expand closer bilateral ties across key sectors, including security, trade and investment, education, and people-to-people programs;

(D) the Government of the Philippines should continue its efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions to fight corruption, curtail politically-motivated violence and extrajudicial killings, expand economic opportunity, and tackle internal security challenges; and

(E) the United States Government should continue its efforts to assist the Government of the Philippines in the areas of maritime security, related communications infrastructure to enable enhanced information-sharing, and overall military professionalization.

SENATE RESOLUTION 253—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26, 2011, AS “DAY OF THE DEPLOYED”

Mr. HOEVEN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. Res. 253

Whereas more than 2,250,000 people serve as members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,200,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal people who protect our precious heritage through their positive declaration and actions;

Whereas the deployed members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to reflect on the service of those members of the United States Armed Forces, wherever they serve, both now and in the future;

Whereas United States Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as intrepid combat parachutists, air assault and special operations forces, including security, trade and investment, education, and people-to-people programs; and

Whereas those forces have defended the national security of the United States and the freedom of the United States; and

Whereas the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States; and

Whereas veterans personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;

Whereas the families of members of the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States;

Whereas since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, United States airborne forces, which include members of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division, the 75th Ranger Regiment, and special operations forces, have fought in Afghanistan, Iraq, and many of the scholastic members join by the age of 16;

Whereas the Federation is very supportive of the scholastic programs and supports a certified Chess Coach program that provides the coaches involved in the scholastic programs training and ensures schools and students can have confidence in the programs;

Whereas the Federation offers a school curriculum to educators to help incorporate chess into the school curriculum;

Whereas chess is a powerful cognitive learning tool that can be used to successfully enhance reading and math concepts; and

Whereas chess engages students of all learning styles and strengthens and promotes problem-solving and higher-level thinking skills; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the members of the United States Armed Forces who are deployed at home and abroad;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the United States Armed Forces, wherever they serve, both now and in the future;

(3) designates October 26, 2011, as “Day of the Deployed”;

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe “Day of the Deployed” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.