

am confident that their example will continue to inspire millions around the world who hope for a future of freedom and prosperity.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate the support of the Senate in approving this resolution regarding the territorial integrity of Georgia. It is important that the Senate speak on this matter with one voice and at this time, as President Bush just wrapped up his trip to Europe and Russia with a 2-day visit to Tbilisi, Georgia.

I was in Georgia 6 weeks ago. I went there at the urging of the former Prime Minister, who died tragically in an accident several months ago. The Prime Minister came to visit me here in my Capitol office, and he described his country to me: mountainous, filled with historic churches, strategically important, and a friend to the United States. "You have to go there," he said. I promised him that I would go there, and even after he died, I wanted to fulfill that commitment.

And after having spent 2 days and nights in Georgia, I can say that the Prime Minister's description was right on the mark. Georgia is a beautiful country, with an incredible history and stunning architecture. Above all, the Georgian people have a wonderful spirit.

Less than years ago, Georgia underwent the peaceful "Rose Revolution." A group of young, thoughtful and energetic reformers took on the corrupt leaders of the Soviet era, denying them an opportunity to steal a parliamentary election. Thousands gathered in Freedom Square, night after night, to expose the fraud and criminality of the previous regime. From that point on, there was no turning back. Democracy had finally arrived in Georgia.

But Georgian sovereignty and independence has been put at some risk recently through the continued basing of Russian troops on Georgian soil. Previous agreements negotiated with the Russian government calling for the complete withdrawal of Russian troops have been ignored. Some 3,000 Russian military personnel still remain in Georgia. It is time for them to go. I am confident that President Bush carried that message to President Putin during his recent visit.

I am glad we could pass this Resolution calling on Russia to support the territorial integrity of Georgia, and expressing our support for the Georgian people and their pursuit of democracy. Georgia is our friend, our ally and our strategic partner. Passage of this resolution sends exactly the right message to the Russian Government and to the people of Georgia. Again, I appreciate the support of my colleagues and I commend the President for his decision to visit Georgia. I know he was as well received as our Senate delegation was.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be

printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 139) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 139

Whereas, on April 9, 1991, the Republic of Georgia declared independence from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Whereas, during December 1991, the Republic of Georgia was internationally recognized as an independent and sovereign country following the formal dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Whereas the disposition of former Soviet troops stationed in certain newly independent countries was resolved by 1994 with the complete withdrawal of Russian Federation military personnel from the Republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania;

Whereas in the years following the restoration of Georgian independence, successive governments of Georgia sought to negotiate the closure of Russian military bases located in, and the withdrawal of military personnel from, Georgia;

Whereas, during the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe summit at Istanbul, Turkey in 1999, Georgia and Russia concluded a bilateral agreement as part of the Adapted Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty;

Whereas as part of such bilateral agreement, which is known as the "Istanbul Commitments", on November 17, 1999, Russia committed to close bases at Gudauta and Vaziani by July 1, 2001, and committed to conclude negotiations on bases at Batumi and Akhalkalaki, and all other Russian military facilities during 2000;

Whereas Russia has failed to fulfill its obligations under the Istanbul Commitments;

Whereas more than 3,000 Russian military personnel remain in Georgia at various bases and facilities throughout the country;

Whereas, during November 2003, the Georgian people, in the historic "Rose Revolution", peacefully protested fraudulent elections resulting in the holding of new elections and the installation of a new government committed to democracy, the rule of law, observance of human rights, restoration of sovereignty, and economic development; and

Whereas on March 10, 2005, the democratically elected Parliament of the Republic of Georgia passed a measure expressing its dissatisfaction with Russia's continued military presence in Georgia: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the Russian Federation should respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Georgia;

(B) President Mikheil Saakashvili and the Government and people of Georgia deserve congratulations for the accomplishments and successful reforms carried out in Georgia since President Mikheil Saakashvili's inauguration in January 2004, and that the United States should continue to support such reforms and should encourage and assist Georgia with strengthening its democratic institutions and resolving its separatist conflicts peacefully; and

(C) the United States should continue to support Georgia in its efforts to negotiate an agreement for ending Russia's military presence in Georgia, in accordance with Russia's obligations under the bilateral agreement made between Russia and Georgia as part of

the Adapted Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty known as the "Istanbul Commitments"; and

(2) the Senate—

(A) supports the efforts of President Bush to encourage Russia and Georgia to expeditiously reach agreement on the closure of Russian military bases in, and the withdrawal of military personnel from, Georgia;

(B) commends President Bush for being the first United States President to visit Georgia since its recognition as an independent and sovereign country; and

(C) will continue to monitor the situation in Georgia closely.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following concurrent resolutions which were received from the House: H. Con. Res. 86, H. Con. Res. 135, H. Con. Res. 136.

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

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolutions.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolutions be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The concurrent resolutions (H. Con. Res. 86, H. Con. Res. 135, and H. Con. Res. 136) were agreed to.

NATIONAL FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 141, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 141) designating September 9, 2005, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. On Wednesday, May 18, parents of children afflicted with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and their advocates will travel to our Nation's Capital for the Second Annual FASD Hill Day. FASD Hill Day is sponsored by the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and organizations that support those who care for FASD children in our States and communities.

