

IDEA currently serves an estimated two hundred thousand infants and toddlers; six hundred thousand preschoolers; and almost 5.5 million children aged 6 to 21. The drop-out rate for this population has decreased, while the graduation rate has increased substantially. The number of young adults with disabilities enrolling in college has more than tripled. The number of children with developmental disabilities who live in state institutions, away from their families, has also been dramatically reduced.

Each one of these numbers represents a child whose life has been improved because we recognized the value of educating all our children. The contribution we made through legislation is an important one, but the real credit belongs to the people on the front lines who have seen to it that our goals have become realities. Teachers, related services personnel, administrators, professional and advocacy organizations, parents of children with disabilities, and the children themselves work each day to assure the promise of IDEA burns brightly.

Today we celebrate the progress that we have made in special education since 1975. It is also an appropriate time to consider the challenges and opportunities which lie ahead. I cannot talk about IDEA without mentioning yet again our unfulfilled promise. In 1975, Congress promised our 16,000 school districts that we would provide special education funding at 40% of the national average per pupil expenditure. As we all know, IDEA has never been funded at that level. We have improved our record in recent years, with large increases in appropriations. Even with this infusion of funds, the federal government provides less than 13% of the cost of special education services. We need to do more, and now is the time to do it.

The knowledge base we have developed over the past 25 years, coupled with continued advances in technology, hold the promise for astonishing progress in the future for students with disabilities. These students can now communicate, explore the world through the internet, and be mobile in ways we could not have imagined in 1975. If we are willing to commit the necessary resources, there is virtually no limit to the advances we could see over the next 25 years. I urge all my colleagues to join in supporting this resolution and in reaffirming the values and principles underlying IDEA.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to be a cosponsor of the Resolution Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This law has had a very positive impact on the lives of millions of disabled Americans. In fact, since its enactment, the number of children with disabilities who complete high school has grown significantly,

and the number who enroll in college has more than tripled. Academic achievement is increasing, along with the nation's expectations about the abilities of children with disabilities. Our commitment to a quality education for everybody now extends to America's six million students with disabilities.

We know that special education is not a "place" or a "label," but a set of services that allow children to succeed in school, go on to lead productive lives, and enter the world of work. This is something that matters to me because it means so much to the people in Maine who have been able to lead productive lives because the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act afforded them the quality education they deserved.

This is why we need to increase consistently the Federal financial support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act—so that the Federal Government does, in fact, pay each school in America 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure for every special education student enrolled. Washington made that promise to our local communities when it passed IDEA.

For example, this year in Maine, local schools will receive only \$702 per special education student under IDEA—\$1698 per student less than the \$2400 it would receive if the Federal Government paid its share. In total, Maine will receive \$60 million less than it was promised. According to the U.S. Department of Education, the unmet amount stands at an astounding \$11 billion nationally. We cannot continue to shift this burden to our local communities. We must meet the Federal commitment to help pay for special education costs.

Let us take the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to recognize the positive impact this law has on every community in the United States, but let us not forget our Federal commitment of 40 percent to help our schools and communities implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

SENATE RESOLUTION 356—TO AUTHORIZE DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 356

Whereas, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has requested that the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence provide it with a certified copy of the testimony of former Director of Central Intelligence John M. Deutch during its closed February 22, 2000 hearing, in connection with a pending inquiry into the alleged improper handling of classified information by Mr. Deutch;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by the administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that documents, papers, and records under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under appropriate security procedures, a certified copy of the transcript of its closed February 22, 2000 hearing.

SENATE RESOLUTION 357—WELCOMING PRIME MINISTER ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, UPON HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 357

Whereas the United States and India are two of the world's largest democracies that together represent one-fifth of the world's population and more than one-fourth of the world's economy;

Whereas the United States and India share common ideals and a vision for the 21st century, where freedom and democracy are the strongest foundations for peace and prosperity;

Whereas the growing partnership between the United States and India is reinforced by the ties of scholarship and commerce and, increasingly, of kinship among our people;

Whereas the million-strong Indian-American community in the United States has enriched and enlivened the societies of both the United States and India, and this community provides a strong bond between India and the United States and is playing an important role in deepening and strengthening cooperation between India and the United States; and

Whereas the visit to the United States of the Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, is a significant step in the broadening and strengthening of relations between the United States and India: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate hereby—

(1) welcomes the Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, upon his first official visit to the United States;

(2) pledges its commitment to the expansion of ties between the United States and India, to the mutual benefit of both countries; and

(3) recognizes that the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, to the United States is a significant step towards broadening and deepening the friendship and cooperation between the United States and India.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President with the request that he further transmit such copy to the Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.