

SENATE RESOLUTION 703—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2008 AS “NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS MONTH”, TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SMITH, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. REID, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 703

Whereas methamphetamine, an easily manufactured drug of the amphetamine group, is a powerful and addictive central nervous system stimulant with long-lasting effects;

Whereas the National Association of Counties reported in 2007 that methamphetamine is the number 1 illegal drug problem for 47 percent of the counties in the United States, a higher percentage than that of any other drug;

Whereas 4 out of 5 county sheriffs report that, while local methamphetamine production is down, methamphetamine abuse is not (the National Association of Counties found that ½ of the Nation’s sheriffs report abuse of the drug has stayed the same and nearly ⅓ say that it has increased);

Whereas the highest rates of methamphetamine use among all ethnic groups occur within Native American communities;

Whereas the consequence of methamphetamine use by many young adults in the Native American community has been death, including methamphetamine-related suicides;

Whereas sheriffs report increases in crime directly related to the presence of methamphetamine in their communities;

Whereas most illegal methamphetamine available in the United States is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country;

Whereas methamphetamine labs are costly to clean up in that every pound of methamphetamine produced can yield up to 5 pounds of toxic waste, representing a public danger to adults and children;

Whereas the profile of methamphetamine users is changing, as % of the Nation’s sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women and ½ of the Nation’s sheriffs report increased use by teens;

Whereas, in surveys on the abuse of methamphetamine among teens, many of the respondents said that the drug was easy to get and believed there is little risk in trying it;

Whereas other National Association of Counties surveys have shown that methamphetamine also places significant burdens on local social service and health care resources, increasing out-of-home placements for children, sending more people to public hospital emergency rooms than any other drug, and producing an ever-growing need for methamphetamine treatment programs; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Methamphetamine Awareness month would increase awareness of methamphetamine and educate the public on effective ways to help prevent methamphetamine use at the Federal, State, and local levels: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2008 as “National Methamphetamine Awareness Month”

to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe National Methamphetamine Awareness Month with appropriate educational programs and outreach activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 704—CONGRATULATING THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TEAMS ON THEIR SUCCESS IN THE 2008 SUMMER OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES AND SUPPORTING THE SELECTION OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AS THE SITE OF THE 2016 SUMMER OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES.

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. OBAMA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 704

Whereas the 2008 Summer Olympic Games were conducted in Beijing, China, from August 8 to August 24, 2008;

Whereas 10,500 athletes from 204 countries participated in 302 events in 28 sports and inspired people around the world with their dedication, discipline, athletic achievement, and spirit of fair play, representing the best traditions of Olympic competition;

Whereas 596 men and women represented the United States in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games as members of the United States Olympic Team;

Whereas those United States Olympians competed in 27 sports and continued the great legacy of athleticism and sportsmanship that has characterized the history of United States Olympic competition;

Whereas, in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, the United States sustained and increased its clear dominance as the most successful country in the history of the Olympic Games;

Whereas athletes from the United States won more medals in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games than athletes from any other country;

Whereas swimmer Michael Phelps of Maryland earned recognition as one of the greatest athletes of all time by winning an extraordinary 8 gold medals in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games to surpass the previous single-year record of 7 Olympic gold medals by Mark Spitz, also a swimmer from the United States;

Whereas Michael Phelps now also holds the record for the most Olympic gold medals ever won by a single athlete, with a remarkable 14 gold medals;

Whereas, in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, the United States demonstrated its continued preeminence in team sports, with the men’s and women’s basketball teams, the men’s volleyball team, the women’s soccer team, and the men’s and women’s 4x400-meter relay teams winning gold medals;

Whereas more than 200 athletes from the United States competed in 18 sports on behalf of the United States in the 2008 Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing, China, from September 6 to September 17, 2008;

Whereas the United States Paralympic Team earned 99 medals, including 36 gold medals, reminding the world that physical challenges are no limit to human achievement;

Whereas United States Army First Lieutenant Melissa Stockwell, who lost her left leg to a roadside bomb in Baghdad in 2004, became the first veteran of the war in Iraq to

compete in the Paralympic Games when she swam in the women’s 100-meter butterfly, 100-meter freestyle, and 400-meter freestyle;

Whereas the people of the United States stand united in respect and admiration for the members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams, and the Teams’ athletic accomplishments, sportsmanship, and dedication to excellence;

Whereas the many accomplishments of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many others, including the United States Olympic Committee and the many administrators, coaches, and family members who provided critical support for the athletes;

Whereas the Olympic movement celebrates competition, fair play, and the pursuit of dreams;

Whereas the United States and, in particular, the city of Chicago, Illinois, celebrate those same ideals; and

Whereas Chicago has never hosted the Olympic and Paralympic Games: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) extends congratulations for a job well done to all members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams and to everyone who supported the Teams’ efforts at the 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games; and

(2) encourages the International Olympic Committee to choose Chicago, Illinois, as the site of the 2016 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games and offers support and cooperation in ensuring successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in Chicago in 2016.

SENATE RESOLUTION 705—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE PRESERVATION OF RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL SITES AND CONDEMNING INSTANCES IN WHICH SUCH SITES ARE DESECRATED

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 705

Whereas the Senate is committed to protecting and preserving the cultural heritage of all national, religious, and ethnic groups, including cemeteries and other sacred sites of those groups in the United States and abroad;

Whereas the Holocaust annihilated much of the Jewish population of Europe, and in many countries in Europe, no Jewish people were left to care for the communal properties that represent a historic culture in the area and constitute an integral part of the Jewish religion;

Whereas the Holocaust and 45 years of atheistic, Communist governments in Eastern Europe created a critical need that led to the establishment of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad under section 1303 of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 469j);

Whereas the United States Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad is tasked with identifying and reporting on cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings in Eastern and Central Europe that are associated with the heritage of United States citizens and obtaining assurances from the governments in those regions that those properties will be protected and preserved;