

propelled hi to the club's Board of Directors during the summer of 1996. Today, Paul serves as both the Treasurer and Secretary of the Londonderry Lions Club.

Dedicated to social and humanitarian causes, Lions Club International is the world's largest service organization. With its primary focus on the needs of the blind and visually impaired, the mission of Lions Club International also extends to the needs of each chapter's respective communities. In addition to advancing the club's mission by organizing yearly yard sales and fund-raising dinners, Paul continuously works towards the betterment of his community and state.

Every year since his induction as a member of the Londonderry Lions Club, Paul has helped organize and distribute Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets to those who are less fortunate in the Town of Londonderry. His biggest contribution to the organization and the people of New Hampshire, however, has been through his tireless effort towards improving Lions Camp Pride. Camp Pride, located in New Durham, New Hampshire, is a summer camp for children and adults with mild through profound special needs. In cooperation with the Londonderry Police and Fire Departments, Paul has been instrumental in insuring that the proceeds from the annual Police-Fire softball game are contributed to Lions Camp Pride.

Having served as an honorary member of the Lions Camp Pride Board, I recognize the importance and the value of Paul's work and I would like to thank him for his commitment to Lions Camp Pride.

Furthermore, Paul has continuously exhibited his unselfish dedication to the community as the Chairman of the Londonderry Lions Club High School Scholarship Committee. As a strong believer in education and equal opportunity, Paul has worked hard to insure that students with financial hardship who work hard and strive for academic excellence can still pursue college and technical educations.

Mr. President, Paul Slater has devoted his time and his heart to serving the Londonderry Lions Club, the Town of Londonderry, and the people of New Hampshire. It is people like Paul that make New Hampshire a special place to live, and it is an honor to represent him in the United States Senate.●

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MOOT COURT VICTORY

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Loyola University, New Orleans Law School's Moot Court team for their performance in the American University Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Competition. The competition is designed to showcase the dedication and talent of

law school students from across the country, and the Loyola students displayed a great deal of both in their victorious efforts.

Moot Court Competitions are an opportunity for law school students to demonstrate their talents as advocates in an appellate court setting. They tackle a difficult legal problem in a written brief and then are subject to the grueling ordeal of probing and questioning by a panel of appellate court judges. The Burton Wechsler First Amendment Competition asked competitors to argue the complex question of the use of languages other than English while conducting government business. I am proud to say that our team from Loyola University took this challenge and used it as an opportunity to excel.

The team of Steven Griffith, Gaven Dall Kammer, Christopher Alfieri, Elisia Shofstahl, and faculty advisor, Prof. Mitch Crusto, took overall first place honors in the competition. Loyola defeated five highly-regarded opponents on their way to the title. Other honors garnered by the Loyola team included first place "Best Brief" and the "Runner-Up Best Oralist" award, won by Elisia Shofstahl. Loyola's fine performance in this prestigious national competition represents the very best in effort and education.

The team's impressive victory is a testament to the hard work and inherent skill of Loyola's fine law students. Such effort and success is worthy of our admiration and praise. Again, I congratulate the members of Loyola's Moot Court Team on their victory at American University's First Amendment Competition, and wish them the best of luck in their future competitions and careers.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA BARR

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding Vermonter, Patricia Barr, of North Bennington, Vermont. Pat's commitment to improving the health status of Vermonters and all Americans, serves as a model to us all. She is a stunning example of how one person can have a positive effect on many others.

Over the course of her life, she has been an advocate and strategic planner for breast cancer research and ethical issues. Pat has tirelessly championed these causes and for that, we are forever grateful.

Pat has served on the national Breast Cancer Coalition Board, and currently serves as President of the Breast Cancer Network, which she founded in 1993. Her devotion to health, medical and ethical issues has landed her numerous other roles and responsibilities, including positions on the Center for Disease Control's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection and Control Advisory

Committee, the Human Genome Project's Task Force on Genetic Testing, and the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Breast Cancer Progress Review Group. She has also served on NCI's Cancer Genetics Working Group, and the National Action Plan on Breast Cancer's Biological Resources Working Group Subcommittee on Ethical Issues. In these and in other capacities, Pat has made numerous presentations in Vermont, throughout the Nation, and even outside of the country, regarding ethical and cancer issues.

Through word and action, Pat has touched, and improved, the lives of many individuals. Of all those who have crossed my path over the years, few individuals have such a distinguished and proven track record of commitment to breast cancer and related issues. By helping to educate, promote and advocate for change through newsletters, grant programs, support groups, projects such as the Ladies First Program, and lobbying public officials, Pat's involvement helped blaze the trail for success.

