

equipping special police units to investigate these crimes, implementing judicial reforms and rule of law programs, establishing a missing persons system, creating an effective witness protection program, and supporting efforts to enhance forensic capabilities.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution and give this issue the attention it deserves.

SENATE RESOLUTION 179—WELCOMING THE PRIME MINISTER OF SINGAPORE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN), EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE FOR ITS STRONG COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM, AND REAFFIRMING THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CONTINUED EXPANSION OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SINGAPORE

Mr. BOND submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 179

Whereas Singapore is a great friend of the United States;

Whereas the United States and Singapore share a common vision of promoting peace, stability, security, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas Singapore was a founding member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

Whereas Singapore is a member of the Proliferation Security Initiative, an initiative launched by the United States in 2003 to respond to the challenges posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and a committed partner of the United States in preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas Singapore is a leader in the Radiation Detection Initiative, an effort by the United States to develop technology to safeguard maritime security by detecting trafficking of nuclear and radioactive material;

Whereas, in July 2005, Singapore became a partner of the United States in the Strategic Framework Agreement for Closer Cooperation in Defense and Security, an agreement which will build upon the already strong military relations between the United States and Singapore and expand the scope of defense and security cooperation between the 2 countries;

Whereas Singapore selected the F-15SG Fighter, built in the United States, for use by the Air Force of Singapore, which will greatly enhance the interoperability of the Air Forces of Singapore and the United States;

Whereas Singapore responded quickly to provide generous humanitarian relief and financial assistance to the people affected by the tragic tsunami that struck Southeast Asia in December 2004;

Whereas Singapore responded quickly to provide logistical support and assistance to the relief efforts in the United States after Hurricane Katrina;

Whereas Singapore has joined the United States in the global struggle against terrorism, providing intelligence and offering political and diplomatic support;

Whereas Singapore is the 15th largest trading partner of the United States and the first free trade partner of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region, and the United States is the second largest trading partner of Singapore;

Whereas the relationship between the United States and Singapore extends beyond the current campaign against terrorism and is reinforced by strong ties of culture, commerce, and scientific and technical cooperation; and

Whereas the relationship between the United States and Singapore encompasses almost every field of international cooperation, including a common commitment to fostering a stronger and more open international trading system: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes the Prime Minister of Singapore, His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, to the United States;

(2) congratulates the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Singapore as one of its founding members, on the 40th anniversary of ASEAN;

(3) expresses profound gratitude to the Government of Singapore for promoting security and prosperity in Southeast Asia and cooperating with the United States in the global campaign against terrorism; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to continue strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the United States, Singapore, and the other countries of the ASEAN region.

SENATE RESOLUTION 180—RECOGNIZING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IDAHO POTATO COMMISSION AND DESIGNATING MAY 2007 AS “IDAHO POTATO MONTH”

Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 180

Whereas the State of Idaho produces roughly one-third of all the potatoes grown in the United States, harvesting an average of 12,000,000,000 to 14,000,000,000 pounds annually;

Whereas the State of Idaho's unique climate of warm days, cool nights, mountain-fed irrigation, and rich volcanic soil is conducive to growing world-renowned potatoes;

Whereas Idaho potatoes are top-selling and highly recognized potatoes in the United States due to their consistently great taste, versatility, and nutritional content;

Whereas the Idaho potato “brand” is recognized throughout the world for its high quality and is an identifying characteristic of the great State of Idaho;

Whereas May 2007 marks the 70th consecutive year that Idaho potatoes have been promoted by the Idaho Potato Commission, an Idaho potato industry group responsible for generating attention for the numerous attributes of Idaho potatoes;

Whereas the Idaho Potato Commission is recognized nationally and internationally as a top promotional authority for Idaho's potatoes and potato products;

Whereas the Idaho Potato Commission's requirement, since 1959, that only potatoes grown in the State of Idaho are allowed to wear the “Grown in Idaho” Federal certification mark contributed toward the creation of a distinctive, enduringly successful, and

popular brand for the Russet Burbank potato variety; and

Whereas Idaho's potato industry contributes approximately \$2,700,000,000 to the State economy and employs 39,000 residents: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 70th anniversary of the Idaho Potato Commission; and

(2) designates May 2007 as “Idaho Potato Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 181—HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY FOOTBALL PROGRAM OVER THE LAST 27 YEARS

Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 181

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry, originally of Cheraw, South Carolina, coached football at the United States Air Force Academy for 27 years, 23 of which as head coach;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry is the winningest head coach of any United States service academy with a record of 169-109-1;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has amassed a 35-11 record against the United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy, and led the U.S. Air Force Academy to 14 of its 16 Commander-in-Chief Trophy titles;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry led his Air Force teams to 3 conference championships and 12 bowl games;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has been recognized numerous times for his coaching success, including selection as National Coach of the Year for 1985; selection 3 times as Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year; induction into the South Carolina Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Independence Bowl Hall of Fame; the 2001 State Farm Coach of Distinction honor; an honorary doctorate of humanities from Wofford College; service as president of the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA); and service as Chairman of the AFCA ethics committee;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has acted as a pillar of the Colorado Springs, Colorado, community during the past 27 years through his active involvement and volunteerism with local church, charity, and community organizations;

Whereas, in 2004 Fisher DeBerry founded the Fisher DeBerry Foundation, which is dedicated to the support and education of single mothers and their children, as well as other charitable causes;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has served as a positive influence and role model to numerous future Air Force officers, including coaching 3,375 players; having a graduation success rate of 91.6 percent among his players; and producing 19 All-American players, 124 All-Conference players, 11 Academic All-Americans, and 9 Postgraduate Scholarship winners;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry imparted to his players the core values of the United States Air Force: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do; and

Whereas, the United States Air Force Academy football program under the leadership of Fisher DeBerry has served as an example of these values for its community and the entire Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate honors and recognizes the numerous contributions made by the United States Air Force Academy football program over the last 27 years to Colorado Springs and the surrounding communities, the United States Air Force Academy, and the United States Air Force.

