

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

consideration. In its January 2005 report on security at wastewater utilities, the GAO estimated it would cost a utility \$12.5 million to switch from chlorine to sodium hypochlorite. There are other considerations that must be considered as well, such as downstream effects of a chlorine alternative. For example, the switch from chlorine to chloramines in Washington, DC's drinking water system was found to cause lead to leach out of service pipes and into the faucets of homes and businesses. Thus, decisions about chlorine must be fully evaluated and must be site specific. Many POTWs are already undergoing these evaluations. After careful review of cost, technical feasibility and safety considerations, and without the presence of a Federal mandate on technology, 116 of the 206 largest POTWs do not use gaseous chlorine. According to the GAO report, another 20 plan to switch to a technology other than chlorine. To sum, nearly two-thirds of the nation's largest POTWs are not using chlorine. Those who continue to use chlorine have taken steps to ensure the chlorine is secure.

While the GAO report found significant steps were being taken at the nation's largest wastewater utilities, the Office also found an area very much in need of assistance. Each POTW has a collection system that consists of the pipes to carry wastewater from homes and businesses to the treatment works. These pipes are often large enough for an individual to stand in and they provide an underground roadway beneath most major cities. In its January 2005 report, 42 of the 50 experts on GAO's panel identified the collection system as the most vulnerable asset of a POTW. However, in discussions with engineers and utility managers, there remain many questions and obstacles on how to effectively secure a collection system. Therefore, our bill authorizes a research program to identify how a collection system could be used in a terrorist attack, how to identify potential chemicals or explosives that could be placed in a collection system and how best to mitigate against these risks. Finally, our legislation asks EPA to examine the various drinking water technologies to determine how affordable and effective each is.

As GAO found, POTWs are taking the critical steps necessary to secure their facilities and develop appropriate response mechanisms in the event of an attack or natural disaster. We at the Federal level must continue to work with them, not against them by imposing one-size-fits-all, heavyhanded unfunded Federal regulations. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and that we can finally enact wastewater security legislation.

By Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BOND, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. 2782. A bill to establish the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, to provide funding for the sup-

port of fundamental agricultural research of the highest quality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today, Senator TALENT and I, along with a group of our colleagues, are introducing the National Institute of Food and Agriculture Act of 2006. In the 2002 farm bill, a research, education and economics task force within the Department of Agriculture, USDA, was established to evaluate agricultural research. A key recommendation of this task force was to create a National Institute for Food and Agriculture, NIFA, within USDA in order to support fundamental agricultural research to ensure that American agriculture remains competitive now and in the future. This bill does exactly that. The NIFA would be a grant-making agency that funds food and agricultural research through a competitive, peer-reviewed process. These funds would be in addition to, not as a substitute for, current research programs at USDA's Agricultural Research Service, ARS, and Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, CSREES.

American agriculture must ensure that our Nation continues to produce safe and nutritious food for an increasing population. Other challenges in the areas of food and agriculture are problems we are facing right now: renewable energy, rural development, overweight and obesity, and environmental challenges. Investment in fundamental research remains our best hope to finding solutions to problems confronting American farmers and consumers of food and agriculture products now and in the future. Our Nation's investment in research has produced remarkable tangible results in the medical field, but food and agricultural research lags far behind. USDA's task force noted that the amount of funding designated for competitively awarded, peer-reviewed agricultural research grants is outpaced 100 to 1 by the National Institutes of Health. Our entire Nation is reaping the benefits of past agricultural research, but more can be done, and research will become much more important in the future as we face increased globalization and competition from foreign markets. Increasing our investment in food and agriculture research is a necessity for the future of America's food and agriculture industry and consumers alike. And that is why I support the National Institute of Food and Agriculture Act of 2006. I encourage my colleagues to do so too.

SENATE RESOLUTION 472—COMMEMORATING AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. REID, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. KYL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 472

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 900,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front lines in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 156 peace officers across the United States were killed in the line of duty during 2005, which is below the decade-long annual average of 167 deaths;

Whereas a number of factors contributed to this reduction in deaths, including—

- (1) better equipment and increased use of bullet-resistant vests;
- (2) improved training;
- (3) longer prison terms for violent offenders; and
- (4) advanced emergency medical care;

Whereas every other day, 1 out of every 16 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 56 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 5,500 peace officers is killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States; and

Whereas on May 15, 2006, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C., to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2006, as "Peace Officers Memorial Day", in honor of the Federal, State, and local officers that have been killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 473—DESIGNATING MAY 14, 2006, AS "NATIONAL POLICE SURVIVORS DAY"

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. TALENT, and Mrs. LINCOLN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 473

Whereas, in the United States, 1 law enforcement officer is killed every 53 hours, and between 140 and 160 law enforcement officers lose their lives in the line of duty each year;

Whereas, on May 14, 1983, on the eve of the 2nd annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, 10 widows of fallen law enforcement officers came together at dinner to discuss the lack of support for law enforcement survivors;