

risking both life and limb to fuel the nation's economic expansion, and through their manual labor made possible the technological conveniences of modern American life, though those contributions to the nation's welfare are generally unknown to the public; and

Whereas, during the last century, over 100,000 coal miners have been killed in mining accidents in the nation's coal mines, and 3,500,000 coal miners have suffered nonfatal injuries; and

Whereas, 100,000 coal miners have contracted Black Lung Disease as a direct result of their toil in the nation's coal mines; and

Whereas, coal provides 50 percent of the nation's electricity and is an essential fuel for industries such as steel, cement, chemical, food, and paper; and

Whereas, coal miners keep the nation supplied with an energy resource that produces electricity for the lowest cost, when compared to fuels other than nuclear, and which makes possible the country's unmatched productivity and prosperity; and

Whereas, coal miners provide a vital pool of labor with the expertise to produce energy supplies from vast national coal reserves, which serves to buffer the country from a dangerous dependence on foreign energy fuels; and

Whereas, the United States has a demonstrated coal reserve of more than 500,000,000,000 tons, with an estimated 275,000,000,000 tons of recoverable reserves which, at current production rates, represents about 275 years of recoverable coal reserves; and

Whereas, these coal reserves represent about 95 percent of all fossil fuel reserves in the United States, about one-fourth of the world's known coal reserves; and

Whereas, approximately two-thirds of all coal mined in the United States is transported by rail, making coal the largest single source of freight revenue for United States' railroads; and

Whereas, transportation by railroad provided jobs for thousands of workers who built the infrastructure, maintained it, and loaded and unloaded coal; and

Whereas, it would be proper and fitting for our nation to recognize our coal miners, both past and present, for their contributions to this nation; and

Whereas, coal mining continues to be the economic engine for many communities, providing jobs to areas with little economic diversity; and

Whereas, coal mining provides an economic benefit far beyond its direct revenue, including billions of dollars in economic output and household earnings and hundreds of thousands of jobs in other industries; now, therefore, your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United States Postal service issue a postage stamp commemorating American coal miners, which would hold the promise of illustrating a colorful and historically rich segment of society for the benefit of school children, stamp collectors, educators, and the public; be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the United States Postmaster General, the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-412. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to funding for the National Recovery Training Institute in Louisiana; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

Whereas, there is a need for national support in the addiction recovery community to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for individuals in addiction recovery; and

Whereas, HopeNetworks is requesting federal funding to establish a National Recovery Training Institute in Louisiana; and

Whereas, the institute would provide technology resources to aid in the development of tools to be used by recovering communities for empowerment, long-term sobriety, and recovery; provide education to recovering communities across the nation; provide education and awareness to stakeholders such as policymakers, business leaders, and the faith community; and provide technology and job training scholarships for person in early recovery to learn job skills and life skills while at the institute; and

Whereas, the socioeconomic impact of addiction is more than four hundred forty billion dollars every year to the United States; and

Whereas, the National Recovery Training Institute in Louisiana will serve as a public health, education, and training center for millions of people across the United States; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to allocate funding for the creation of the National Recovery Institute; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 882. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide improvements in tax administration and taxpayer safe-guards, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-257).

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Con. Res. 99. A concurrent resolution condemning the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for its participation and complicity in the attacks against innocent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committee were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 108-22 Additional Protocol Concerning Business and Economic Relations with Poland (Exec. Rpt. N. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland Concerning Business and Economic Relations of March

21, 1990, signed at Brussels on January 12, 2004 (T. Doc. 108-22).

Treaty Doc. 108-21 Additional Investment Protocol with Lithuania (Exec. Rept. No. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 14, 1998, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (T. Doc. 108-21).

Treaty Doc. 108-20 Additional Investment Protocol with the Latvia (Exec. Rept. No. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 13, 1995, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (T. Doc. 108-20).

Treaty Doc. 108-19 Additional Investment Protocol with the Slovak Republic (Exec. Rept. No. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Slovak Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (T. Doc. 108-19).

Treaty Doc. 108-18 Additional Investment Protocol with the Czech Republic (Exec. Rept. No. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Czech Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on December 10, 2003 (T. Doc. 108-18).

Treaty Doc. 108-17 Investment Protocol with Estonia (Exec. Rept. No. 108-13)

The text of the resolution of ratification as reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Estonia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of