

Whereas older people in the United States rely on Federal programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and, in the case of veterans, TRICARE and the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs, for financial security and high-quality, affordable health care;

Whereas the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) provides federally funded community-based social services and nutritional support programs to nearly 2,600,000 older people in the United States each year;

Whereas many people in the United States are living longer, working longer, and enjoying healthier, more active lifestyles than in past generations;

Whereas older people play an important role by continuing to contribute experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments;

Whereas older people are active community members involved in volunteering, mentorship, arts and culture, and civic engagement; and

Whereas recognizing the successes of older people in the community encourages ongoing participation and further accomplishments: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2013 as “Older Americans Month”;

(2) recognizes May 2013 as the 50th anniversary of “Older Americans Month”; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to provide opportunities for older people to continue to flourish by—

(A) emphasizing the importance of older people and their leadership by publicly recognizing their continued achievements;

(B) presenting opportunities for older people to share their wisdom, experience, and skills; and

(C) recognizing older people as a valuable asset in strengthening the communities of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 138—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 14TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE CELEBRATED THE WEEK OF MAY 5 THROUGH MAY 11, 2013

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 138

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and that enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when too many students want to attend a single charter school;

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are authorized by a designated public entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, charter schools are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for the financial and other operations of the charter schools;

Whereas charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools often set higher expectations for students in addition to the requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) to ensure that charter schools are of high quality and are truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 42 States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas more than 6,000 charter schools are serving more than 2,300,000 children;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) in 110 school districts, more than 10 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools;

(2) in 25 school districts, more than 20 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools; and

(3) in 7 districts, at least 30 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools;

Whereas charter schools improve the achievement of students they enroll and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools—

(1) give parents the freedom to choose public schools;

(2) routinely measure parental satisfaction levels; and

(3) must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and the communities they serve;

Whereas an estimated 610,000 students were on waiting lists to attend charter schools before the beginning of the 2011–2012 academic year; and

Whereas the 14th annual National Charter Schools Week is scheduled to be celebrated the week of May 5 through May 11, 2013: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for—

(A) their ongoing contributions to education;

(B) impressive strides made in closing the academic achievement gap in schools in the United States; and

(C) improving and strengthening the public school system in the United States;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of the 14th annual National Charter Schools Week, a weeklong celebration to be held the week of May 5 through May 11, 2013, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for charter schools.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 858. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, to provide for the conservation and develop-

ment of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 859. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 860. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 861. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 862. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 863. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 864. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 865. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 866. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 867. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 868. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. VITTER, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. JOHANNIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 869. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 870. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 871. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 872. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 873. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra.

SA 874. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 875. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 876. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him