and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS PILOT EXTENSION ACT OF 2008

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3218, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk reads as follows: A bill (S. 3218) to extend the pilot program for volunteer groups to obtain criminal history background checks.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill. Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, as follows: S. 3218

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act of 2008”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PILOT PROGRAM. Section 108(a)(3)(A) of the PROTECT Act (42 U.S.C. 5119a note) is amended by striking “a 60-month” and inserting “a 66-month.”

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3202, S. 3213, AND H.R. 3195

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I understand there are three bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc. The clerk will report the bills by title en bloc.

The assistant legislative clerk reads as follows: A bill (S. 3202) to address record high gas prices at the pump, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3213) to designate certain land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 3195) to restore the intent and purpose of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended, as a 60-month

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2008

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:45 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, June 27; 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 the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; I further ask that the cloture vote on the motion to concur with respect to H.R. 3221 occur at 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 7, and that the postcloture time count as if the vote had occurred at 5 p.m.

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

THANKING THE MAJORITY LEADER AND STAFF

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, let me say before I read this last section, I commend the majority leader. He has had a very trying week. The floor staff and others have done a remarkable job in getting us to this point. I wouldn’t want this evening to pass without noting they do not get the recognition they often desire, but this institution functions because there are a lot of people whose names are never known who make this happen. It is important, as we begin this Independence Day break, that we recognize the remarkable people who function and work every single day in the Senate, the majority leader’s staff, and others who have had to weave through this morass of procedural objections that have allowed us to reach the point we have. We are going to come back in 10 days. I mentioned the housing bill, but also the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act is a source of significant controversy. While I have serious objections to it, and appreciate the opportunity I will have to strike section 2 of that bill dealing with retroactive immunity, I want the record to reflect the deep appreciation I have for the others who function and work every single day in the Senate, the majority leader’s staff, and others who have had to weave through this morass of procedural objections that have allowed us to reach the point we have. Others have done a remarkable job in helping us to reach the point we have.