We have been well served by Pat and look forward to her continued leadership. Vermonters, and all Americans, owe her a debt of gratitude for her passionate, steadfast work on these vitally important issues.●

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 767

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I understand that S. 767, which was introduced earlier by Senator COVERDELL, is at the desk, and I ask that it be read for the first time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 767) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 2-month extension for the due date for filing a tax return for any member of a uniformed service on a tour of duty outside the United States for a period which includes the normal due date for such filing.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Nos. 25 and 26. I finally ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements relating to the nominations appear in the RECORD, that the President

be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Thomas Lee Strickland, of Colorado, to be United States Attorney for the District of Colorado for the term of four years.

Carl Schnee, of Delaware, to be United States Attorney for the District of Delaware for the term of four years.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION TO UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF A PALESTINIAN STATE

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 44, House Concurrent Resolution 24.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) expressing congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state and urging the President to assert clearly United States opposition to such a unilateral declaration of statehood.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) was agreed to.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 17, which was reported by the Foreign Relations Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 17) concerning the 20th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

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

Mr. VOINOVICH. I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as

amended, be agreed to, the amendment to the preamble be agreed to, and the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this resolution appear in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 17), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 17

Whereas April 10, 1999, will mark the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, codifying in public law the basis for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and democratic Republic of China on Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act was advanced by Congress and supported by the executive branch as a critical tool to preserve and promote extensive, close, and friendly commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Strait since its enactment in 1979;

Whereas, when the Taiwan Relations Act was enacted, it reaffirmed that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China is based upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China refuse to renounce the use of force against Taiwan;

Whereas the defense modernization and weapons procurement efforts by the People's Republic of China, as documented in the February 1, 1999, report by the Secretary of Defense on "The Security Situation in the Taiwan Strait", could threaten cross-strait and East Asian stability and United States interests in the East Asia region;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act provides explicit guarantees that the United States will make available defense articles and defense services in such quantities as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act requires timely reviews by United States military authorities of Taiwan's defense needs in connection with recommendations to the President and Congress;

Whereas Congress and the President are committed by section 3(b) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3302(b)) to determine the nature and quantity of what Taiwan's legitimate needs are for its self-defense;

Whereas Taiwan routinely makes informal requests for defense articles and defense services to United States Government officials, which are discouraged or declined informally by United States Government personnel;

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to reject any attempt to curb the provision by the United States of defense articles and defense services legitimately needed for Taiwan's self-defense;

Whereas it is the current executive branch policy to limit most high-level dialog regarding regional stability with Taiwan senior military officials;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act sets forth the policy to promote extensive commercial relations between the people of the United States and the people on Taiwan, and that policy is advanced by membership in the World Trade Organization;

Whereas Taiwan completed its bilateral market access negotiations with the United States on February 20, 1998, and all countries which asked to negotiate bilateral agreements with Taiwan have concluded those agreements, although Canada has reopened negotiations on certain products;

Whereas the human rights provisions in the Taiwan Relations Act helped stimulate the democratization of Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan today is a full-fledged, multiparty democracy that fully respects human rights and civil liberties and, as such, serves as a successful model of democratic reform for the People's Republic of China;

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to promote extensive cultural relations between the United States and Taiwan, ties that should be further encouraged and expanded;

Whereas any attempt to determine Taiwan's future by other than peaceful means, including boycotts or embargoes, would be considered as a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific and of grave concern to the United States;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act established the American Institute in Taiwan to carry out the programs, transactions, and other relations of the United States with respect to Taiwan; and

Whereas the American Institute in Taiwan has played a successful role in sustaining and enhancing United States relations with Taiwan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the United States should reaffirm its commitment to the Taiwan Relations Act and the specific guarantees of provision of legitimate defense articles to Taiwan contained therein;

(2) the Congress has grave concerns over China's growing arsenal of nuclear and conventionally armed ballistic missiles adjacent to Taiwan, and the effect that the buildup may have on stability in the Taiwan Strait, and United States government officials should continue to raise these concerns with officials of the People's Republic of China;

(3) the President should seek from the leaders of the People's Republic of China a public renunciation of any use of force, or threat to use force, against democratic Taiwan;

(4) the President should provide annually a report detailing the military balance on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, including the impact of procurement and modernization programs underway;

(5) the Secretary of Defense should make available to the appropriate committees of Congress the annual military requirements list submitted by Taiwan;

(6) it should be United States policy to encourage the participation of Taiwan in a high-level regional dialog on the best means of ensuring stability, peace, and freedom of the seas in East Asia; and

(7) it should be United States policy, in conformity with the spirit of section 4(d) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3303(d)), to publicly support Taiwan's admission to