

intent of Congress in enacting the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-171).

**SENATE RESOLUTION 128—TO COMMEND SALLY GOFFINET ON THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 128

Whereas Sally Goffinet became an employee of the United States Senate in 1972, and has ably and faithfully upheld the high standards and traditions of the staff of the United States Senate;

Whereas Sally Goffinet created the position of Parliamentary Assistant in the Parliamentarian's Office in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate;

Whereas Sally Goffinet has ably assisted the last four Senate Parliamentarians in a host of clerical, administrative and substantive matters;

Whereas Sally Goffinet has faithfully discharged the difficult duties and responsibilities of Parliamentary Assistant of the United States Senate with great pride, energy, efficiency, dedication, integrity, and professionalism;

Whereas she has earned the respect, affection, and esteem of the United States Senate; and

Whereas Sally Goffinet will retire from the United States Senate on April 30, 2003, with 31 years of Service to the United States Senate; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the United States Senate commends Sally Goffinet for her exemplary service to the United States Senate and the Nation, and wishes to express its deep appreciation and gratitude for her long, faithful, and outstanding service.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Sally Goffinet.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 129—RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS WHO SERVED IN THE U.S.S. "ABRAHAM LINCOLN" AND WELCOMING THEM HOME FROM THEIR RECENT MISSION ABROAD**

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 129

Whereas the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) is the fifth Nimitz-class aircraft carrier of the United States and has its homeport at Naval Station Everett in Washington;

Whereas the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln serves as home to 5,000 brave members of the Navy and Marine Corps and carries approximately 70 combat and support aircraft;

Whereas the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln is scheduled to return to its homeport on May 6, 2003, after nearly ten months on deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Southern Watch;

Whereas the deployment of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln was the longest for a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier since 1973;

Whereas in December 2002, the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln completed a six-month deploy-

ment in the Persian Gulf conducting operations in support of the Global War on Terrorism and was returning to its homeport when it was ordered back to the Persian Gulf in January 2003 to support what was to become Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas during the nearly ten-month deployment of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, there were 12,700 takeoffs and trap landings and 16,500 sorties from the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, 265,118 pounds of ordinance were expended from the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Southern Watch, and 1,600,000 pounds of ordinance were expended from U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the deployment of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln featured numerous firsts, including the first use of the Super Hornet and the first operational availability of the "Man Overboard Indicator" onboard the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln; and

Whereas the citizens of the City of Everett, the County of Snohomish, the State of Washington, and the United States are proud of the members of the Navy and Marine Corps who serve on the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes and commends the members of the Navy and Marine Corps who serve on the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) and welcomes them home from their recent mission abroad.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 40—DESIGNATING AUGUST 7, 2003, AS "NATIONAL PURPLE HEART RECOGNITION DAY"**

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. HAGEL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 40

Whereas the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit, commonly known as the Purple Heart, is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use;

Whereas the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in conflict with an enemy force, or while held by an enemy force as a prisoner of war, and posthumously to the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in conflict with an enemy force, or who die of a wound received in conflict with an enemy force;

Whereas the Purple Heart was established on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, when General George Washington issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit, or the Decoration of the Purple Heart;

Whereas the award of the Purple Heart ceased with the end of the Revolutionary war, but was revived out of respect for the memory and military achievements of George Washington in 1932, the 200th anniversary of his birth; and

Whereas the designation of August 7, 2003, as "National Purple Heart Recognition Day" is a fitting tribute to General Washington, and to the over 1,535,000 recipients of the Purple Heart Medal, approximately 550,000 of whom are still living: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) designates August 7, 2003, as "National Purple Heart Recognition Day";

(2) encourages all Americans to learn about the history of the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit and to honor its recipients; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 41—DIRECTING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION BY OCTOBER 2005 THAT PROVIDES ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL AMERICANS**

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 41

Whereas the United States has the most expensive health care system in the world in terms of absolute costs, per capita costs, and percentage of gross domestic product (GDP);

Whereas despite being first in spending, the World Health Organization has ranked the United States 37th among all nations in terms of meeting the needs of its people;

Whereas 42,000,000 Americans, including 8,000,000 children, are uninsured;

Whereas tens of millions more Americans are inadequately insured, including medicare beneficiaries who lack access to prescription drug coverage and long term care coverage;

Whereas racial, income, and ethnic disparities in access to care threaten communities across the country, particularly communities of color;

Whereas health care costs continue to increase, jeopardizing the health security of working families and small businesses;

Whereas dollars that could be spent on health care are being used for administrative costs instead of patient needs;

Whereas the current health care system too often puts the bottom line ahead of patient care and threatens safety net providers who treat the uninsured and poorly insured; and

Whereas any health care reform must ensure that health care providers and practitioners are able to provide patients with the quality care they need: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress shall enact legislation by October 2005 to guarantee that every person in the United States, regardless of income, age, or employment or health status, has access to health care that—

(1) is affordable to individuals and families, businesses and taxpayers and that removes financial barriers to needed care;

(2) is as cost efficient as possible, spending the maximum amount of dollars on direct patient care;

