

unrest in southern regions, and piracy in the Gulf of Aden;

Whereas these security challenges are compounded by a lack of governance throughout portions of the country;

Whereas this lack of governance creates a de facto safe haven for al Qaeda and militant forces in regions of Yemen;

Whereas Yemen also faces significant development challenges, reflected in its ranking of 140 out of 182 countries in the United Nations Development Program's 2009 Human Development Index;

Whereas Yemen is also confronted with limited and rapidly depleting natural resources, including oil, which accounts for over 75 percent of government revenue, and water, ⅓ of which goes to the cultivation of qat, a narcotic to which a vast number of Yemenis are addicted;

Whereas government subsidies are contributing to the depletion of Yemen's scarce resources;

Whereas the people of Yemen suffer from a lack of certain government services, including a robust education and skills training system;

Whereas the Department of State's 2009 International Religious Freedom Report notes that nearly all of the once-sizeable Jewish population in Yemen has emigrated, and, based on fears for the Jewish community's safety in the country, the United States Government has initiated a special process to refer Yemeni Jews for refugee resettlement in the United States;

Whereas women in Yemen have faced entrenched discrimination, obstacles in accessing basic education, and gender-based violence in their homes, communities, and workplaces while little is done to enforce or bolster the equality of women;

Whereas these challenges pose a threat not only to the Republic of Yemen, but to the region and to the national security of the United States;

Whereas, to the extent that Yemen serves as a base for terrorist operations and recruitment, these threats must be given sufficient consideration in the global strategy of the United States to combat terrorism;

Whereas this threat has materialized in the past, including the March 18 and September 17, 2008, attacks on the United States Embassy in Sana'a and the October 12, 2000, attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* while it was anchored in the Port of Aden, as well as numerous other terrorist attacks;

Whereas the population of Yemen has suffered greatly from conflict and underdevelopment in Yemen;

Whereas up to 150,000 civilians have fled their homes in northern Yemen since 2004 in response to conflict between Government of Yemen forces and al-Houthi rebel forces; and

Whereas the people and government of the United States support peace in Yemen and improved security, economic development, and basic human rights for the people of Yemen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the innocent civilians in Yemen, especially displaced persons, who have suffered from instability, terrorist operations, and chronic underdevelopment in Yemen;

(2) recognizes the serious threat instability and terrorism in Yemen pose to the security of the United States, the region, and the population in Yemen;

(3) calls on the President to give sufficient weight to the situation in Yemen in efforts to prevent terrorist attacks on the United States, United States allies, and Yemeni civilians;

(4) calls on the President to promote economic and political reforms necessary to ad-

vance economic development and good governance in Yemen;

(5) applauds steps that have been taken by the President and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to assist displaced persons in Yemen;

(6) urges the Government of Yemen and rebel forces to immediately halt hostilities, allow medical and humanitarian aid to reach civilians displaced by conflict, and create an environment that will enable a return to normal life for those displaced by the conflict; and

(7) calls on the President and international community to use all appropriate measures to assist the people of Yemen to prevent Yemen from becoming a failed state.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I would like to draw attention to a dangerous situation that has implications for the national security of the U.S. and our allies, a situation involving dire humanitarian circumstances, with over 150,000 displaced persons since 2004. I am speaking about the situation in Yemen.

Senator LUGAR and I are introducing a resolution supporting peace, security, and the innocent civilians affected by conflict in Yemen. This resolution calls on the President and international community to use all appropriate measures to prevent Yemen from becoming a failed state.

The gravity of the challenges Yemen faces should not be ignored. To document a few of these challenges: Yemen is home to a substantial number of al-Qaeda militants, a rebellion in the northern part of the country, unrest in southern regions, and piracy in the Gulf of Aden. Yemen has limited and rapidly depleting natural resources including oil, which accounts for over 75 percent of government revenue, and water. Yemen is underdeveloped, ranking 140th out of 182 countries in the United Nations Development Program's 2009 Human Development Index. Thousands of Yemenis are currently displaced as a result of the ongoing conflict between the Government of Yemen and al-Houthi rebel forces. Regions of Yemen have a large degree of lawlessness; religious minorities—particularly the Jewish population—have emigrated due to safety concerns; and human rights violations persist.

The U.S., the international community, and the people of Yemen must do all that we can to prevent Yemen from becoming a failed state. Disrupting, dismantling, and defeating al-Qaeda and violent extremism requires a global strategy that includes preventing Yemen from serving as a base for terrorist operations conducted elsewhere. Americans and our allies are all too familiar with the dangers of terrorists operating unimpeded. The March 18 and September 17, 2008, attacks on the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a and the October 12, 2000 attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* remind us of this threat specifically in Yemen.

Aside from Yemen's impact on the national security of America and our allies, we cannot ignore the tremendous hardships many in Yemen currently endure. Yemenis deserve to have

basic security, basic human rights, and their basic needs met. We need to stand with those who want to live in peace and achieve improved living conditions. I am especially concerned with the plight of those displaced by conflict in Yemen, and I applaud efforts taken by the Obama administration and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to assist these displaced persons. I urge the Government of Yemen and rebel forces to halt hostilities, allow medical and humanitarian aid to reach civilians displaced by conflict, and create an environment that will enable a return to normal life for internally displaced persons in Yemen.

