

protest, disagreement, disrespect, and discontent are permitted.

They should be. And after this Amendment is adopted, they will be. That protection of our essential freedoms, first granted and forever guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, remain inviolable. By this Amendment, we acknowledge them, respect them, and would place above them only the one ultimate symbol of our country, our freedoms, and our great democracy: the American Flag.

Mr. President, I respect all of my colleagues and fellow citizens who disagree with our purpose through this legislation. However, I hope that they will not misunderstand our intent. Contrary to what some contend, this Constitutional amendment will not weaken either the First Amendment or the United States of America. In fact, it will strengthen both. It will remind all of us that there is something greater than ourselves, something greater than our individual opinions, something greater than our individual prerogatives. That something is greater than all of us, because it is all of us; it is the Flag of the United States of America.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of Senator HATCH's joint resolution which would amend the United States Constitution to prohibit the desecration of our flag. Opponents to this measure contend that the right to desecrate the flag is the ultimate expression of speech and freedom. I reject that proposition as I believe that the desecration of our flag is a reprehensible act which should be prohibited. It is an affront to the brave and terrible sacrifices made by millions of American men and women who willingly left their limbs, lives, and loved ones on battlefields around the world.

It is an affront to these Americans who have given the greatest sacrifices because of what the flag symbolizes. To explain what our flag represents, former United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes in his work, "National Symbol," said:

The flag is the symbol of our national unity, our national endeavor, our national aspiration.

The flag tells of the struggle for independence, of union preserved, of liberty and union one and inseparable, of the sacrifices of brave men and women to whom the ideals and honor of this nation have been dearer than life.

It means America first; it means an undivided allegiance.

It means America united, strong and efficient, equal to her tasks.

It means that you cannot be saved by the valor and devotion of your ancestors, that to each generation comes its patriotic duty; and that upon your willingness to sacrifice and endure as those before you have sacrificed and endured rests the national hope.

It speaks of equal rights, of the inspiration of free institutions exemplified and vindicated, of liberty under law intelligently conceived and impartially administered. There is not a thread in it but scorns self-indulgence, weakness, and rapacity.

It is eloquent of our community interests, outweighing all divergencies of opinion, and of our common destiny.

Former President Calvin Coolidge, echoed Chief Justice Hughes in "Rights and Duties:"

We do honor to the stars and stripes as the emblem of our country and the symbol of all that our patriotism means.

We identify the flag with almost everything we hold dear on earth.

It represents our peace and security, our civil and political liberty, our freedom of religious worship, our family, our friends, our home.

We see it in the great multitude of blessings, of rights and privileges that make up our country.

But when we look at our flag and behold it emblazoned with all our rights, we must remember that it is equally a symbol of our duties.

Every glory that we associate with it is the result of duty done. A yearly contemplation of our flag strengthens and purifies the national conscience.

Given what our flag symbolizes, I find it incomprehensible that anyone would desecrate the flag and inexplicable that our Supreme Court would hold that burning a flag is protected speech rather than conduct which may be prohibited. I find it odd that one can be imprisoned for destroying a bald eagle's egg, but may freely burn our nation's greatest symbol. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to pass this resolution so that our flag and all that it symbolizes may be forever protected.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 59—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MARCH 11 THROUGH MARCH 17, 2001, AS "NATIONAL GIRL SCOUT WEEK"

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 59

Whereas March 12, 2001, is the 89th anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America;

Whereas on March 16, 1950, the Girl Scouts became the first national organization for girls to be granted a Federal charter by Congress;

Whereas through annual reports required to be submitted to Congress by its charter, the Girl Scouts regularly informs Congress of its progress and program initiatives;

Whereas the Girl Scouts is dedicated to inspiring girls and young women with the highest ideals of character, conduct, and service to others so that they may become model citizens in their communities;

Whereas the Girl Scouts offers girls aged 5 through 17 years a variety of opportunities

to develop strong values and life skills and provides a wide range of activities to meet girls' interests and needs;

Whereas the Girl Scouts has a membership of nearly 3,000,000 girls and over 900,000 adult volunteers, and is one of the preeminent organizations in the United States committed to assisting girls to grow strong in mind, body, and spirit; and

Whereas by fostering in girls and young women the qualities on which the strength of the United States depends, the Girl Scouts, for 89 years, has significantly contributed to the advancement of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of March 11 through March 17, 2001, as "National Girl Scout Week"; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of March 11 through March 17, 2001, as "National Girl Scout Week" and calling on the people of the United States to observe the 89th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 23—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT IN LIBYA IN THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. DODD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KYL, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. REID, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BYRD, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 23

Whereas 270 people, including 189 Americans, were killed in the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, on December 21, 1988;

Whereas, on January 31, 2001, the 3 judges of the Scottish court meeting in the Netherlands to try the 2 Libyan suspects in the bombing of Pan Am 103 found that "the conception, planning, and execution of the plot which led to the planting of the explosive device was of Libyan origin";

Whereas the Court found conclusively that Abdel Basset al Megrahi "caused an explosive device to detonate on board Pan Am 103" and sentenced him to a life term in prison;

Whereas the Court accepted the evidence that Abdel Basset al Megrahi was a member of the Jamahiriyah Security Organization, one of the main Libyan intelligence services;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 731, 748, 883, and 1192 demanded that the Government of Libya provide appropriate compensation to the families of the victims, accept responsibility for the actions of Libyan officials in the bombing of Pan Am 103, provide a full accounting of its involvement in this terrorist act, and cease all support for terrorism; and

Whereas, contrary to previous declarations by the Government of Libya and its representatives, in the wake of the conviction of Abdel Basset al Megrahi, Colonel Muammar Qadhafi refuses to accept the judgment of