

SENATE PLANS TO FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENT, TAXES AND HIGHWAYS

By Michelle Boyd Waters
Staff Writer

■(GIT) Republican Senators will focus on environmental cleanup, the budget, tax reform including tax reduction and increased highway funding during the 105th United States Congress, Sen. Don Nickles, R-Oklahoma, assistant majority leader, said at a press conference in Oklahoma City Friday afternoon.

Nickles told members of the press that he is confident the Senate will be able to pass a balanced budget at the next session, since they have picked up two more Republican votes in the election. The Senate was two votes short of passing a constitutional amendment to balance the budget during the last session.

Nickles also said that fellow Republicans have been more conciliatory in their comments regarding the Clinton administration recently.

"We will be happy to work with the President if we think he's right," Nickles said. "But if we think he's wrong, we will oppose him."

The Senator mentioned that Congress was able to pass a welfare reform bill that President Bill Clinton signed into law.

"A divided government can be cooperative," the Senator said. However, Clinton will have to be more moderate than he was during his first two years as president.

Nickles also said he believes the Presi-

dent will try to pass some of his items by bypassing the Congress with an executive order.

Members of the press asked Nickles about his views on the resignation of several Clinton cabinet members. Nickles said he thinks the new appointees will have a tough time answering some of the questions that will be asked of them regarding corruption in campaign funding and other issues.

Nickles said he thinks it will be good for the President and the country to have a lot of new people in the executive cabinet because of the problems the administration is going through.

"This has been the most scandalous administration since Watergate," Nickles said.

The Senator said some people are leaving Clinton's administration to escape inquiries while others have just had enough after four years in office.

"The administration has a lot of pending problems and it will not be fun for the next person in office," he said.

Overall, Nickles said he thinks the next session will be interesting because of the division of parties between the executive branch and the Congress.

Nickles' term ends in 1998. He did not mention whether he would seek reelection at that time.

As assistant majority leader of the U.S. Senate, Nickles holds the highest leadership position ever held by an Oklahoma Senator. He has been a member of the Senate Republican leadership for eight years and is Oklahoma's senior senator. He is a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Budget Committee, Rules and Administration Committee and Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

The Senator's career in public service began in 1977 when he was elected to the Oklahoma State Senate. He served for two years before he was elected to the U.S. Senate. At the time, Nickles, 31, was the youngest Republican ever elected to the U.S. Senate. He went on to become the first Oklahoma Republican ever elected to a third term in the U.S. Senate.

Nickles became involved in Republican leadership in 1988 when he was selected by his colleagues to chair the Republican Senatorial Committee. He was elected to three terms as chairman of the Republican Policy Committee.

SEC ISSUES COMMISSION REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS From Securities & Exchange Commission

■(WASHINGTON) A report on Administrative Proceedings for the Period April 1, 1996 through Sept. 30, 1996 has been issued giving summary statistical information on the Commission's administrative proceedings caseload. This report is issued pursuant to a requirement in the Commission's Rules of Practice that such a report be published in the SEC Docket each October and April. (Rel. No. 34-37911)

ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS Gary Lewellyn Permanently Enjoined in Penny Stock Scheme

The Commission announced that on Oct. 31 a final judgment was entered in United States District Court in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, against Gary V. Lewellyn. Without admitting or denying the allegations in the Commission's complaint, Lewellyn consented to be permanently enjoined from future violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, based on his participation in the offering of the common stock of Omnet Corporation (Omnet), a penny stock company, and its

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GOVERNOR KEATING ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

From The Governor's Office

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Governor Frank Keating Thursday announced several appointments to state boards and commissions.

The Governor named Hatton McMahan, 68, of Altus to the Oklahoma Industrial Finance Authority and the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority to serve a term ending October 11, 2002. He succeeds C. Kendric Ferguson who also served on both boards. Senate confirmation is required.

Jim Knutson, 51, of Harrah was named and Phillip Root, 43, of Canute was reappointed to the Oklahoma Liquified Petroleum Gas Board. Knutson will serve a term ending June 30, 1999 and succeeds Jay Lundy who resigned. Root will serve a term ending June 30, 2000. Senate confirmation is required.

Bob Summers, 62, of Tulsa was named to the State Board of Pharmacy to serve a term ending June 30, 1998. He succeeds George Kirk who resigned. Senate confir-

mation is required.

Terry Kiefner, 40, of Oklahoma City, Claudia Barnes, 53, of Ponca City, and Perry Farmer, 31, of Broken Arrow were named to the Hospice Advisory Board to serve terms ending September 1, 1999. Kiefner succeeds Susan Lashmet. Barnes succeeds Vicki Myers and Farmer succeeds Deanna Rogers.

Larry Brannon, 46, of Oklahoma City and William Tisdale, 33, of Tulsa were named to the Juvenile Placement Guidelines Committee to serve terms ending June 1, 1997. Brannon succeeds Eric Hunter and Tisdale succeeds Alan Synar.

Richard Guse, 62, of Broken Arrow was reappointed to the Crime Victims Compensation Board to serve a term ending September 30, 1999.

Governor Keating also named Fran Daffer, 60, of Oklahoma City to the Advisory Committee on Dietetic Registration to serve a term ending at the pleasure of the governor. Daffer succeeds Doris Cross.