

(A) refrain from the future use of force to resolve the status of Abkhazia and South Ossetia; and

(B) work with the United States, Europe, and other concerned countries and through the United Nations Security Council, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other international fora to identify a political settlement that addresses the short-term and long-term status of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, in accordance with prior United Nations Security Council resolutions;

(6) the United States should—

(A) provide humanitarian and economic assistance to Georgia;

(B) seek to improve commercial relations with Georgia; and

(C) working in tandem with the international community, continue to support the development of a strong, vibrant, multiparty democracy in Georgia;

(7) the President should consult with Congress on future security cooperation and assistance to Georgia, as appropriate;

(8) the United States continues to support the North Atlantic Treaty Organization declaration reached at the Bucharest Summit on April 3, 2008; and

(9) the United States should work with the European Union, Georgia, and its neighbors to ensure the free flow of energy to Europe and the operation of key communication and trade routes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 691—DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008, AS “FEED AMERICA DAY”

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 691

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which the Nation was founded;

Whereas, according to the Department of Agriculture, roughly 35,000,000 people in the United States, including 12,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates Thursday, November 20, 2008, as “Feed America Day”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Feed America Day and to donate the money that they would have spent on food to a religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

SENATE RESOLUTION 692—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9 THROUGH NOVEMBER 15, 2008, AS “NATIONAL VETERANS AWARENESS WEEK” TO EMPHASIZE THE NEED TO DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS REGARDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF VETERANS TO THE COUNTRY

Mr. REID (for Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr.

VOINOVICH, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. OBAMA, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. STEVENS)) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 692

Whereas tens of millions of Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces during the past century;

Whereas the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by the people of the United States;

Whereas the advent of the all-volunteer Armed Forces has resulted in a sharp decline in the number of individuals and families who have had any personal connection with the Armed Forces;

Whereas this reduction in familiarity with the Armed Forces has resulted in a marked decrease in the awareness by young people of the nature and importance of the accomplishments of those who have served in the Armed Forces, despite the current educational efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the veterans service organizations;

Whereas the system of civilian control of the Armed Forces makes it essential that the future leaders of the Nation understand the history of military action and the contributions and sacrifices of those who conduct such actions; and

Whereas in each of the years 2000 through 2007 the Senate has recognized the need to increase the understanding of the contributions of veterans among school-aged children by approving a resolution recognizing the week containing Veterans Day as “National Veterans Awareness Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of November 9 through November 15, 2008, as “National Veterans Awareness Week” for the purpose of emphasizing educational efforts directed at elementary and secondary school students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Veterans Awareness Week with appropriate educational activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 693—RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2008 AS “NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. BAYH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 693

Whereas between 1,600,000 and 2,800,000 children and teens are homeless in the United States each year, with many staying on the streets or in emergency shelters;

Whereas families with children are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population and now make up approximately 1/3 of that population;

Whereas many homeless youth experience isolation and trauma while residing on the streets or in precarious housing situations and may eventually develop depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder;

Whereas homeless youth are typically too poor to secure basic needs and are unable to access adequate medical or mental health care;

Whereas many youth become homeless due to a lack of financial and housing resources as they exit juvenile corrections and foster care;

Whereas 12 to 36 percent of foster youth experience homelessness at least once after exiting foster care;

Whereas homeless youth are most often expelled from their homes by their guardians after physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or separated from their parents through death or divorce without adequate resources; and

Whereas awareness of the tragedy of youth homelessness and its causes must be heightened so that greater support for effective programs involving businesses, families, law enforcement agencies, schools, and community and faith-based organizations, aimed at helping youth remain off the streets becomes a national priority: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the values and efforts of businesses, organizations, and volunteers dedicated to meeting the needs of homeless children and teens;

(2) applauds the initiatives of businesses, organizations, and volunteers that employ time and resources to build awareness of the homeless youth problem, its causes, and potential solutions, and work to prevent homelessness among children and teens; and

(3) should recognize the month of November 2008 as “National Homeless Youth Awareness Month” and encourages these businesses, organizations, and volunteers to continue to intensify their efforts during the month of November.

