

The courageous example of the people of northern Ireland, who have chosen peace and reconciliation, also offers a lesson of hope to other troubled areas of the world.

The resolution we are introducing expresses the strong support of the United States for the new power-sharing Government. It recognizes the contributions of British and Irish and American leaders whose efforts over the years have been indispensable in to the formation of the new Government and the achievement of lasting peace and stability in northern Ireland.

May 8 will long be remembered as a historic day for peace in northern Ireland. All friends of Ireland in the United States commend the First Minister of the new Government, Reverend Ian Paisley of the Democratic Unionist Party and the Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein for coming together in peace to begin this new era of hope for all the people of northern Ireland, and we wish them continuing success in meeting the challenges that lie ahead.

The United States stands ready to support their new Government. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 209) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 209

Whereas, on May 8, 2007, the Reverend Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness became Northern Ireland's first minister and deputy first minister, marking the beginning of a new era of power-sharing;

Whereas Reverend Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, and Mr. McGuinness, the Sinn Féin negotiator, have put aside decades of conflict and moved towards historic reconciliation and unity in Northern Ireland;

Whereas, on May 8, 2007, Reverend Paisley declared, "I believe that Northern Ireland has come to a time of peace, a time when hate will no longer rule.";

Whereas Mr. McGuinness declared this new government to be "a fundamental change of

approach, with parties moving forward together to build a better future for the people that we represent";

Whereas British Prime Minister Tony Blair declared that "today marks not just the completion of the transition from conflict to peace, but also gives the most visible expression to the fundamental principle on which the peace process has been based. The acceptance that the future of Northern Ireland can only be governed successfully by both communities working together, equal before the law, equal in the mutual respect shown by all and equally committed both to sharing power and to securing peace. That is the only basis upon which true democracy can function and by which normal politics can at last after decades of violence and suffering come to this beautiful but troubled land.";

Whereas the Taoiseach of Ireland, Bertie Ahern, declared that "on this day, we mark the historic beginning of a new era for Northern Ireland. An era founded on peace and partnership. An era of new politics and new realities."; and

Whereas President George W. Bush, like his predecessor President William J. Clinton, has worked tirelessly to bring the parties in Northern Ireland together in support of fulfilling the promises of the Good Friday Accords.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States stands strongly in support of the new power-sharing government in Northern Ireland;

(2) political leaders of Northern Ireland, Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern should be commended for acting in the best interest of the people of Northern Ireland by forming the new power-sharing government;

(3) May 8, 2007, will be remembered as an historic day and an important milestone in cementing peace and unity for Northern Ireland and a shining example for nations around the world plagued by internal conflict and violence; and

(4) the United States stands ready to support this new government and to work with the people of Northern Ireland as they achieve their goal of lasting peace for those who reside in Northern Ireland.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 21, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 1 p.m., Monday, May 21; that on Monday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired and

the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate then resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1348, comprehensive immigration legislation; and Senator SESSIONS be recognized, as provided for under a previous order; that following Senator SESSIONS, the remaining time until 5:30 p.m., be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders, or their designees; provided further that at 5:30 p.m., without further intervening action or debate, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 21, 2007, AT 1 P.M.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:04 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 21, 2007, at 1 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Thursday, May 17, 2007:

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) CRAIG E. BONE, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) ROBERT S. BRANHAM, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN S. BURHOE, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) RONALD T. HEWITT, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) WAYNE E. JUSTICE, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) DANIEL B. LLOYD, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) JOSEPH L. NIMMICH, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) ROBERT C. PARKER, 0000
REAR ADM. (LH) BRIAN M. SALERNO, 0000

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS/COMMANDING GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 3036:

To be lieutenant general

L.T. GEN. ROBERT L. VAN ANTWERP, JR., 0000