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:

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 declarations and actions;
Whereas many deployed members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;
Whereas members of the Armed Forces and 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, in Afghanistan, the members of the Armed Forces and their families by designating October 26 as “Day of the Deployed” in 2006; and
Whereas States designated October 26, 2010, as “Day of the Deployed”;
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”; and
(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe “Day of the Deployed” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 254—DESIGNATING AUGUST 16, 2011, AS “NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY”

Mr. REED of Rhode Island (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BINKER, Mr. FRAPOL, MS. SNOWE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BURRI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BUR, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas the airborne forces of the Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as bold and fierce protectors of peace, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project the Combined Arms of the United States by air transit to the far reaches of the battle area and to the far corners of the world;
Whereas the United States’ experiment with airborne forces began on June 20, 1940, when the Army Parachute Test Platoon was first authorized by the Department of War, and 48 volunteers began training in July 1940;
Whereas August 16 marks the anniversary of the first official jump by the Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940, to test the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by means of a parachute;
Whereas the success of the Army Parachute Test Platoon in the days immediately before the entry of the United States into World War II validated the airborne operational concept and to the creation of a formidable force of airborne formations, such as the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, and 101st Airborne Divisions;
Whereas in these divisions, and among other separate formations, were many airborne combat, combat support, and combat service support units that served with distinction and achieved repeated success in armed hostilities that provide the lineage and legacy of many airborne units throughout our Armed Forces;
Whereas the achievements by the airborne forces during World War II prompted the evolution of those forces into a diversified force of parachute and air-assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf region, and Somalia, and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, the Sinai Peninsula, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo;
Whereas since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, hundreds of airborne forces, which include members of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the 82nd Airborne Division Combat Team (Airborne) of the 25th Infantry Division, the 57th Ranger Regiment, and special operations forces of the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Navy, together with the other units of the Armed Forces, have demonstrated bravery and honor in combat, stability, and training operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;
Whereas the modern-day airborne force also includes other elite forces composed of airborne trained and qualified special operations forces, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, and Air Force combat control and para-rescue teams;
Whereas of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces, 2001, thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, dozens have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor;
Whereas the members and former members of the United States airborne forces are all members of a proud and honorable tradition that, through exceptional skills and achievements, distinguishes such members as intrepid combat parachutists, air assault forces, special operation forces, and, in former days, glider troops;
Whereas the history and achievements of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the people of the United States; and
Whereas since the airborne forces, past and present, celebrate August 16 as the anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon, August 16 is an appropriate day to recognize as National Airborne Day:
Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates August 16, 2011, as “National Airborne Day”; and
(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Airborne Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 255—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2011, AS “NATIONAL CHESS DAY TO ENHANCE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE STUDENTS AND ADULTS TO ENGAGE IN A GAME KNOWN TO ENHANCE CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS”

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

Whereas there are more than 76,000 members of the United States Chess Federation (referred to in this paragraph as the “Federation”), and unknown numbers of additional people in the United States who play the game without joining an official organization;
Whereas approximately ½ of the members of the Federation are scholastic members, and many of the scholastic members join by the age of 10;
Whereas the Federation is very supportive of the scholastic programs and sponsors 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 many studies have linked chess participation to the improvement of student scores in reading and math, as well as improved self-esteem;
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 strengths and promotes problem-solving and higher-level thinking skills, now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates October 8, 2011, as “National Chess Day”; and
(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe “National Chess Day” with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 256—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 2 THROUGH OCTOBER 8, 2011, AS “NATIONAL NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINIC WEEK”

Mr. INOUYE (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

Whereas approximately 400,000 people serve as members of the United States Armed Forces; and
Whereas there are approximately 76,000 members of the United States Chess Federation; and
Whereas since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, hundreds of airborne forces, which include members of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the 82nd Airborne Division Combat Team (Airborne) of the 25th Infantry Division, the 57th Ranger Regiment, and special operations forces of the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Navy, together with the other units of the Armed Forces, have demonstrated bravery and honor in combat, stability, and training operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;