

Ducheny, California State Senator, 40th District; Donna Frye, Councilmember, City of San Diego; Fred Keeley, Treasurer-Tax Collector, County of Santa Cruz; Christine Kehoe, California State Senator, 39th District; John Laird, California State Assembly member, 27th Assembly District; Patricia McCoy, Councilmember, City of Imperial Beach; Kevin McKeown, Councilmember, City of Santa Monica; Aaron Peskin, President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors; Wayne Rayfield, Mayor, City of Dana Point; Murray Rosenbluth, Mayor, City of Port Hueneme; Diana Rose, Mayor, City of Imperial Beach; Susan Rose, Supervisor, Santa Barbara County; Bill Rosendahl, Councilmember-Elect, City of Los Angeles; Lori Saldafiña, California State Assembly member and Assistant Majority Whip, 76th District; Esther Sanchez, Deputy Mayor, City of Oceanside; Das Williams, Councilmember, City of Santa Barbara; Mayda Winter, Councilmember, City of Imperial Beach.

INDIVIDUALS

Jean-Michel Cousteau, President, Ocean Futures Society; Dr. Sylvia Earle, Explorer-in Residence, the National Geographic Society; Gary Griggs, Director, Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California Santa Cruz; David Helvar, Author, Blue Frontier—Saving America's Living Seas; Kurt Lieber, President and Founder, Ocean Defenders Alliance; Mark Silberstein, Executive Director, Elkhorn Slough Foundation; Dr. Susan Williams, Director, Bodega Marine Laboratory.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Gulf of Mexico Foundation; Turtle Island Restoration Network; Potomac Riverkeeper; Coastwalk; Gulf Restoration Network; Florida Oceanographic Society; Patapsco Riverkeeper, Inc.; The Coastal Marine Resource Center of New York; New York Whale and Dolphin Action League; San Francisco Ocean Film Festival.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 165—CONGRATULATING THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ON THEIR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND ENTREPRENEURS

Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. VITTER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BURNS, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

S. RES. 165

Whereas in 1980, Congress established the Small Business Development Center program to deliver management and technical assistance counseling and provide educational programs to prospective and existing small business owners;

Whereas over the last 25 years, the Small Business Development Center network counseled and trained more than 11,000,000 small business owners and entrepreneurs, helping small businesses start and grow and create jobs in the United States;

Whereas the Small Business Development Centers exemplify the partnership between

private sector institutions of higher education and Government, working together to support small businesses and entrepreneurship;

Whereas the Small Business Development Centers have been a critical partner in the start-up and growth of the Nation's small businesses;

Whereas in 2004, the Small Business Development Centers counseled and trained approximately 750,000 new and existing small businesses;

Whereas the Small Business Development Centers deliver specialized assistance through a network of 63 lead centers and more than 1,100 service locations, in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa;

Whereas the Small Business Development Centers provide assistance tailored to the local community and the needs of the client, including counseling and training on financial management, marketing, production and organization, international trade assistance, procurement assistance, venture capital formation, and rural development, among other services that improve the economic environment in which small businesses compete;

Whereas in 2003, the Small Business Development Center's in-depth counseling helped small businesses generate nearly \$6,000,000,000 in revenues and save an additional \$7,000,000,000 in sales;

Whereas in 2003, the Small Business Development Centers helped create and retain over 163,000 jobs across the United States; and

Whereas the Small Business Development Centers proudly celebrate 25 years of service to America's small business owners and entrepreneurs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Small Business Development Centers of the Small Business Administration on their 25 years of service to America's small business owners and entrepreneurs;

(2) recognizes their service in helping America's small businesses start, grow, and flourish; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Association for Small Business Development Centers for appropriate display.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a Senate resolution that honors the Small Business Administration's (SBA's) Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) on their tremendous service and dedication to America's small businesses and entrepreneurs over the past 25 years.

Small businesses form a solid foundation for economic growth and job creation. The successes of our Nation's 25 million small businesses have helped create nearly three-quarters of all new jobs and produce 50 percent of our country's Gross Domestic Product.

As Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I understand that the spirit of entrepreneurs, to explore beyond their limits, is the engine driving our economy. Each year 3 to 4 million new businesses open their doors to the marketplace and one in 25 adult Americans takes the steps to start a business. Clearly, it is essential we ensure that every American has the necessary resources avail-

able to start, grow and develop a business.

Among the most valuable assets for any entrepreneur is the SBA's Small Business Development Center program. Over the past 25 years, the SBDCs have provided unique one-on-one counseling to over 11 million Americans helping new business start-ups, sustain struggling firms, and expand growth for existing firms.

Through a network of 63 lead centers and more than 1,100 service locations, the SBDCs deliver their services in all 50 States, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa. From financial management, to marketing to procurement assistance, the SBDCs tailor their counseling and training to the needs of the client in each local community.

In addition, the SBDCs have an extraordinary record of excellence. Having counseled and trained more than 50,000 business owners and entrepreneurs in 1980, today they counsel and train almost three-quarters of a million start-ups and existing small businesses annually. Moreover, in 2003, the SBDCs helped create and retain over 163,000 jobs across America.

