

Whereas establishing a housing infrastructure strengthens neighborhoods and local economies and nurtures the families who reside in them;

Whereas an integral element of a strong community is a sufficient supply of affordable housing;

Whereas affordable housing may be provided in traditional and nontraditional forms, including apartment buildings, transitional and temporary homes, condominiums, cooperatives, and single family homes;

Whereas for many families a home is not merely shelter, but also provides an opportunity for growth, prosperity, and security;

Whereas homeownership is a cornerstone of the national economy because it spurs the production and sale of goods and services, generates new jobs, encourages savings and investment, promotes economic and civic responsibility, and enhances the financial security of all people in the United States;

Whereas although the United States is the first nation in the world to make owning a home a reality for a vast majority of its families, 1/3 of the families in the United States are not homeowners;

Whereas a disproportionate percentage of families in the United States that are not homeowners are low-income families;

Whereas the community building activities of neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations empower individuals to improve their lives and make communities safer and healthier for families;

Whereas one of the best known nonprofit housing organizations is Habitat for Humanity, which builds simple but adequate housing for less fortunate families and symbolizes the self-help approach to homeownership;

Whereas Habitat for Humanity is organized in all 50 States with 1544 local affiliates and its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporate status and locally elected completely voluntary board of directors.

Whereas Habitat for Humanity will build its 100,000th house worldwide in September 2000 and endeavors to complete another 100,000 homes during the next 5 years.

Whereas Habitat for Humanity provides opportunities for people from every segment of society to volunteer to help make the American dream a reality for families who otherwise would not own a home; and

Whereas the first week of June 2000 has been designated as "National Homeownership Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) everyone in the United States should have a decent home in which to live;

(2) the Members of the Senate should demonstrate the importance of volunteerism;

(3) during the year between National Homeownership Week 2000 and National Homeownership Week 2001, the Members of the Senate, Habitat for Humanity, and contributing organizations, should sponsor and construct 2 homes in the District of Columbia each of which should be known as a "House That the Senate Built";

(4) each "House That the Senate Built" should be constructed primarily by Members of the Senate, their families and staffs, and the staffs of sponsoring organizations working with local volunteers involving and symbolizing the partnership of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors of society;

(5) each "House That the Senate Built" should be constructed with the participation of the family that will own the home;

(6) in the future, the Members of the Senate and their families and staff should par-

ticipate in similar house building activities in their own States as part of National Homeownership Week; and

(7) these occasions should be used to emphasize and focus on the importance of providing decent homes for all of the people in the United States.

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SENATE RESOLUTION 320—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY BY SENATE EMPLOYEE IN STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING

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

S. RES. 320

Whereas, in the Inquiry Relative to the Claim for Benefits of Yolanda Nock, pending before the Department of Labor, in the County of Sussex, State of Delaware, a subpoena for testimony has been issued to Elinor Hughes, an employee of the Senate on the staff of Senator William V. Roth, Jr.;

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 may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence 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 Elinor Hughes is authorized to testify in the Inquiry Relative to the Claim for Benefits of Yolanda Nock, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

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AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED—JUNE 8, 2000

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NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

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SMITH OF OREGON (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3247

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. SMITH of Oregon (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BRYAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, *supra*; as follows:

On page 155, line 4, strike "(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This" and insert the following:

"(g) VICE CHIEF OF NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a study of the advisability of increasing the grade authorized for the Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau to Lieutenant General.

"(2) As part of the study, the chief of the National Guard Bureau shall submit to the Secretary of Defense an analysis of the func-

tions and responsibilities of the Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the Chief's recommendation as to whether the grade authorized for the Vice Chief should be increased.

"(3) Not later than February, 1, 2001, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the study. The report shall include the following:

"(A) The recommendation of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and any other information provided by the Chief to the Secretary of Defense pursuant to paragraph (2).

"(B) The conclusions resulting from the study.

(C) The Secretary's recommendation regarding whether the grade authorized for the Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau should be increased to Lieutenant General.

"(h) EFFECTIVE DATES.—Subsection (g) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Act. Except for that subsection, this".

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AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED—JUNE 9, 2000

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2000

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HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 3280

Mr. HELMS proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 4576) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF THE SENATE ON BRINGING PEACE TO CHECHNYA.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) the Senate of the United States unanimously passed Senate Resolution 262 on February 24th, 2000, which condemned the indiscriminate use of force by the Government of the Russian Federation against the people of Chechnya and called for peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the democratically elected Government of Chechnya led by President Aslan Maskhadov;

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate received credible evidence reporting that Russian forces in Chechnya caused the deaths of innocent civilians and the displacement of well over 250,000 other residents of Chechnya and committed widespread atrocities, including summary executions, torture, and rape;

(3) the Government of the Russian Federation continues its military campaign in Chechnya, including using indiscriminate force, causing further displacement of people from their homes, the deaths of noncombatants, and widespread suffering;

(4) the Government of the Russian Federation refuses to participate in peace negotiations with the democratically elected government of Chechnya;

(5) the war in Chechnya contributes to ethnic hatred and religious intolerance within the Russian Federation, jeopardizes prospects for the establishment of democracy in the Russian Federation, and is a threat to the peace in the region; and

(6) it is in the interests of the United States to promote a cease-fire in Chechnya and negotiations between the Government of