

be made, the increasing numbers of game animals and effective control of wildlife populations in Michigan and other states reflect the wisdom of local management of wildlife and hunting matters; and

Whereas, Congress is considering legislation, H.R. 1472, that would require the adoption and enforcement of regulations that would prohibit the intentional feeding of bears on federal lands in order to end what is known as "bear baiting"; and

Whereas, Of the states that allow bear hunting, Michigan is one of several that permit bear baiting. The experience in Michigan and the other states that permit bear baiting is that this technique is a valuable and highly effective wildlife management tool. The voters of Michigan overwhelmingly rejected a 1996 ballot proposal that included a ban of bear baiting. Bear baiting is part of an overall strategy that effectively controls the bear population and does so more humanely than hunting techniques that may result in higher rates of injuries for the animals. This mechanism has clearly allowed Michigan to keep the bear population at appropriate levels; and

Whereas, Michigan is a state that includes extensive federal lands. The citizens of our state have used these lands respectfully, and our state's hunting and fishing management efforts have enhanced these lands over the years. Michigan's proven effectiveness in dealing with wildlife management challenges should not be negated by federal control of the matter of bear hunting; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States not to enact any legislation that would ban bear baiting on federal lands; 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-266. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to nuclear power; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 211

Whereas, Pennsylvania's nine nuclear power reactors have proven to be reliable sources of electricity to Pennsylvania citizens and businesses, producing 36% of the electricity generated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Congress enacted the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 and directed the Department of Energy to establish a program for the management of the nation's high-level waste, including used nuclear fuel, and for its permanent disposal in a deep geologic repository; and

Whereas, More than \$7 billion has been spent on scientific testing and studies of Yucca Mountain, Nevada, showing that the proposed site is an ideal repository to safely contain the nation's used nuclear fuel, with a capacity sufficient to meet all foreseeable storage needs; and

Whereas, Studies of Yucca Mountain have yielded the scientific information necessary for a decision by the United States Secretary of Energy that there are no technical or scientific issues to prevent Yucca Mountain from serving as a permanent repository and clearly support the recommendation by the Secretary to the President of the United States to proceed on licensing a permanent repository at Yucca Mountain; and

Whereas, Since 1983, consumers of electricity from the Commonwealth of Pennsyl-

vania have committed nearly \$1.5 billion to the Federal Nuclear Waste Fund to finance site assessment and nuclear waste management; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge Congress to sustain the President's affirmative decision on Yucca Mountain's suitability as a permanent Federal repository for used nuclear fuel; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the United States Secretary of Energy, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-267. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to Pennsylvania's veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 229

Whereas, Pennsylvania's veterans have faithfully and honorably served this nation and this Commonwealth in times of peace and times of war; and

Whereas, There are approximately 1.2 million veterans of the United States armed services living in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania today; and

Whereas, More than 500,000 of these veterans are 65 years of age or older; and

Whereas, By virtue of the honorable service they have provided, veterans are entitled to certain benefits; and

Whereas, Medical, surgical and rehabilitative services, such as the Veterans Health Administration's cancer program, diabetes program, kidney diseases program and the pharmacy benefits management program, are of particular importance to this Commonwealth's aging veteran population; and

Whereas, These benefits are provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs through a network of Veterans Health Administration centers, outpatient clinics, community-based outpatient clinics and veterans centers; and

Whereas, Even though Federal funding for medical services and administration for veterans in Pennsylvania has increased, many of the facilities located throughout this Commonwealth still lack the necessary resources to provide for the veterans who need and richly deserve these services; and

Whereas, There are 12 to 24 month waiting lists at many Veterans Health Administration facilities in Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, These waiting lists will only lengthen and the level of service will only lessen unless funding for these services in Pennsylvania increase to a level that matches needs; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to reexamine the level of funding for veterans medical services in order to provide timely, high-quality service to veterans of United States military services; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-268. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to the Second Regiment United States Sharpshooters, Company C, during the Civil War; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 534

Whereas, At the suggestion of Hiram Berdan, a New York inventor and eventual

Colonel of Volunteers, that the best marksmen in the North be organized into two distinct units, the United States Sharpshooters were raised and mustered into action by President Abraham Lincoln in 1861; and

Whereas, These men were to be armed with the most reliable rifles and employed as scouts and skirmishers, with each applicant having to pass a shooting test to prove his worth; and

Whereas, At Orange Court House, the Sharpshooters engaged some Confederate Cavalry, easily pushing them off the field, but the advancing Confederate Infantry forced the Sharpshooters off the field and into the camp of their reserves, the Second Wisconsin; and

Whereas, The Sharpshooters fell in on General Gibbon's left and engaged the Confederates, pushing them off the field for good; and

Whereas, The exploits of this decorated group were rivaled by few as they fought Confederates across the Rappahannock River to the plains of Manassas, through Antietam and Chancellorsville and eventually to the fields of Gettysburg; and

Whereas, At Gettysburg the men of Company C were chosen to be the color company of the entire Second Regiment; and

Whereas, They fought valiantly and courageously, helping to defeat the Confederates at the Battles of Big and Little Round Top; and

Whereas, The men of Company C and all who served with them in the Second Regiment United States Sharpshooters served this nation with honor; and

Whereas, There is no monument recognizing the efforts of the men of Company C at Gettysburg National Military Park; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the National Park Service to erect a monument befitting their sacrifices; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania; to Fran P. Mainella, Director, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240; and to John A. Latschar, Superintendent, Gettysburg . . .

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 189. A bill to authorize appropriations for nanoscience, nanoengineering, and nanotechnology research, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-147).

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 Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 1614. A bill to designate a portion of White Salmon River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1615. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to make permanent the rates of hostile fire and imminent danger special pay