

added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 34, a resolution designating the week beginning April 30, 1999, as "National Youth Fitness Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 59

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 59, a bill designating both July 2, 1999, and July 2, 2000, as "National Literacy Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 84—TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF MAY, 1999, AS NATIONAL ALPHA 1 AWARENESS MONTH

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. ROBB, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. MACK, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DODD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 84

Whereas alpha₁-antitrypsin deficiency (A1AD) is the most common lethal single gene defect in the United States;

Whereas A1AD, having been identified only since 1963, is as common as cystic fibrosis, but is neither well known, nor well understood by many physicians and is virtually unknown by the general public;

Whereas A1AD is seen as a liver disease in infants and young children, as a lung or liver disease in young adults, and may be misdiagnosed as asthma, chronic bronchitis or smoker's emphysema due to lack of knowledge or understanding about this disease;

Whereas A1AD is particularly devastating to families since it strikes during the peak earning and child rearing years;

Whereas 80,000 to 100,000 persons in the United States are affected by the disease while only 5 percent have been identified; and

Whereas liver and lung transplants are sought by many individuals suffering from A1AD, detection screenings, educational conferences and other scheduled events will help raise awareness for early identification and organ donation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of May 1999 as "National Alpha₁ Awareness Month"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President I rise today to submit a resolution to raise national awareness of Alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency. I am so pleased to be joined by 15 of my colleagues. Our resolution officially declares May 1999 as "National Alpha₁ Awareness Month."

Alpha-1 is a genetic condition that can cause severe early onset emphysema, liver disease in both children and adults, or more rarely, a skin condition called panniculitis. In infants, Alpha-1 causes neonatal cirrhosis of the liver, which is sometimes fatal. In adults, Alpha-1 can lead to pulmonary emphysema and or cirrhosis of the liver. This

disease normally strikes young adults in their 30s and 40s.

Alpha-1 was first identified in 1963 and is the most common lethal single gene defect in the United States. It is as common as cystic fibrosis but it is neither well known, nor well understood by many physicians, and is virtually unknown to the American public.

An estimated 5,000 people have been diagnosed with Alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency in the United States and statistical estimates indicate that there should be 80,000 to 100,000 people total in this country. In fact, one in 37 people are Alpha-1 carriers of this genetic defect. A simple blood test can detect Alpha-1 antitrypsin levels and let people know if they are carriers or have this genetic defect. In fact, in 1998, the Maine chapter of the Alpha-1 National Association Support Group screened 105 people for the genetic defect and found 15 carriers.

Alpha-one antitrypsin deficiency can be a devastating disease. Symptoms of Alpha-1 are similar to those of other respiratory diseases, and often Alpha-1 emphysema is accompanied by asthma, bronchitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The most common indicators of Alpha-1 include worsening shortness of breath, a chronic cough and abnormal liver test results.

The good news is that many Alphas can stay healthy into old age, especially if they never smoke, avoid pollution, lung irritants, and do not suffer from frequent lung infections. The bad news is that there are many Alphas who are misdiagnosed for years, and this misdiagnosis can cause additional irreversible lung damage.

By declaring May, 1999 as "National Alpha₁ Awareness Month" we hope bring the problem of Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency to the attention to the Senate. I urge my colleagues who have not yet joined us on this important issue to add their name to the public call for increased national awareness of this genetic condition.

SENATE RESOLUTION 85—SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE OF INDONESIA IN ACHIEVING A TRANSITION TO GENUINE DEMOCRACY

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. REED, Mr. HELMS, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. COVERDELL, and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 85

Whereas Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country, has the world's largest Muslim population, and has developed friendly relations with the United States;

Whereas a stable and democratic Indonesia is important to overall security in Southeast Asia;

Whereas President Suharto resigned on May 21, 1998, in accordance with Indonesia's constitutional processes;

Whereas incidents of ethnic and religious violence have become more prevalent in the months following President Suharto's resignation and threaten to undermine Indonesia's delicate political balance;

Whereas President Habibie has indicated his willingness to consider granting independence to East Timor, if the people of East Timor reject a plan for greater autonomy within Indonesia;

Whereas Indonesia is pursuing a transition to genuine democracy, establishing a new governmental structure, and developing a new political order;

Whereas President Habibie signed several bills governing elections, political parties, and the structure of legislative bodies into law on February 1, 1999; and

Whereas free, fair, and transparent elections to the House of Representatives of Indonesia (DPR), now scheduled for June 7, 1999, will help the people of Indonesia continue their democratic transition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the Indonesian people in their efforts to carry out the provisions of the new election laws and hold democratic elections as scheduled;

(2) calls upon the Government of Indonesia to take all steps necessary to ensure that the elections scheduled for June 7, 1999, are free, fair, and transparent;

(3) urges all political, military, and ethnic leaders to refrain from all violence and work toward a peaceful political campaign period;

(4) calls upon all Indonesian leaders, political party members, military personnel, and the general public to respect and uphold the results of all elections held in a free and fair manner;

(5) urges all candidates for political office to address the ethnic and religious tensions in Indonesia that have surfaced since President Suharto's resignation and incorporate possible solutions into their election platforms; and

(6) calls upon the Government of Indonesia and all prospective officeholders to work with the people of East Timor to achieve an equitable and realistic solution to the question of East Timor's future political status.

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today together with Senators THOMAS, REED, HELMS, WELLSTONE, COVERDELL, and KERRY, to submit a resolution on Indonesia's upcoming Parliamentary elections. These are both exciting and troubling times in Indonesia. The elections scheduled for June 7th could be the beginning of a new, democratic Indonesia. At the same time, though, we receive almost daily reports of increased social unrest and a bleak economic future.

While inflation and interest rates have fallen, the Indonesian economy remains unstable. Recent clashes between Muslims and Christians in Ambon remind us that Indonesia's ethnic tensions could overwhelm the country at any minute. The status of East Timor is an ongoing issue for the people of Indonesia, although President Habibie has vowed to come to resolution by the end of the year. Depending upon the outcome of the vote on autonomy, the Parliament elected in June could have a direct influence on East Timor's future.