

Fulton prides itself on its excellent pheasant hunting and fertile farmland. The area was described by an early surveyor as "an attractive place to one seeking a good farm or a pleasant home," and Fulton still maintains that appearance today.

Fulton has been a successful community for the past 125 years, and I am confident it will continue to serve as an example of South Dakota values and traditions. I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Fulton on this landmark occasion and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

#### MONROE, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Monroe, SD. The town of Monroe will commemorate the 125th anniversary of its founding this year.

First known as Warrington, Monroe was named after the fifth President of the United States, James Monroe. The first settlers, predominantly German and Dutch, came to Monroe to build a community for their children and future generations.

Most settlers lived in sod houses and relied on agriculture because the land was fertile. As did many young communities during that time, Monroe felt more than its fair share of hardships, including a fire that destroyed many businesses on Main Street in 1915. With hardships, there also came success. With community cooperation, the tenacious town rebuilt and now celebrates 125 years of hard work and dedication.

Monroe has been a successful community for the past 125 years, and I am confident it will continue to serve as an example of South Dakota values and traditions. I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Monroe on this landmark occasion and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

#### ORIENT, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Orient, SD. The town of Orient will commemorate the 125th anniversary of its founding this year.

Orient was platted on October 3, 1887. Known as the southern terminus of the Roscoe and Orient branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Saint Paul Railroad, Orient grew in the coal and lumber trade. As is the case with many South Dakota communities, Orient maintains ample opportunities for outdoor activities such as pheasant and duck hunting. Orient's close proximity to the Lake Louise recreational area provides its residents with beautiful hiking trails, camping areas, and fishing. The residents of Orient have built a welcoming and close-knit community.

Orient has been a successful community for the past 125 years, and I am confident it will continue to serve as

an example of South Dakota values and traditions. I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Orient on this landmark occasion and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-102. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Alaska in support of providing TRICARE program health care benefits to United States Coast Guard and military retirees as promised; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### HOUSE RESOLVE NO. 10

Whereas recruiting and maintaining a high-quality, all-volunteer, effective military force to safeguard national security is a primary goal of the United States Department of Defense; and

Whereas persons who volunteer for military service are at risk of mortal harm throughout the time they serve; and

Whereas the people of the state and nation rely on the men and women who serve in the military to execute faithfully that service; and

Whereas it is reasonable for the men and women who serve in the military to rely on promises made to them by the people of the state and nation; and

Whereas men and women who serve in the military and the United States Coast Guard have been promised they will receive military retiree health care benefits from the TRICARE program of the United States Department of Defense Military Health System (10 U.S.C. 55) after they perform 20 or more years of honorable military service; and

Whereas breaking that promise would be dishonorable; be it

Resolved that the House of Representatives supports providing to military retirees who have kept their oaths of office and served the people of the state and nation the TRICARE program health care benefits they were promised in exchange for that service without their being required to participate in health care programs that are more expensive to them than the TRICARE program and without their eligibility for TRICARE program health care benefits being made subject to means testing.

POM-103. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Massachusetts supporting the inclusion of Taiwan in international organizations and agreements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, Taiwan, a beacon of freedom and democracy in the Asia-Pacific region, held a successful general election on January 14, 2012, during which it elected a president, vice-president and members of its legislature; and

Whereas, the recently re-elected president Ma Ying-Jeou has worked tirelessly to uphold democratic principles in Taiwan, ensure the prosperity of the people of Taiwan, promote Taiwan's international standing as a responsible member of the international community, increase participation in international organizations, dispatch humanitarian missions abroad and further improve relations between the United States and Taiwan; and

Whereas, the commonwealth has enjoyed an especially close relationship with Taiwan,

marked by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange and scientific and technological development; and

Whereas, on November 12, 2011, United States President Barack Obama and the leaders of 8 Transpacific partnership countries announced the establishment of broad outlines for a 21st century Transpacific partnership agreement to forge close linkages among the partner countries' economies, enhance competitiveness and benefit consumers; and

Whereas, the latest data indicates that 8,797 companies exported goods from Massachusetts in 2009, rendering the Asia-Pacific market the Commonwealth's largest export market in the world; and

Whereas, thirteen billion dollars, or 50 percent, of Massachusetts' total exports went to markets in the Asia-Pacific region, supporting an estimated 134,000 jobs; and

Whereas, the United Nations framework convention on climate change is the world's leading response to global climate change and Taiwan has expressed a keen interest in being included in the convention's work and in contributing to the global effort addressing climate change; and

Whereas, Taiwan serves as a critical air transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region and the Taipei flight information region under Taiwan's jurisdiction covers an area of 176,000 square nautical miles, through which 1.35 million controlled flights pass each year; and

Whereas, the travelling public would benefit from the inclusion of Taiwan in the International Civil Aviation Organization; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts General Court hereby congratulates the people of Taiwan on their recent elections and further expresses its support for Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations and agreements; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the clerk of the Senate to the President of the United States, the presiding officer of each branch of Congress and to the members thereof from the Commonwealth, to the Honorable Deval Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth, to the Honorable Ma Ying-Jeou, president of Taiwan and to Anne Hung, Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston.

POM-104. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona opposing sections of the National Defense Authorization Act as being in violation of the limits of federal power; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1011

Whereas, the Congress of the United States passed the National Defense Authorization Act, 2011 Public Law 112-81, ("2012 NDAA") for fiscal year 2012 on December 15, 2011; and

Whereas, the President of the United States signed the 2012 NDAA into law on December 31, 2011; and

Whereas, section 1021 of the 2012 NDAA purports to authorize, but does not require, the President of the United States to use the armed forces of the United States to detain persons the President suspects were part of, or substantially supported, Al-Qaeda, the Taliban or associated forces; and

Whereas, section 1021 of the 2012 NDAA purports to authorize, but does not require, the President of the United States, through the armed forces of the United States, to dispose of such detained persons according to the Law of War, which may include: (1) indefinite detention without charge or trial until the end of hostilities authorized by the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Terrorists, 2001 Public Law 107-40;