serve with Senator Moynihan since I came to this body in 1993. My deepest sympathies go out to Liz Moynihan and the rest of Senator Moynihan's family and friends.

I yield the floor.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. In the last Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in September 2000, at Fort Jackson, SC. Ronald Chapman was physically assaulted by other soldiers after a drill sergeant called Chapman a "faggot." He was sleeping in his bed when soldiers entered the room and beat him up with blankets filled with bars of soap. Chapman feared for his safety after the beating, and felt compelled to tell his superior officers that he was gay.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

PASSING OF GOVERNOR TAUZESE SUNIA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, it is with great sadness that I rise today to inform my colleagues of the passing of a great leader in the Pacific Islands, Gov. Tauese Pita Fiti Sunia, who died on Wednesday, March 26, 2003, en route to Honolulu from Apia, Samoa. Governor Sunia was a dear friend and Millie and I join the people of Samoa, Hawaii's Samoan community, and Samoans throughout the United States in sending our deepest sympathy and condolences to his wife Fagaoalii Satele Sunia, as well as his family, including his 10 children, and many grandchildren.

Governor Sunia was an educator. He earned a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Hawaii, and spent many years as a teacher, educational television instructor, and administrator. Governor Sunia also served as vice president of the American Samoa Community College

and territorial director of Education. One of his top priorities was to make sure that every child in Samoa was computer literate, and he worked hard towards his goal of ensuring that every school in American Samoa had a computer room with Internet access.

I had the pleasure of meeting and visiting with Governor Sunia on a number of occasions during his visits to Washington, DC, and Honolulu, and during my visits to American Samoa. He was an immensely engaging and congenial man, and our official meetings frequently departed from the agenda to discussions of Polynesian history, anthropology, and the Native Hawaiian and Samoan cultures. In 1997, Senator Frank Murkowski, who was chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and I visited American Samoa. We met with Governor Sunia and heard about his efforts to bring economic development and opportunities to Samoa. We were able to exchange ideas and assist him at the Federal level to bolster the local economy. Whether the issue was economic development, local agriculture, or educational opportunities for Samoan youth, Governor Sunia worked hard on behalf of the people of American Samoa. He understood the importance of balancing the preservation of culture with maximizing opportunities for American Samoa in today's global economy.

Governor Sunia was well respected not only in American Samoa, but in the Pacific Basin. He was also a man with a strong and abiding faith. He was deacon, vice chairman, and chairman of the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa, and worked for both the spiritual and temporal well-being of the Samoan people. He cared deeply for all Pacific islanders, and we will all truly miss him. Well done, good and faithful servant.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, as we celebrate National Women's History Month during this time of war, I rise to pay tribute to the extraordinary women, past and present, who have served this country selflessly and courageously in the armed services.

Over 20 years ago, my distinguished colleagues, Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI and Senator ORRIN HATCH, cosponsored legislation that first established the National Women's History Week. I salute my colleagues for their leadership in establishing this now month-long celebration of women and their many contributions.

This year's theme for National Women's History Month is "Women Pioneering the Future." As we anxiously await a safe and swift end to the war in Iraq, it seems appropriate to honor and remember the pioneering women of the armed services. Today it is common, and perhaps unremarkable, to see women serving in a variety of capacities in the Persian Gulf. As a result, it