In 2004 alone, the SBDCs in my home State of Maine assisted entrepreneurs in obtaining over \$16 million in loans, helped create and retain over 700 jobs, counseled nearly 3,000 clients and held 200 training events. Just as there's no question that small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy, SBDCs are truly the lifeline for entrepreneurs.

As we celebrate the SBDCs 25th Anniversary, we must reaffirm our commitment to foster an environment that is favorable to economic growth and development for new and growing firms. On that note, the 36 percent cut in the SBA's budget over the last five years has been a step in the wrong direction, and it is a misjudgement I hope Congress will reverse. I will continue to fight to ensure that the SBA and its resource partners like the SBDCs obtain the valuable resources they deserve.

The challenges of starting a new business are surpassed only by the determination and ingenuity of America's entrepreneurs. By strengthening the SBA's core programs such as the SBDC program, we can encourage job growth and provide American small businesses an even greater opportunity to thrive and prosper.

Today I urge my colleagues to show their support for the Small Business Development Center program during their silver anniversary and support this Resolution. Small Business Development Centers are a critical component to strengthening our Nation's economy and creating American jobs, and they clearly deserve our accolades and recognition.

SENATE RESOLUTION 166—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRINTING OF A COLLECTION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 166

Resolved, That a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate, together with related materials, be printed as a Senate document, and that there be printed 500 additional copies of such document for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 167—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF SUN SAFETY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

S. RES. 167

Whereas Americans of all ages cherish the pleasures of outdoor activities, and too few recognize that overexposure to the sun and its ultraviolet radiation, classified by the Department of Health and Human Services as a known carcinogen, is the leading cause of skin cancer;

Whereas it is critically important to be safe in the sun because skin cancer is the fastest growing cancer in our country today, affecting 1 in 5 Americans during their lifetimes and killing 1 person every hour of every day;

Whereas more than 1,000,000 new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed in the United States this year, accounting for nearly half of all new cases of cancer and exceeding the incidence of breast, prostate, lung, and colon cancer combined;

Whereas most people receive approximately 80 percent of their lifetime sun exposure by age 18, setting the stage for skin cancer later in life;

Whereas skin cancer is highly preventable by taking simple precautions when engaged in outdoor activities;

Whereas research demonstrates that practicing good sun safety has the potential to significantly reduce the risk of skin cancer;

Whereas the Sun Safety Alliance and its members have dedicated themselves to promoting sun safety, eliminating skin cancer from excessive sun exposure, and encouraging sun protection practices, especially among children; and

Whereas the Sun Safety Alliance has designated the week of June 5, 2005, to June 11, 2005, as National Sun Safety Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes
 - (A) the importance of sun safety; and
 - (B) the need for school-based sun safety education programs;
- (2) encourages all Americans to protect themselves and their children from the dangers of excessive sun exposure;
- (3) congratulates the Sun Safety Alliance for its efforts to promote sun safety and prevent skin cancer; and
- (4) supports the goals and ideas of National Sun Safety Week.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 41—RECOGNIZING THE SACRIFICES BEING MADE BY THE FAMILIES OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF A WEEK AS NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILIES WEEK

Mr. HAGEL (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 41

Whereas the people of the United States have a sincere appreciation for the sacrifices being made by the families of members of the Armed Forces while their loved ones are deployed in the service of their country;

Whereas military families face unique challenges while their loved ones are deployed because of the lengthy and dangerous nature of these deployments;

Whereas the strain on military family life is further increased when these deployments become more frequent;

Whereas military families on the home front remain resilient because of their comprehensive and responsive support system;

Whereas the brave members of the Armed Forces who have defended the United States since September 11, 2001, continue to have incredible, unending support from their families; and

Whereas the week of June 12, 2005, has been proposed to be designated as National Military Families Week: Now, therefore be it

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

(1) recognizes the sacrifices of military families and the support they provide for their loved ones serving as members of the Armed Forces; and

(2) supports the designation of a week as National Military Families Week.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry be authorized to conduct a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 2 p.m. in SR-328A. The purpose of this hearing will be to review the nominations of Mr. Walter Lukken and Mr. Reuben Jeffries to be commissioners of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and also for Mr. Jeffries to be chairman of the Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005, at 10 a.m. to mark up S. 582 "The Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act," and to vote on the nomination of Mr. Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, to be a member of the Council of Eco-

nomics Advisers; and Mr. Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be assistant secretary of Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Review of General Aviation Security, at 11 a.m., on Thursday, June 9, 2005, in SR-253.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on the Western Hemisphere.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, June 9, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

Agenda

I. Nominations:

Terrence W. Boyle, II to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit; Brett M. Kavanaugh to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia; Rachel Brand to be an Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy; Alice S. Fisher to be an Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division.

II. Bills:

S. 491, Christopher Kangas Fallen Firefighter Apprentice Act, Specter, Leahy;

S. 1181, Which is Section 8 of Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National Government Act of 2005, Cornyn, Leahy, Feingold.