

(1) designates the month of April 2001, as "National Sexual Assault Awareness Month";

(2) encourages individual and collective efforts that reflect the vision of a Nation where no sexual assault victim goes unserved or ever feels there is no path to justice and where citizens work toward eliminating all forms of sexual violence; and

(3) requests that the President of the United States issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe "National Sexual Assault Awareness Month" with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to reflect the commitment to eliminating sexual violence from society and to acknowledge the work of organizations and individuals against sexual violence.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 33—SUPPORTING A NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 33

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public body and operating on the principles of accountability, parent flexibility, choice, and autonomy;

Whereas in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, they are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their financial and other operations;

Whereas 36 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas 35 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will have received more than \$500,000,000 in grants from the Federal Government by the end of the current fiscal year for planning, startup, and implementation of charter schools since their authorization in 1994 under part C of title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8061 et seq.);

Whereas 34 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are serving approximately 550,000 students in more than 2,150 charter schools during the 2000 to 2001 school year;

Whereas charter schools can be vehicles both for improving student achievement for students who attend them and for stimulating change and improvement in all public schools and benefiting all public school students;

Whereas charter schools in many States serve significant numbers of low income, minority, and disabled students;

Whereas the Charter Schools Expansion Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-278) amended the Federal grant program for charter schools authorized by part C of title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8061 et seq.) to strengthen accountability provisions at the Federal, State, and local levels to ensure that charter public schools are of high quality and are truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 7 of 10 charter schools report having a waiting list;

Whereas students in charter schools nationwide have similar demographic characteristics as students in all public schools;

Whereas charter schools have enjoyed broad bipartisan support from the Adminis-

tration, Congress, State governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the Nation; and

Whereas charter schools are centers of reform and serve as models of how to educate children as effectively as possible: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) acknowledges and commends the charter school movement for its contribution to improving student achievement and our Nation's public school system;

(2) designates the period beginning on April 30, 2001, and ending on May 4, 2001, as "National Charter Schools Week"; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the week by conducting appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools in communities throughout the Nation.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, April 26, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider national energy policy with respect to fuel specifications and infrastructure constraints and their impacts on energy supply and price.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SH-212 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150.

For further information, please call Trici Heninger or Bryan Hannegan at (202) 224-4971.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, at 2:20 p.m., in executive session to consider certain pending nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, at 3:30 p.m., in open session to consider the nominations of Dr. Dov S. Zakheim to be Under Secretary of Defense, comptroller; Mr. Charles S. Abell to be

Assistant Secretary of Defense for force management policy; and Ms. Victoria Clarke to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BROWNBACK. 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 Tuesday, April 24, 2001, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. Grant D. Aldonas, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; Mr. Kenneth I. Juster, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; Ms. Maria Cino, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service; and Mr. Robert Glenn Hubbard, of New York, to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisors.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BROWNBACK. 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 Tuesday, April 24, 2001, to conduct a mark-up of S. 206, "The Public Utility Holding Company Act."

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 24, 2001 to hear testimony on the Tax Code Complexity, New Hope for Fresh Solutions.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled "Protecting Small Business Rights: SBREFA on Its 5th Anniversary" on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOREIGN COMMITTEE AND TOURISM

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Committee and Tourism of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, at 10 a.m. on Booster Seats and the Forgotten Child: Closing a Safety Gap.

The presiding officer. Without objection, it is so ordered.