

doing, it is the Slovenians who deserve the credit for securing contributions from the U.S. and eighteen other Nations as well as many private donors to meet this urgent humanitarian challenge. I am hopeful that this Congress will authorize and appropriate a second U.S. contribution to help sustain the outstanding work of the ITF this year and beyond.

Slovenia has also become an active member of various international organizations, including the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the Council of Europe, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Therefore, it is not surprising that President Bush and Russian President Putin held their first summit meeting earlier this month in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia.

I salute the remarkable courage of the Slovenian people in achieving their quest for free and democratic government as well as their entrepreneurial drive in building a vibrant, growing national economy in such a short span of time. Accordingly, the U.S. and our NATO allies should move forthwith to extend a formal invitation for Slovenia to become a full-fledged NATO member within the next 12-18 months.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, today, I am joined by Senators BIDEN, DEWINE, and HARKIN in congratulating the Republic of Slovenia on its tenth anniversary of independence.

Ten years ago today, on June 25, 1991, the Republic of Slovenia declared itself an independent and sovereign Nation. Since that time, Slovenia has remained a model of reform and progress in Central and Eastern Europe, working to promote democratic ideals, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the merits of free market economic systems.

Slovenia has made great strides in its work to join the NATO Alliance and the European Union. In addition to its outstanding human rights record and commitment to the democratic process, the people of Slovenia enjoy the highest per capita gross domestic product in the region, and the country's economy continues to grow. Slovenia has also demonstrated its ability to contribute to international peace-keeping operations, including NATO's Stabilization Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as NATO's force in Kosovo, among others. Given its record in these regards, I believe the Republic of Slovenia stands as a strong candidate for NATO membership when the Alliance considers enlargement in Prague in November 2002.

Slovenia's progress extends beyond domestic reform and foreign policy goals. In Southeast Europe, a part of the world that continues to feel the burden of decades of war and ethnic strife, Slovenia continues to serve as a leader in efforts to remove destructive land mines in the region. The International Trust Fund for Demining, ITF, established by the Slovenian government in 1998, has undertaken more than 200 projects in the Balkans since its creation. As a result, more than 12 million square meters of land have been cleared throughout Albania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo. In addition, the ITF Mine Victims' Assistance program has helped more than 500 people in Bosnia and Herzegovina who have been injured by land mines. Congress provided matching funds to assist the International Trust Fund for Demining in 1998, and this year the United States will again consider funding for this important initiative.

As the Republic of Slovenia has made considerable and important progress during its 10 years of independence, working to promote peace, stability and prosperity in Central and Eastern Europe, I am pleased to have the opportunity to submit this resolution on the occasion of Slovenia's 10th anniversary of independence. I congratulate the people of Slovenia on their accomplishments thus far, and I urge them to continue their significant work to advance the ideals of democracy, human rights, the rule of law and free market economies throughout the Balkans region.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and finally, that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 116) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.  
(The text of S. Res. 116 is located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Submitted Resolutions".)

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#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2001

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 26. I further ask that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of

the proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of the Patients' Bill of Rights; further, following the 11:30 a.m. votes, there be up to 30 minutes for morning business with Senators permitted to speak for 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator FEINGOLD, the first 15 minutes; Senator THOMAS, or his designee, the second 15 minutes; further, that upon conclusion of the period for morning business, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly party conferences.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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#### STATUS ON SENATOR RICHARD BRYAN

Mr. REID. Madam President, I want to announce to the Senate—and I have made this statement previously—that my friend Richard Bryan is expected to be released from the hospital tomorrow or the next day. He has been very ill, with some malady that no one can figure out. He had an infection in his neck. He went into surgery and was in intensive care for 5 of 6 days. He is up and walking around, and he is going to go home. In a few weeks, he will be as good as ever.

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#### PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, on Tuesday the Senate will convene at 9:30 a.m. and resume consideration of the Patients' Bill of Rights. There will be 2 hours of closing debate on the Grassley motion to commit and the Gramm amendment regarding employers prior to two rollcall votes at about 11:30 tomorrow. Hopefully, we are going to conclude consideration of the Patients' Bill of Rights and, hopefully, the supplemental appropriations bill, together with the organizing resolution.

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#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, at 6:27 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, June 26, 2001, at 9:30 a.m.