Nobody knows better than a parent of a child afflicted with FASD how challenging it is to raise a child who

was exposed to alcohol before birth. Nobody knows better the physical, mental, behavioral and learning disabilities that can have lifelong implications. I would urge my colleagues to open their offices to the parents and advocates who participate in FASD Hill Day because they have a very important story to tell. Their stories will move you.

At the conclusion of FASD Hill Day, the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome will host its annual Leadership Awards Benefit Reception. All of the parents and advocates are invited to participate. I am pleased to inform my colleagues that the distinguished Senator from Wyoming, Mr. ENZI, and our distinguished colleague from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, will receive the 2005 Leadership Award at the benefit reception. As a Senator who represents a State with one of the highest incidence rates of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, I appreciate the leadership of Senator DURBIN and Senator ENZI, and the support of all of our colleagues, in the crusade to eradicate fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

The term fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, or FASD, was coined by experts as an umbrella term to describe the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. It refers to conditions such as fetal alcohol syndrome, fetal alcohol effects, alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder and alcohol-related birth defects.

The only cause of FASD is alcohol use during pregnancy. When a pregnant woman drinks, the alcohol crosses the placenta into the fetal blood system. Thus, alcohol reaches the fetus, its developing tissues and organs. This is how brain damage occurs, which in turn can lead to mental retardation, social and emotional problems, learning disabilities and other problems. In fact, FASD is the leading cause of mental retardation in all of western civilization, including the United States.

Since the only cause of FASD is prenatal alcohol consumption it follows that by abstaining from the consumption of alcohol during pregnancy a woman can completely foreclose the possibility that her baby will be born with one or another of the conditions that are regarded fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

Every day of the year we must remind women that no amount of alcohol consumed during pregnancy is safe for their baby. No alcohol during pregnancy is safe. None at all.

To dramatize this point, a group of parents who were raising children afflicted with fetal alcohol came together on the Internet and wondered in cyberspace, "What if a world full of FAS and FAE parents all got together on the 9th hour of the 9th day of the 9th month of the year and asked the world to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol?" If this were to occur, they wondered, "Would the world listen?"

On the 9th hour of the 9th day of the 9th month every year they called upon all the peoples of the world to observe a moment of silence to remind women of childbearing age that no amount of alcohol is safe during pregnancy.

These pioneering activists, most of whom were adoptive and foster parents, led by Brian Philcox and Bonnie Buxton of Toronto, Canada, and Teresa Kellerman of Tucson, AZ, did not have the resources of large public relations firms or well connected lobbyists. They organized the first International FAS Awareness Day, which was observed on September 9, 1999, on a shoestring using the Internet. Rapidly their group grew to include more than 70 volunteer coordinators in eight countries. Each year I receive e-mails from places like New Zealand, Germany, and my own State of Alaska, telling me about their local FAS Day observances. Through this grassroots awareness effort, many women of childbearing age learned for the first time that no amount of alcohol in pregnancy is good.

On September 9, 2004, for the first time, the moment of silence was observed on the Senate floor. I would hope that this would become an annual tradition until fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are eradicated.

The resolution that I have introduced today designates September 9, 2005, as National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Awareness Day. Although September 9 is several months off, I have asked that the resolution be considered at this time as a tribute to the efforts of the FASD parents and advocates who have come to Washington, DC, educate all of us about the dangers of alcohol and pregnancy and to provide them with a tool to encourage each of their communities to observe and participate in FASDAY 2005 when they return home.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 141) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 141

Whereas the term "fetal alcohol spectrum disorders" includes a broader range of conditions and therefore has replaced the term "fetal alcohol syndrome" as the umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are the leading cause of mental retardation in western civilization, including the United States, and are 100 percent preventable;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a major cause of numerous social disorders, including learning disabilities, school failure, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness, and crime;

Whereas the incidence rate of fetal alcohol syndrome is estimated at 1 out of 500 live births and the incidence rate of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders is estimated at 1 out of every 100 live births;

Whereas the economic cost of fetal alcohol syndrome alone to the Nation was \$5,400,000,000 in 2003 and it is estimated that each individual with fetal alcohol syndrome will cost United States taxpayers between \$1,500,000 and \$3,000,000 in his or her lifetime;

Whereas in February 1999, a small group of parents of children who suffer from fetal alcohol spectrum disorders came together with the hope that in 1 magic moment the world could be made aware of the devastating consequences of alcohol consumption during pregnancy;

Whereas the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day was observed on September 9, 1999;

Whereas Bonnie Buxton of Toronto, Canada, the co-founder of the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day, asked "What if . . . a world full of FAS/E [Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Effect] parents all got together on the ninth hour of the ninth day of the ninth month of the year and asked the world to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol . . . would the rest of the world listen?"; and

Whereas on the ninth day of the ninth month of each year since 1999, communities around the world have observed International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 9, 2005, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to—

(A) observe National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day with appropriate ceremonies to—

(i) promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(ii) increase compassion for individuals affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(iii) minimize further effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol; and

(iv) ensure healthier communities across the United States; and

(B) observe a moment of reflection on the ninth hour of September 9, 2005, to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol.

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2005

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m. on Friday, May 13. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 3, the highway bill.

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

#### PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will resume consideration of the highway bill. Earlier today we invoked cloture on the substitute amendment, and the chairman and ranking member were able to construct a final list of amendments. We are now on a glidepath to complete work on this legislation early next week, and I do want to thank all Members for their hard work and cooperation.