

before a regular clinical breast examination or breast self-examination (BSE), reducing mortality by more than 30 percent; and

Whereas 47 States and the District of Columbia have passed legislation requiring health insurance companies to cover mammograms in accordance with recognized screening guidelines: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 16, 1998, as "National Mammography Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate programs and activities.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 83.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res 83) remembering the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 83) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

#### S. CON. RES. 83

Whereas December 14, 1999, will be the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington, the father of our Nation and the protector of our liberties;

Whereas the standards established by George Washington's steadfast character and devotion to duty continue to inspire all men and women in the service of their country and in the conduct of their private lives;

Whereas the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, which maintains the Mount Vernon estate and directs research and education programs relating to George Washington's contribution to our national life, has requested all Americans to participate in the observance of this anniversary;

Whereas bells should be caused to toll at places of worship and institutions of learning for the duration of 1 minute commencing at 12 o'clock noon, central standard time, throughout the Nation, on the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington;

Whereas the flag of the United States should be lowered to half staff on the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington; and

Whereas the example set by George Washington is of the utmost importance to the future of the Nation, and it is the responsibility of private and government institutions to prepare for the observation of the 200th anni-

versary of the death of George Washington: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) calls upon the Nation to remember the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation; and

(2) requests and authorizes the President of the United States—

(A) to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States—

(i) to commemorate the death of George Washington with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(ii) to cause and encourage patriotic and civic associations, veterans and labor organizations, schools, universities, and communities of study and worship, together with citizens everywhere, to develop programs and research projects that concentrate upon the life and character of George Washington as it relates to the future of the Nation and to the development and welfare of the lives of free people everywhere; and

(B) to notify the governments of all Nations with which the United States enjoys relations that our Nation continues to cherish the memory of George Washington with affection and gratitude by furnishing a copy of this resolution to those governments.

#### DESIGNATING THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL OF 1999, AS "DIA DE LOS NINOS: CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS"

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 278, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 278) designating the 30th day of April of 1999, as "Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans", and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. COATS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 278) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 278

Whereas many of the nations throughout the world, and especially within the Western hemisphere, celebrate "Día de los Niños" on the 30th of April, in recognition and celebration of their country's future—their children;

Whereas children represent the hopes and dreams of the citizens of the United States;

Whereas children are the center of American families;

Whereas children should be nurtured and invested in to preserve and enhance eco-

nomie prosperity, democracy, and the American spirit;

Whereas Latinos in the United States, the youngest and fastest growing ethnic community in the nation, continue the tradition of honoring their children on this day, and wish to share this custom with the rest of the Nation;

Whereas one in four Americans is projected to be of Hispanic descent by the year 2050, and there are now 10.5 million Latino children;

Whereas traditional Latino family life centers largely on its children;

Whereas the primary teachers of family values, morality, and culture are parents and family members, and we rely on children to pass on these family values, morals, and culture to future generations;

Whereas more than 500,000 children drop out of school each year and Hispanic dropout rates are unacceptably high;

Whereas the importance of literacy and education are most often communicated to children through family members;

Whereas families should be encouraged to engage in family and community activities that include extended and elderly family members and encourage children to explore, develop confidence, and pursue their dreams;

Whereas the designation of a day to honor the children of the Nation will help affirm for the people of the United States the significance of family, education, and community;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition of children of the United States will provide an opportunity to children to reflect on their future, to articulate their dreams and aspirations, and find comfort and security in the support of their family members and communities;

Whereas the National Latino Children's Institute, serving as a voice for children, has worked with cities throughout the country to declare April 30 as "Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans"—a day to bring together Latinos and other communities nationwide to celebrate and uplift children; and

Whereas the children of a nation are the responsibility of all its citizens, and citizens should be encouraged to celebrate the gifts of children to society—their curiosity, laughter, faith, energy, spirit, hopes, and dreams: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates the 30th of April of 1999, as "Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans" and requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to join with all children, families, organizations, communities, churches, cities, and States across the Nation to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies, beginning April 30, 1999, that include—

(1) activities that center around children, and are free or minimal in cost so as to encourage and facilitate the participation of all our citizens;

(2) activities that are positive, uplifting, and that help children express their hopes and dreams;

(3) activities that provide opportunities for children of all backgrounds to learn about one another's cultures and share ideas;

(4) activities that include all members of the family, and especially extended and elderly family members, so as to promote greater communication among the generations within a family, enabling children to appreciate and benefit from the experiences and wisdom of their elderly family members;

(5) activities that provide opportunities for families within a community to get acquainted; and

(6) activities that provide children with the support they need to develop skills and confidence, and find the inner strength—the will and fire of the human spirit—to make their dreams come true.