SENATE RESOLUTION 182—HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK VALENTI

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 182

Whereas Jack Valenti was born September 5, 1921, in Houston, Texas, the grandson of Sicilian immigrants, Joe and Josephine Valenti, and was the youngest high school graduate in the city at age 15;

Whereas Jack Valenti married his beloved Mary Margaret in 1962, with whom he had 3 children, John, Alexandra, and Courtenay;

Whereas Jack Valenti joined the United States Army Air Forces in 1942 and flew 51 combat missions as a pilot of a B-25 attack bomber with the 12th Air Force in Italy during World War II, obtained the rank of lieutenant, and received 4 decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 4 clusters, the Distinguished Unit Citation with one cluster, and the European Theater Ribbon with 4 battle stars;

Whereas Jack Valenti received a B.A. degree from the University of Houston in 1946 after doing all of his undergraduate work at night and working during the day, and became the first University of Houston graduate to be admitted to Harvard Business School, receiving an M.B.A. degree in 1948;

Whereas, in 1952, Jack Valenti cofounded Weekley and Valenti, an advertising and political consulting agency that worked on Dwight D. Eisenhower's presidential campaign in Texas, Representative Albert Thomas's run for Congress, and John Connally's campaign for Governor of Texas;

Whereas Jack Valenti met then-Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957, the two became close friends, and Valenti worked on Lyndon Johnson's presidential campaign during the primaries of 1960;

Whereas Weekley and Valenti handled press during President John F. Kennedy's and Vice President Lyndon Johnson's fateful trip to Dallas, Texas, in November 1963;

Whereas Jack Valenti became the first special assistant hired when Lyndon Johnson ascended to the Presidency;

Whereas Jack Valenti resigned his White House post in 1966 and went on to serve as the president of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) for the next 38 years;

Whereas Jack Valenti, as president of the MPAA, created the voluntary film rating system that is still in place today, which provides parents with advance information they can use to determine which movies are appropriate for their children;

Whereas Jack Valenti's persona and skill combined to give the motion picture industry a strong and enduring presence in the Nation's capital, which grew year by year during his nearly 4 decade tenure at the MPAA;

Whereas Jack Valenti presided over a worldwide change in the motion picture in-

dustry, ushered movies into the digital era, championed artists' rights, and condemned intellectual property theft;

Whereas Jack Valenti authored 5 books, including "A Very Human President", "Protect and Defend", "The Bitter Taste of Glory", "Speak Up With Confidence", and, his most recent, "This Time, This Place: My Life in War, the White House, and Hollywood", and wrote numerous essays for the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, Reader's Digest, Atlantic Monthly, Newsweek, Cox newspapers, and other publications;

Whereas Jack Valenti was awarded with France's highly-prized Legion d'Honneur, the French Legion of Honor, and has been honored with his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; and

Whereas Jack Valenti will be remembered as a dedicated family man, a philanthropist, a voice for copyright owners, a true visionary whose devotion, intelligence, creativity, and wisdom transformed the film industry, and as Hollywood's ultimate leading man: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life of Jack Valenti, a pioneer in the fields of motion pictures and public service, a dedicated family man, and a legendary figure in the history of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 183—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, APRIL 30, 2007, THROUGH MAY 4, 2007

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ALLEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BURR, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. VITTER, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. GREGG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 183

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality education and challenge students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by designated public entities to respond to the needs of communities, families, and students, and to promote the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, charter schools are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their finances and other operations;

Whereas 40 States and the District of Columbia have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas more than 4,000 charter schools operating across the United States serve more than 1,140,000 students;

Whereas, over the last 13 years, Congress has provided more than \$2,026,225,000 in support to the charter school movement by providing facilities, financing assistance, and grants for planning, startup, implementation, and dissemination of information;

Whereas many charter schools improve the achievement of students and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools must meet the student achievement accountability requirements under section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311) in the same manner as traditional public schools, and often set higher and additional individual goals to ensure that charter schools are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas charter schools give parents new freedom to choose public schools, routinely measure parental satisfaction levels, and must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and communities;

Whereas nearly 56 percent of charter schools report having a waiting list, and the total number of students on all such waiting lists is enough to fill over 1,100 average-sized charter schools;

Whereas charter schools nationwide serve a higher percentage of low-income and minority students than the traditional public school system;

Whereas charter schools have enjoyed broad bipartisan support from the President, Congress, State governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the United States; and

Whereas the eighth annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held April 30 through May 4, 2007, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges and commends charter schools and students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education and improving and strengthening the public school system;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of the eighth annual National Charter Schools Week; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this week-long celebration in communities throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 184—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO CHILDHOOD STROKE AND DESIGNATING MAY 5, 2007, AS "NATIONAL CHILDHOOD STROKE AWARENESS DAY"

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

S. RES. 184

Whereas a stroke, also known as a "cerebrovascular accident", is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas 26 out of every 100,000 newborns and almost 3 out of every 100,000 children have a stroke each year;

Whereas an individual can have a stroke before birth;

Whereas stroke is among the top 10 causes of death for children in the United States;

Whereas 12 percent of all children who experience a stroke die as a result;

Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all age groups;

Whereas many children who experience a stroke will suffer serious, long-term neurological disabilities, including—

(1) hemiplegia, which is paralysis of 1 side of the body;

(2) seizures;

(3) speech and vision problems; and