

and, yes, it provides a message service to promote communication between runaways and their families.

Mr. Speaker, runaways are the Nation's most vulnerable youth. We must be united in helping them find a safe, healthy, and productive place where they can fulfill their potential. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today we will vote on a resolution in support of preventive programs; yet this Congress continues to underfund the critical resources needed to address the problems faced by these vulnerable youth.

Homelessness is merely a symptom of a bigger problem. For many youth, their home situation is violent and it is unhealthy. The Wilder Foundation, a nonprofit health and human service organization that has served the greater St. Paul area since 1906, understands this issue well. They tell us that children who run away are three times more likely to have been physically abused, five times more likely to have been treated for drug and alcohol problems. These young adults need our help, they need our support, and they need the opportunity to know that they can get their lives back on track. And there are many in our community and across this country who are ready to serve homeless youths.

In Minnesota there are groups such as the Ain Dah Yung Center, serving Native American youths; the Bridge For Runaway Youth, and they are working hard to provide critical services.

When I visited one of the homeless shelters for youth just recently, I found out that they had to cut their hours back, that they could not provide a safe haven for children to escape the cold during the day and to get counseling, to reunite them with their families when possible or to put them in a place where they would be safe. These children need our assistance. They need a partner at the Federal level, one that they can count on, not only for well-intentioned resolutions but the dollars needed to provide those resources, those safe havens, especially as winter sets in on these young adults in Minnesota.

They need resources. They need beds. They need counselors. But most of all they need to know, our children need to know that Congress is prepared to vote for them and to approve not only this resolution but in the future the resources needed in order for them to turn their lives around.

Our children deserve our hope for a better future for them, and they deserve an opportunity to have that future.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my good friend and colleague from the great State of Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to first of all thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me time. I also want to commend my colleague from Nevada for bringing this important matter before us today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a strong supporter of H. Res. 484. Studies indicate that a staggering between 1.8 and 2.6 million children live on the streets of our country each and every year. This legislation in a way honors the individuals and organizations who work so hard to reach out to our young people that are in some of the most desperate of situations.

As we can all imagine, the situation on the streets for these young people is desperate and incredibly rough. Half of the HIV cases in the United States are in the youth population. Homeless and runaway youth are two to 10 times higher than the nonhomeless teens who have HIV, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that 94 percent of homeless youth are sexually active. We, unfortunately, cannot make street life disappear or even reach a level of utopia; but we can ensure that there are services available to help with the daily lives of these young people, whether it is trying to find a bed, a warm meal, or some safe, genuine companionship.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation. In a large urban district like mine where there are thousands of impoverished young people living in less than desirable home situations, we know that they need help. And I commend some of the many organizations like the Night Ministry, Tabitha House, Hope House, the House of Daniel, Clare's House, Mother's House, and all of the other programs that are designed to assist young people as they go through this stage of their lives.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 484, a resolution introduced by our colleague from Nevada, Mr. PORTER, to recognize the value of runaway youth prevention programs and the needs of homeless and at-risk youth. Our consideration of this resolution today is timely given that October is recognized as National Runaway Prevention Month.

In my district, we have benefited greatly from the development and implementation of several runaway youth prevention programs. These programs have proven their effectiveness with increasing support from various members of our community. They have been built with support from families, parents, teachers, social workers, counselors, ministers, and other civic-minded citizens in our community. They have also been supplemented with important grant assistance from both the local and federal government. Their effectiveness is worth promoting and increasing awareness of the needs of our homeless and at-risk youth is an important undertaking.

I take this opportunity to share the story of just one particular organization in Guam that has grown to fulfill these needs of Guam's homeless and at-risk youth. As a member of the National Network for Youth, Sanctuary, Inc. has developed and sponsored many important programs serving our homeless and

at-risk youth. Sanctuary, Inc. works in close collaboration with the Department of Youth Affairs of the Government of Guam as well as with the judicial system and the courts to identify ways to support our youth.

Through workshops, counseling, referral services, support groups, and especially with their annual summer parent-child conference, Sanctuary, Inc. works to strengthen family relationships and promotes a drug, alcohol and violence-free lifestyle among youth participants. Their after-school programs are especially effective in providing activities for our youth and complementing their classroom instruction. Apart from their programs, Sanctuary operates two temporary emergency shelters to accommodate our homeless youth, providing them with room and board and a family away from home.

I commend Sanctuary, Inc. for their outstanding work and their positive influence on our at-risk youth and their families. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 484. I too urge all of us to work together to increase awareness of effective runaway youth prevention programs. Through these proven community-based programs we can help provide for a safer and more educational environment for our at-risk youth.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 484.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

ESTABLISHING INTERAGENCY AEROSPACE REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR AEROSPACE WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, AND CULTIVATION

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 758) to establish an interagency aerospace revitalization task force to develop a national strategy for aerospace workforce recruitment, training, and cultivation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 758

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The aerospace industry generates nearly 15 percent of the gross domestic product of