#### WAIVING CERTAIN ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to House Joint Resolution 131 received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 131) waiving certain enrollment requirements for the remainder of the One Hundred Fifth Congress with respect to any bill or joint resolution making general or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1999.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the joint resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 131) was considered read the third time and passed.

#### AUTHORIZING TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION BY SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 297 submitted earlier by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 297) to authorize testimony and representation of former and current Senate employees and representation of Senator CRAIG in *Student Loan Fund of Idaho, Inc. v. Riley, et al.*

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for testimony in a civil action set for trial in the U.S. District Court for District of Idaho. This case arises out of a dispute between the plaintiff, a private corporation, and the Department of Education concerning the status of certain student loan guaranty reserve funds. Counsel for the plaintiff wishes to question a former member of Senator CRAIG's staff about her recollection of meetings with representatives from the Department of Education during a time period in which she served as a legislative aid to the Senator.

This resolution would authorize testimony by the former staff member,

and any other former or current employees of the Senate, except where a privilege should be asserted, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel. The resolution would also authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent Senator CRAIG and his employees in connection with this matter in order to protect the Senator's privileges.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 297) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 297

Whereas, in the case of *Student Loan Fund of Idaho, Inc. v. Riley, et al.*, Case No. CV 94-0413-S-LMB, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Idaho, testimony has been requested from Elizabeth Criner, a former employee of Senator Larry Craig;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent Senators and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That Elizabeth Criner, and any other former or current Senate employee from whom testimony may be required, are authorized to testify in the case of *Student Loan Fund of Idaho, Inc. v. Riley, et al.*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Larry Craig, Elizabeth Criner, and any other Member or employee of the Senate in connection with the testimony authorized in section one of this resolution.

#### AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4337 received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

A bill (H.R. 4337) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial as-

sistance to the State of Maryland for a pilot program to develop measures to eradicate or control nutria and restore marshland damaged by nutria.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, this legislation authorizes the Secretary of Interior to provide assistance to the State of Maryland in controlling a non-native rodent—nutria—which is destroying wetlands and valuable habitat at and around Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Sponsored by my colleague Representative GILCHREST, the legislation establishes a three year demonstration program of methods of manage nutria populations and to restore marshlands damaged by the destructive creature.

Mr. President, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge is one of the real treasures and showplaces of our National Wildlife Refuge system. Established in the early 1930s to help preserve migratory waterfowl, the 20,000 acre refuge has become one of the chief wintering areas for Canada geese along the Atlantic Flyway. It is also home for the endangered Delmarva Fox Squirrel and more than 200 species of birds. As all who visit the refuge quickly discover, Blackwater is a very special place: a haven for fish and wildlife, a land of exceptional beauty, and a vital part of the natural heritage and quality of life that we enjoy in Maryland.

Unfortunately the Refuge and surrounding wetlands are being threatened by the prolific and highly invasive nonindigenous species nutria which are destroying the tidal marshes and even displacing other native species. Over the past three decades, the population of nutria in Maryland has grown exponentially from about 150 to as many as 150,000—a thousand fold increase. During that same period, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge has lost more than 40 percent of its marshes—approximately 7,000 of 17,000 acres—due, in large part, to nutria. As nutria population densities continue to increase, so does the range of the creature and its associated ecological damage.

In order to respond to this threat, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the University of Maryland and more than a dozen other partners have joined together to develop a plan to address marsh loss and control of nutria. The goal of this three year pilot program is to develop methods for intensive control of the nutria populations and to restore damaged marsh habitats. This legislation authorizes the Federal funds necessary to carry out the program. I urge adoption of the legislation.

Mr. COATS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third