

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

Adopted by the House of Representatives, July 1, 2003.

POM-231. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to partial birth abortions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 68

Whereas, partial birth abortion shall mean an abortion in which the person performing the abortion partially vaginally delivers a living fetus before killing the fetus and completing the delivery; and

Whereas, in a partial birth abortion, the physician pulls the baby out of the womb and into the birth canal, leaving the head lodged just inside the cervix; and

Whereas, the physician then punctures the base of the skull and inserts a catheter into the wound, removing the baby's brain and causing the skull to collapse; the physician then completes the delivery of the now-dead baby; and

Whereas, although partial birth abortions are usually performed in the fifth and sixth months of gestation, the procedure has been used in the third trimester of pregnancy; and

Whereas, experts agree that with current medical technology, a normal fetus in the twenty-first week of gestation is capable of sustaining life outside the womb; and

Whereas, under both federal and most state laws, a live birth occurs when a baby is entirely expelled from the womb, shows any signs of life, and is developed enough to be sustained outside the womb with neonatal medical assistance; and

Whereas, it is estimated that three thousand to five thousand partial birth abortions are performed annually, sometimes in the seventh month or later; and

Whereas, although the procedure is sometimes performed in cases of fetal disorders or maternal distress, many partial birth abortions are performed on healthy babies of healthy mothers: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to vote to ban partial birth abortions; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the residing officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-232. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the Federal Prison Industries; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

Whereas, In 1934, Federal Prison Industries (FPI) was created as a government corporation. This system operates more than 100 factories, utilizes more than 20,000 inmate workers, and compiles total sales of approximately \$500 million annually from over 150 products; and

Whereas, While the role that FPI plays in promoting the development of marketable skills among inmates has clear merits, this operation enjoys unfair advantages over private sector manufacturers. Even beyond the obvious wages and benefits advantages inmate workers offer, other factors favor FPI. This is especially true through certain governmental procurement policies, including a "mandatory source" requirement that severely limits competition; and

Whereas, Michigan is harmed significantly by the advantages FPI has over private manufacturers, especially within the furniture industry. Thousands of Michigan workers have lost their jobs in recent years, and the favorable policies for FPI are major contributing factors in these job losses; and

Whereas, In the past, legislation has been considered in Congress to address directly the issue of the preferential treatment afforded FPI in bidding for government contracts. This unfair situation needs to be corrected to preserve jobs and the restore fairness in the marketplace; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the house of representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation that would remove the unfair advantages that Federal Prison Industries has in competition for business; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-233. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the ratification of an amendment to the Constitution to prohibit desecration of the American flag; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 80

Whereas, Throughout our history, the American flag has held a unique place of respect and affection among our people. This symbol of our shared ideals and aspirations has taken on even greater meaning in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks and through our growing appreciation of the suffering of the men and women who have made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve our liberties; and

Whereas, In recent years, there has been considerable debate over the idea of extending constitutional protection to the flag. The people of our country strongly support establishing special protections for our national symbol. Extending this status to our most cherished symbol would only accord due recognition to a unique component of our national identity; and

Whereas, Debate on the issue of creating a constitutional amendment to prohibit desecration of our flag often centers on what constitutes freedom of expression and free speech. In this discussion, it is important to realize that a prohibition on flag desecration would not eliminate or restrict other avenues of expression or protest. Thoughtful citizens do not equate providing protection for the flag with the removal of freedom of speech any more than laws generally provide acceptable limits of behavior for the common good; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to adopt and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution to prohibit the desecration of the American flag; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 481. A bill to amend chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that certain Federal annuity computations are adjusted by 1 percentage point relating to periods of receiving disability payments, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-108).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1432. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish a program to provide assistance to small communities for use in carrying out projects and activities necessary to achieve or maintain compliance with drinking water standards; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. GREGG):

S. 1433. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in implementing cultural heritage, conservation, and recreational activities in the Connecticut River watershed of the States of New Hampshire and Vermont; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1434. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the increase in the refundability of the child tax credit, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1435. A bill to provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape; considered and passed.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1436. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for State and local sales taxes in lieu of State and local income taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 253

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 253, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

S. 788

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 788, a bill to enable the United States to maintain its leadership in aeronautics and aviation.

S. 788

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 788, *supra*.

S. 982

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Montana