SENATE RESOLUTION 694—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 19, 2008, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ENZI, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 694

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry with good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good

character and that, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by institutions and individuals that influence youth to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young people to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of our youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those who have an interest in the education and training of the young people of the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into their teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of National Character Counts Week, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 19, 2008, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5674. Mr. REID (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. BENNETT)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5159, to establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, headed by the Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services, to provide for the effective management and administration of the Capitol Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

SA 5675. Ms. LANDRIEU (for Mr. NELSON, OF FLORIDA (for himself and Mr. INHOFE)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 660, condemning ongoing sales of arms to belligerents in Sudan, including the Government of Sudan, and calling for both a cessation of such sales and an expansion of the United Nations embargo on arms sales to Sudan.

SA 5676. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. DEMINT) submitted an amendment intended

to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2638, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5677. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2095, to amend title 49, United States Code, to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, to authorize the Federal Railroad Safety Administration, and for other purposes.

SA 5678. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5677 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 2095, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5674. Mr. REID (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. BENNETT)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5159, to establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, headed by the Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services, to provide for the effective management and administration of the Capitol Visitor Center, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Sec. 101. Designation of facility as Capitol Visitor Center; purposes of facility; treatment of the Capitol Visitor Center.

Sec. 102. Designation and naming within the Capitol Visitor Center.

Sec. 103. Use of the Emancipation Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center.

TITLE II—OFFICE OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Sec. 201. Establishment.

Sec. 202. Appointment and supervision of Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services.

Sec. 203. General duties of Chief Executive Officer.

Sec. 204. Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer.

Sec. 205. Gift shop.

Sec. 206. Food service operations.

TITLE III—CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER REVOLVING FUND

Sec. 301. Establishment and accounts.

Sec. 302. Deposits in the Fund.

Sec. 303. Use of monies.

Sec. 304. Administration of Fund.

TITLE IV—CAPITOL GUIDE SERVICE AND OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Subtitle A—Capitol Guide Service

Sec. 401. Transfer of Capitol Guide Service.

Sec. 402. Duties of employees of Capitol Guide Service.

Subtitle B—Office of Congressional Accessibility Services

Sec. 411. Office of Congressional Accessibility Services.

Sec. 412. Transfer from Capitol Guide Service.

Subtitle C—Transfer Date and Technical and Conforming Amendments

Sec. 421. Transfer date.

Sec. 422. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Sec. 501. Jurisdictions unaffected.
Sec. 502. Student loan repayment authority.
Sec. 503. Acceptance of volunteer services.
Sec. 504. Coins treated as gifts.
Sec. 505. Flexible work schedule pilot program.

TITLE VI—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 601. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE I—CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

SEC. 101. DESIGNATION OF FACILITY AS CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER; PURPOSES OF FACILITY; TREATMENT OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility authorized for construction under the heading “CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER” under chapter 5 of title II of division B of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277; 112 Stat. 2681-569) is designated as the Capitol Visitor Center and is a part of the Capitol.

(b) PURPOSES OF THE FACILITY.—The Capitol Visitor Center shall be used—

(1) to provide enhanced security for persons working in or visiting the United States Capitol;

(2) to improve the visitor experience by providing a structure that will afford improved visitor orientation and enhance the educational experience of those who have come to learn about the Congress and the Capitol; and

(3) for other purposes as determined by Congress or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

(c) TREATMENT OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER.—

(1) OVERSIGHT.—The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have oversight of the Capitol Visitor Center.

(2) TREATMENT OF EXPANSION SPACE OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER.—

(A) SENATE.—The expansion space of the Senate described as unassigned space under the heading “CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER” under the heading “ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL” under title II of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes”, approved November 12, 2001 (Public Law 107-68; 115 Stat. 588) shall be part of the Senate wing of the Capitol.

(B) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The expansion space of the House of Representatives described as unassigned space under the heading “CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER” under the heading “ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL” under title II of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes”, approved November 12, 2001 (Public Law 107-68; 115 Stat. 588) shall be part of the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol.

(d) TREATMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL AUDITORIUM AND RELATED ADJACENT AREAS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall jointly prescribe regulations for the assignment of the space in the Capitol Visitor Center known as the Congressional Auditorium and the related adjacent areas.

(2) RELATED ADJACENT AREAS.—The regulations under paragraph (1) shall include a designation of the areas that are related adjacent areas to the Congressional Auditorium.

(e) VISITOR CENTER SPACE IN THE CAPITOL.—Section 301 of the National Visitor