and the promotion of international understanding;
Whereas the Olympic Games bring together embattled rivals in an arena of peaceful competition;
Whereas the Olympic Ideal is to serve peace, friendship, and international understanding;
Whereas participants in the ancient Olympic Games, as early as 776 B.C., observed an “Olympic Truce” whereby all warring parties ceased hostilities and laid down their weapons for the duration of the games and during the period of travel for athletes to and from the games;
Whereas war extracts a terrible price from the civilian populations that suffer under it, and truces during war allow for the provision of humanitarian assistance to those suffering populations;
Whereas truces may lead to a longer cessation of hostilities but can ultimately be negotiated settlements and end to conflict;
Whereas the Olympics can and should be used as a tool for international public diplomacy, rapprochement, and building a better world;
Whereas terrorist organizations have used the Olympics not to promote international understanding but to perpetrate cowardly acts against innocent participants and spectators;
Whereas, since 1992, the International Olympic Committee has urged the international community to observe the Olympic Truce;
Whereas the International Olympic Committee and the Government of Greece established the International Olympic Truce Center in July 2000, and that Center seeks to uphold the observance of the Olympic Truce and calls for all hostilities to cease during the Olympic Games; and
Whereas the United Nations General Assembly, with the strong support of the United States, has three times called for member states to observe the Olympic Truce, most recently for the XXVII Olympiad in Greece in 2004; and
Whereas approximately 270 parliamentarians from 27 countries in the Asia-Pacific region will attend this meeting; and
WHEREAS it is the mission of the East-West Center to advance democracy, peace, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region; and
WHEREAS the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum is an interparliamentary organization established by the United States Congress in 1960 largely through the efforts of the Eisenhower administration and the Congress;
WHEREAS the forum serves to promote regional identification and cooperation through discussion of matters of common concern to all member states and serves, to a great extent, as the legislative arm of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation;
WHEREAS the forum lies in resolving political, economic, environmental, security, law and order, human rights, education, and cultural issues;
WHEREAS the forum will hold its tenth annual meeting on January 6 through 9, 2002, which will be the first meeting of the forum hosted by the United States;
WHEREAS the forum serves to promote regional identification and cooperation through discussion of matters of common concern to all member states and serves, to a great extent, as the legislative arm of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation;
WHEREAS it is the agenda of this meeting to discuss an emerging trend of the forum in which the United States is a natural, peaceful and prosperous Asia Pacific region; and
WHEREAS the Secretariat of the meeting will be the center for Cultural and Technical Exchange Between East and West in Honolulu, Hawaii;
WHEREAS the East-West Center is an intergovernmentally recognized education and research organization established by the United States Congress in 1960 largely through the efforts of the Eisenhower administration and the Congress;
WHEREAS it is the mission of the East-West Center to strengthen understanding and relations between the United States and the countries of the Asia Pacific region and to work in cooperation with them to help promote the establishment of a stable, peaceful and prosperous Asia Pacific community in which the United States is a natural, valued, and leading partner; and
WHEREAS it is the agenda of this meeting to advance democracy, peace, prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—
(1) expresses support for the tenth annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum and for the ideals and concerns of this body;
(2) commends the East-West Center for hosting the meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum and the representatives of the 27 member countries; and
(3) calls upon all parties to support the endeavors of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum and to work toward achieving the goals of the meeting;

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS

Mr. WELLS. Mr. President, today I congratulate Al-Anon Family Groups on their 50th anniversary and to acknowledge their contributions to many individuals, families and communities who come together to support those in recovery from alcohol addiction. The Al-Anon Family Groups have been a source of help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics for 50 years in communities throughout the United States and worldwide. Although Al-Anon, and its group for younger members, Alateen, have their roots in the United States, there are now over 2000 Al-Anon and Alateen groups around the world in 115 countries.

The theme for the September 2001 National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month is “We Recover Together: Family, Friends and Community,” with its clear message that we need to work together to promote treatment for alcohol and drug addiction throughout our country. The Al-Anon Family Groups is an outstanding example of how a community can support the families, friends and communities of those who are in recovery from addiction.

Scientific research has shown us the devastation that alcohol addiction can have on the brain and the biological systems of the body. But addiction can also damage souls, relationships, families and communities. Effective treatments can help those with addiction illnesses, but it is through the support of groups like Al-Anon that communities and families can join together to make recovery work well for everyone who is affected.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Al-Anon Family Groups for the work they have done to help the countless numbers of those whose lives have been affected by alcohol addiction. With treatment and support, people can recover from alcohol addiction, and make positive contributions to their families, workplaces, communities, state and nation. Through the support of Al-Anon and Alateen, families and friends of those with addiction illnesses can find the support they need in their lives as well.