(3) provides comprehensive benefits, including benefits for mental health and long term care services;

(4) promotes prevention and early intervention;

(5) includes parity for mental health and other services;

(6) eliminates disparities in access to quality health care;

(7) addresses the needs of people with special health care needs and underserved populations in rural and urban areas;

(8) promotes quality and better health outcomes;

(9) addresses the need to have adequate numbers of qualified health care caregivers, practitioners, and providers to guarantee timely access to quality care;

(10) provides adequate and timely payments in order to guarantee access to providers;

(11) fosters a strong network of health care facilities, including safety net providers;

(12) ensures continuity of coverage and continuity of care;

(13) maximizes consumer choice of health care providers and practitioners; and

(14) is easy for patients, providers and practitioners to use and reduces paperwork.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I submit this measure today to call attention to one of the most serious injustices in our country. 42 million Americans lack access to quality, affordable health care because they have no health insurance. Most of these Americans work in full-time jobs, but still cannot afford the high cost of health care. As a result, hospital emergency rooms are their only doctor. They face impossible choices in paying for the medicine they need on top of paying the rent, or putting food on the table. As a result, they die younger. Yet, the richest and most powerful Nation in the world looks the other way.

For half a century, the United States has led the world in scientific and medical advances. We have more Nobel Prize winners in medicine than any other Nation. We were the first to successfully decode the entire human genome. And yet, we cannot see that every American child gets vaccinated against deadly and disabling diseases. We fail to guarantee that all Americans can obtain the medical treatments that could save their lives.

Every year, 8 million uninsured Americans fail to take their medications because they can't afford to pay for their prescriptions. 300,000 children with asthma never get treated by a doctor. Uninsured women diagnosed with breast cancer are 50 percent more likely to die from the disease, because their cancer is diagnosed too late. 32,000 Americans with heart disease go without life-saving bypass surgery or other treatments.

And the problem is getting worse. For most of the past 16 years, the number of people without health insurance has increased. Now, when our economy is weak, health care costs are rising at double-digit rates. People are losing jobs and their health insurance too. States are cutting back on Medicaid care for the poor. If we do nothing, the number of uninsured could reach more than 52 million by 2010. Clearly, the time to act is now.

We must pass legislation to ensure that every man, woman, and child in the United States has access to high quality, affordable health care. And we must do it soon.

Some say we cannot afford the cost of covering the uninsured. But as a country, we are already paying the much higher costs of failing to provide good care for all. We pay for it when we fail to detect cancer early by using the preventive screening that we know is effective. We pay for it in every person with diabetes who becomes blind because of a disease we know how to con-

trol. We pay for it by failing to give every child the same opportunity for good health and a productive life.

We know that the battle for affordable health care has never been easy. But to solve this problem, we must commit to working together to find a solution. That is why I am submitting this resolution. This measure does not endorse a specific plan to cover the uninsured, but it does state unequivocally that universal health care is our goal, and it sets a time for Congress to get the job done.

A similar resolution has already been submitted in the House of Representatives and has received the strong support of our 470 organizations, including many groups representing patients, health providers, and faith-based organizations.

Democrats are leading the charge in Congress in the fight for quality health care for all Americans—and, as Congressman GEPHARDT has shown with his recent proposal, Democrats are prepared to take this issue to the White House as well.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this resolution to enact bipartisan legislation to provide health care for all Americans by the end of the year 2005. Perhaps we can do it earlier, but at least we are setting a realistic goal—the end of the first session of the Congress elected in 2004. The time is long overdue for the United States of America to join the rest of the industrial world in recognizing this fundamental right.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 532. Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 196, to establish a digital and wireless network technology program, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 532.** Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 196, to establish a digital and wireless network technology program, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 2, strike lines 2 and 3, and insert the following:

This Act may be cited as the "Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2003".

On page 2, line 6, insert "Minority Serving Institution" before "Digital".

On page 2, line 7, strike "Network".

On page 3, strike lines 1 through 5, and insert the following:

(2) to develop and provide educational services, including faculty development, related to science, mathematics, engineering, or technology;

On page 3, line 18, after "development" insert "in science, mathematics, engineering, or technology".

On page 4, line 18, after "accept" insert "and review".

On page 4, line 24, strike "section 3." and insert "section 3, and for reviewing and evaluating proposals submitted to the program."

On page 5, line 7, after "issues." insert "Any panel assembled to review a proposal submitted to the program shall include members from minority serving institutions. Program review criteria shall include consideration of—

(1) demonstrated need for assistance under this Act; and

(2) diversity among the types of institutions receiving assistance under this Act."

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., on the Fire Research Act in SR-253

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 10 a.m., to consider comprehensive energy legislation.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 10 a.m., to hold a business meeting.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing on "U.S. Energy Security: Russia and the Caspian."

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

##### COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 2 p.m., in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on S. 519, the Native American Capital Formation and Economic Development Act of 2003.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a nominations hearing on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at 10 a.m., in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Panel I: [Senators].

Panel II: John G. Roberts, Jr., to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.