

But as college costs increase, financial aid lags. The College Board reports that over the most recent five-year period, the cost of tuition and fees at public four-year colleges jumped 35 percent, even adjusting for inflation. Over that same five-year period, the maximum award offered by the Federal Government through Pell grants increased little. As a result, the proportion of college expenses met by Pell Grants decreased from 42 percent to 33 percent over that five-year period. At the same time, we see that qualified high school graduates from low- and moderate-income families are much less likely to earn that college degree than their wealthier peers.

That is why I am pleased to support Senator KENNEDY as he introduces the Student Debt Relief Act. Not only does it substantially increase Federal support for the Pell Grant, it also takes other steps to make college more affordable. The Act proposes to cut student loan interest rates, to make loan reconsolidation more feasible for many students, and to cap the amount of monthly loan payments for graduates who enter public service careers.

These measures require a major investment. I believe we must continue to support qualified students who deserve the opportunity to turn their dreams into reality. I will continue to work to increase support for our students through the Pell Grant Program, and other measure that make a college degree attainable for many. This remains a priority for me, and I ask all my colleagues to join in this effort.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 35—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR PRAYER AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 35

Whereas the freedom to practice religion and to express religious thought is acknowledged to be a fundamental and unalienable right belonging to all individuals;

Whereas the United States was founded on the principle of freedom of religion and not freedom from religion;

Whereas the framers intended that the first amendment to the Constitution would prohibit the Federal Government from enacting any law that favors one religious denomination over another, not prohibit any mention of religion or reference to God in civic dialogue;

Whereas in 1983, the Supreme Court held in *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783, that the practice of opening legislative sessions with prayer has become part of the fabric of our society and invoking divine guidance on a public body entrusted with making the laws is not a violation of the Establishment Clause of the first amendment, but rather is simply a tolerable acknowledgment of beliefs widely held among the people of the Nation;

Whereas voluntary prayer in elected bodies should not be limited to prayer in State legislatures and Congress;

Whereas school boards are deliberative bodies of adults similar to a legislature in that they are elected by the people, act in the public interest, and hold sessions that are open to the public for voluntary attendance; and

Whereas voluntary prayer by an elected body should be protected under law and encouraged in society because voluntary prayer has become a part of the fabric of our society, voluntary prayer acknowledges beliefs widely held among the people of the Nation, and the Supreme Court has held that it is not a violation of the Establishment Clause for a public body to invoke divine guidance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that prayer before school board meetings is a protected act in accordance with the fundamental principles upon which the Nation was founded; and

(2) expresses support for the practice of prayer at the beginning of school board meetings.

SENATE RESOLUTION 36—HONORING WOMEN'S HEALTH ADVOCATE CYNTHIA BOLES DAILARD

Mrs. SNOWE (for herself and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. RES. 36

Whereas women's health advocate Cynthia Boles Dailard was born on February 29, 1968 and grew up in Syosset, New York;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard excelled as a student both at Harvard University, from which she graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in English in 1990, and at the University of California at Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law, from which she graduated in 1994;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard entered the non-profit sector upon graduating from law school, receiving a year-long fellowship at the National Women's Law Center in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard worked as legislative assistant and counsel for Senator Olympia J. Snowe, bringing to bear her keen intelligence, vision, energy, expertise, and talent in service to the Nation and the women of the United States;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard worked as associate director for domestic policy for President William J. Clinton;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard worked for 8 years for the Guttmacher Institute, a respected public policy think tank devoted to women's health;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard spearheaded the Guttmacher Institute's policy work on issues related to domestic family planning programs and sex education;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard was a member of the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association Board of Directors;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard spoke and wrote prolifically on matters including family planning, adolescent sexual behavior, and insurance coverage for contraception;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard worked in a bipartisan fashion with elected officials and their staffs to promote the health and well-being of women and families;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard was a gifted and passionate voice within the women's health community;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard was driven by an abiding concern for human relationships and the health and well-being of all individuals;

Whereas Cynthia Dailard has left a thoughtful and enduring mark on women's health policy and will remain a role model for advocates by virtue of her wisdom, character, commitment, and scholarship; and

Whereas Cynthia Dailard is survived by her husband Scott and her daughters Miranda and Julia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) notes with deep sorrow the death of Cynthia Boles Dailard on December 24, 2006;

(2) extends its heartfelt sympathy to Scott, Miranda, and Julia Dailard; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of Cynthia Boles Dailard.

Mrs. CLINTON. I rise today to join my good friend Senator SNOWE in introducing a resolution recognizing the life and untimely loss of a distinguished women's advocate and beloved friend to so many in New York, Washington and beyond: Cynthia Boles Dailard. A native New Yorker, Cynthia will be remembered not only for her incredible work and impressive career, but also for the way she touched so many in her all too short life.

Throughout her career, Cynthia impressed and inspired countless colleagues at the National Women's Law Center, as a legislative assistant and counsel for Senator SNOWE and as an associate director for domestic policy in the Clinton Administration. She was known for working in a bipartisan manner to promote her passion: the health and wellbeing of women and their families. This passion was matched by a genuine concern for the lives of others.

Cynthia then moved to the Guttmacher Institute, where her passionate and talented voice catalyzed research and policy regarding family planning, adolescent sexual behavior and insurance coverage for contraception. In remembering Cynthia, her friends at the Institute noted how her prolific writings pushed the women's health community "to think deeply and to stretch in new directions." Indeed, it is the sort of innovative work that Cynthia was known for that impacts lives the most, as it spurs policy that can truly make a difference.

As we reflect upon Cynthia's life, we can see a path paved with far more than laudatory academic and professional achievement. Cynthia's legacy is one of commitment, thoughtfulness, character and kindness.

I remain touched by the myriad of ways Cynthia made a difference in people's lives as a wife and a mother, as a lawyer and a writer, and as an advocate and a friend.

I had the pleasure of working with Cynthia on numerous occasions and was always impressed with her intellect, knowledge and passion for women's health.

I extend my deepest sympathies to Cynthia's husband of 14 years, Scott and her daughters Miranda and Julia. And it is with the utmost respect that I pledge to celebrate Cynthia's work and her life through this resolution to honor her memory and through my work in the future to honor the health