Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 71 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 71) expressing the sense of the Congress that the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) began negotiations in 2005.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H. R. 3381) was read the third time and passed.

MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS PERMANENT LOCATION FOR SECRETARIAT OF FTAA

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H. R. 3381) was read the third time and passed.

Whereas the Miami-Dade area and the city of Miami, Miami-Dade County, and the State of Florida have long served as the gateway for trade with the Caribbean and Latin America;

Whereas the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) is scheduled to begin in 2005 and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean totaled $36,793,000,000 in 1998;

Whereas the Miami-Dade area and the State of Florida possess the necessary infrastructure, local resources, and culture necessary for the FTAA Secretariat's permanent site;

Whereas the United States possesses the world's largest economy and is the leading proponent of trade liberalization throughout the world; and

Whereas the city of Miami, Florida, the State of Florida, and the United States are uniquely situated among other competing locations to host the "Brussels of the Western Hemisphere"; therefore be it,

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the President should direct the United States representatives concurring, to host the "Free Trade Area of the Americas" (FTAA) negotiations to use all available means in order to secure Miami, Florida, as the permanent site of the FTAA Secretariat after February 28, 2005.

CONDEMN VIOLENCE IN CHECHNYA

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 223 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 223) condemning the violence in Chechnya.

Whereas the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights affirm the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion, expression, and assembly as fundamental human rights belonging to all people;

Whereas the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, including the People's Republic of China, a member of the United Nations;

Whereas the People's Republic of China has signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights but has yet to ratify the treaty and thereby make it legally binding; therefore be it,

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the People's Republic of China provides for the freedom of religious belief and the freedom not to believe;