I would like to thank the senior Senator from Indiana, who is the Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for cosponsoring this resolution on this important issue.

SENATE RESOLUTION 342—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 342

Whereas from November 1, 2009, through November 30, 2009, the United States celebrates National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas, in 2000, the United States Census Bureau reported that there were more than 4,000,000 people in the United States of American Indian and Alaska Native descent;

Whereas, on December 2, 1989, the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate held a hearing exploring the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy, and its influence on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of freedom of speech, the separation of governmental powers, and checks and balances among the branches of government;

Whereas the Senate has reaffirmed that a major national goal of the United States is to provide the resources, processes, and structure that will enable Indian Tribes and tribal members to obtain the quantity and quality of health care services and opportunities that will eliminate the health disparities between American Indians and the general population of the United States;

Whereas Congress recently reaffirmed its trust responsibility to improve the housing conditions and socioeconomic status of American Indians and Alaska Natives by providing affordable homes in a safe and healthy environment;

Whereas, throughout its course of dealing with Indian Tribes, the United States Government has engaged in a government-to-government relationship with Tribes;

Whereas the United States Government owes a trust obligation to Tribes, acknowledged in treaties, statutes, and decisions of the Supreme Court, to protect the interests and welfare of tribal governments and their members;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have consistently served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States, some as early as the Revolutionary War, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives speak and preserve indigenous languages and have contributed hundreds of words to the English language, including the names of people and locations in the United States;

Whereas Congress has recognized Native American code talkers who served with honor and distinction in World War I and World War II, using indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless American lives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are deeply rooted in tradition and culture, which drives their strength of community; and

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives of all ages celebrate the great achievements of their ancestors and heroes and continue to share their stories with future generations: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month during the month of November 2009;

(2) honors the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47—RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT IN CALIFORNIA AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 47

Whereas November 6, 2009, will mark the 75th anniversary of the historic passage of a ballot measure to create the East Bay Regional Park District (referred to in this preamble as the “District”) in California’s San Francisco Bay Area by a convincing “yes” vote of a 2½ to 1 margin in 1934 during the height of the Depression;

Whereas with the help of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Works Progress Administration, and private contractors, the District began putting people to work to establish the District’s first 3 regional parks—Tilden, Temescal, and Sibley;

Whereas over the intervening 75 years, the District has grown to be the largest regional park agency in the United States with nearly 100,000 acres of parklands spread across 65 regional parks and over 1,100 miles of trails in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties;

Whereas approximately 14,000,000 visitors a year from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond take advantage of the vast and diverse District parklands and trails;

Whereas the vision of the District is to preserve the priceless heritage of the region’s natural and cultural resources, open space, parks, and trails for the future, and to set aside park areas for enjoyment and healthful recreation for current and future generations;

Whereas the mission of the District is to acquire, develop, manage, and maintain a high quality, diverse system of interconnected parklands that balances public usage and education programs with the protection and preservation of the East Bay’s most spectacular natural and cultural resources;

Whereas an environmental ethic guides the District in all that it does;

Whereas in 1988, East Bay voters approved the passage of Measure AA, a \$225,000,000 bond to provide 20 years of funding for regional and local park acquisition and development projects;

Whereas in 2008, under the strategic leadership of its Board of Directors and General Manager Pat O’Brien, East Bay voters approved passage of the historic Measure WW, a \$500,000,000 renewal of the original Measure AA bond—the largest regional or local park bond ever passed in the United States; and

Whereas throughout 2009, the District’s 75th Anniversary will be recognized through special events and programs: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the East Bay Regional Park District; and

(2) honors the board members, general managers, and East Bay Regional Park District staff who have dutifully fulfilled the mission of protecting open space and providing outdoor recreation opportunities for generations of families in the East Bay.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2726. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2727. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2728. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2393 proposed by Mr. JOHANNIS to the bill H.R. 2847, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2729. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3082, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2730. Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3082, supra.

SA 2731. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL, of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2730 proposed by Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) to the bill H.R. 3082, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2732. Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2730 proposed by Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) to the bill H.R. 3082, supra.

SA 2733. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2730 proposed by Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) to the bill H.R. 3082, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2734. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2730 proposed by Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) to the bill H.R. 3082, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2735. Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2730 proposed by Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) to the bill H.R. 3082, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2736. Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. VOINOVICH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 806, to provide for the establishment, administration, and funding of Federal Executive Boards, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2726. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to support, prepare for, or otherwise facilitate the transfer to or the detention in any State or territory of the United States any individual who has detained as of October 1, 2009, at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

SA 2727. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 170 at the end of line 19 insert the following:

SEC. XXX. At the discretion of the Attorney General, funds appropriated under the heading “Methamphetamine enforcement and cleanup” under funding for the Department of Justice in the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 108-11) to the Blount, Dekalb, Etowah, Marshall, Marion, Morgan, Pickens, Walker Counties, Alabama Drug Task Forces for the Anti-Methamphetamine Project may be available to the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit for the Dekalb, Etowah, Marshall, Marion, Morgan, Pickens, Walker Counties, Alabama Drug Task Forces and the Blount County Sheriffs Department.

SA 2728. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2393 proposed by Mr. JOHANNIS to the bill H.R. 2847, making