June 29, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

Whereas whales have very low reproductive rates, making whale populations extremely vulnerable to pressure from commercial whaling;

Whereas whales migrate throughout the world’s oceans and international cooperation is required to successfully conserve and protect whale stocks;

Whereas in 1946 the nations of the world adopted the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, which established the International Whaling Commission to provide for the proper conservation of the whale stocks;

Whereas the Commission adopted a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1982 in order to conserve and promote the recovery of the whale stocks;

Whereas the Commission has designated the Indian Ocean and the ocean waters around Antarctica as whale sanctuaries to further enhance the recovery of whale stocks;

Whereas many nations of the world have designated waters under their jurisdiction as whale sanctuaries where commercial whaling is prohibited, and additional regional whale sanctuaries have been set aside by nations that are members of the Commission;

Whereas several member nations of the Commission have taken reservations to the Commission’s moratorium on commercial whaling and 1 member nation is currently conducting commercial whaling operations in spite of the moratorium and the protests of other nations;

Whereas the Commission has adopted several resolutions at recent meetings asking member nations to abandon plans to initiate or continue commercial whaling activities conducted under reservation to the moratorium;

Whereas another member nation of the Commission has taken a reservation to the Commission’s Southern Ocean Sanctuary and continues to conduct unnecessary lethal whaling for scientific purposes in the waters of that sanctuary;

Whereas the Commission’s Scientific Committee has repeatedly expressed serious concerns about the scientific need for such lethal whaling;

Whereas scientific information on whales can readily be obtained through non-lethal means;

Whereas the lethal take of whales under reservations to the Commission’s policies have been increasing annually;

Whereas there continue to be indications that whale meat is being traded on the international market despite a ban on such trade under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and that such trade may be originating in one of the member nations of the Commission;

Whereas engaging in unauthorized commercial whaling and lethal scientific whaling undermines the conservation program of the Commission; Now, therefore, be it,

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the tragedy of the AIDS pandemic in human terms, as well as its devastating impact on national economies, infrastructures, political systems, and all sectors of society;

(2) strongly supports the formation of a Global AIDS and Health Fund;

(3) calls for the United States to remain open by providing greater sums of money to the global fund as other donors join in supporting this endeavor;

(4) calls on other nations, international organizations, foundations, the private sector, and civil society to join in providing assistance to the global fund;

(5) urges all national leaders in every part of the world to speak candidly to their people about how to avoid contracting or transmitting the HIV virus;

(6) calls for the United States to continue to invest heavily in AIDS treatment, prevention, and research;

(7) urges international assistance programs to continue to emphasize science-based best practices and prevention in the context of a comprehensive program of care and treatment;

(8) encourages international health care infrastructures to better prepare themselves for the successful provision of AIDS care and treatment, including the administration of AIDS drugs;

(9) urges the Administration of President George W. Bush to encourage participants at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on AIDS in June, and the Group of Eight Industrialized Nations meeting in July, to contribute to the global fund; and

(10) calls for United States representatives at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on AIDS in June, and the Group of Eight Industrialized Nations meeting in July, to contribute to the global fund;

SENGATE RESOLUTION 121—ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE

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

S. RES. 120

Resolved, That the Majority Party of the Senate for the 107th Congress shall have a Select Committee on Ethics shall continue to be composed equally of members from both parties. No Senator shall lose his or her current committee assignments by reason of this resolution.

Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXV the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate are hereby authorized to appoint their respective committees consistent with this resolution.

Sec. 3. Subject to the authority of the Standing Rules of the Senate, any agreements entered into regarding committee funding and space prior to June 5, 2001, between the Chairman and Ranking member of each committee shall remain in effect, unless modified by subsequent agreement between the Chairman and Ranking member.

Sec. 4. The provisions of this resolution shall cease to be effective, except for Sec. 3, if the ratio in the full Senate on the date of adoption of this resolution changes.

SENGATE RESOLUTION 121—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE 53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SARBAES, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KEN- NEDY, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted the following resolution; which was re-