

Summits, focusing on regulatory cooperation, intellectual property rights, energy security, and innovation; and

Whereas non-tariff trade barriers such as regulatory divergence continue to pose the most significant obstacles to transatlantic trade, including in areas such as pharmaceuticals, automobile safety, information and communications technology standards, cosmetics, consumer product safety, consumer protection enforcement cooperation, unfair commercial practices, nutritional labeling, food safety, maritime equipment, eco-design, chemicals, energy efficiency, telecommunications and radiocommunications equipment, and medical devices: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports efforts by the United States and the European Union to fulfill commitments made in recent United States-European Union Summits to implement all aspects of the United States-European Union Initiative to Enhance Transatlantic Economic Integration and Growth;

(2) calls upon the leadership of the United States and the European Union to identify and eliminate unnecessary regulatory compliance costs and non-tariff barriers to trade and investment at an accelerated pace; and

(3) urges the leadership of the United States and the European Union at the 2007 United States-European Union Summit to agree to—

(A) a target date of 2015 for completing the transatlantic market; and

(B) a jointly funded, cooperatively led study of existing obstacles to creating a transatlantic market, including sector-by-sector estimates of the costs of existing barriers to trade and investment, the costs and benefits of removing the barriers identified, and a timetable for removing those barriers.

CONDEMNING CONFERENCE DENYING THE HOLOCAUST OCCURRED

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 633, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 633) condemning the conference denying that the Holocaust occurred to be held by the Government of Iran and its President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. 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 that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD, as if read, without intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 633) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 633

Whereas, on December 11 and 12, 2006, the Foreign Ministry of Iran will convene a con-

ference in Tehran to provide Holocaust deniers a public platform from which to espouse their hatred;

Whereas 11,000,000 people, including 6,000,000 Jews, were viciously murdered in Nazi death camps during World War II;

Whereas President Dwight Eisenhower stated unequivocally, after visiting Nazi death camps in 1945, "The things I saw beggar description. . . . The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty, and bestiality were . . . overpowering. . . . I made the visit deliberately in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to 'propaganda'.";

Whereas the Holocaust is an undeniable fact of history and the upcoming conference in Tehran will serve only to perpetuate intolerance and hatred;

Whereas Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the President of Iran, has repeatedly said that Israel must be "wiped off the map" and that "[a]nybody who recognizes Israel will burn in the fire of the Islamic nation's fury";

Whereas the Secretary of State has identified Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terror;

Whereas the Government of Iran sponsors terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command by providing funding, training, weapons, and safe haven to such organizations;

Whereas the Government of Iran has continually defied international demands to curtail its uranium enrichment programs and development of nuclear weapons;

Whereas the Government of Iran has provided resources, material, and support to organizations whose goal is to destabilize Iraq and Lebanon; and

Whereas the outrageous statements of Mr. Ahmadinejad do not represent the beliefs of Muslims worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the conference denying that the Holocaust occurred that will take place in Tehran, Iran, under the aegis of the Foreign Ministry of Iran, on December 11 and 12, 2006; and

(2) calls on the President, on behalf of the United States, to thoroughly repudiate, in the strongest terms possible, the conference and its goal of denying that the Holocaust occurred.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF TOM CARR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 634, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 634) honoring the life and achievements of Tom Carr, Congressional Research Service analyst, and extending the condolences of the Senate on the occasion of his death.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed

to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 634) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 634

Whereas Tom Carr served Congress with distinction for 31 years at the Library of Congress as an analyst for the Congressional Research Service;

Whereas Mr. Carr held a bachelor's degree in history from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and a master's degree in information systems from Strayer University in Fredericksburg, Virginia;

Whereas Mr. Carr was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas Mr. Carr was an expert on congressional committees, House and Senate floor procedure, and congressionally created commissions;

Whereas Mr. Carr was an enthusiastic teacher of congressional procedure to staff, helping them to do their jobs better;

Whereas Mr. Carr was an accomplished and entertaining public speaker who founded the Library of Congress chapter of the Toastmasters and was president of the Capitol Hill Toastmasters;

Whereas Mr. Carr worked tirelessly and cheerfully in service to Congress and set a high example for his colleagues;

Whereas Mr. Carr was distinguished for the generous enthusiasm with which he met the needs of colleagues and clients alike, as well as for his persistent and expansive good humor and wit; and

Whereas Mr. Carr faithfully discharged his duties and responsibilities in a wide variety of demanding positions in public life with honesty, integrity, loyalty, and humility: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and achievements of Congressional Research Service Analyst Tom Carr;

(2) expresses profound sorrow upon the occasion of Mr. Carr's death and extends heartfelt condolences to those who survive him: his wife Mary (Mimi), his sons Thomas and John, his mother Carswella, and his 9 brothers and sisters; and

(3) expresses its appreciation and respect for Mr. Carr's exemplary record as an analyst for Congress.

PREEMIE ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair now lay before the Senate the House message to accompany S. 707.

The Chair laid before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives, as follows:

S. 707

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 707) entitled "An Act to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act” or the “PREEMIE Act”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

It the purpose of this Act to—

- (1) reduce rates of preterm labor and delivery;
- (2) work toward an evidence-based standard of care for pregnant women at risk of preterm labor or other serious complications, and for infants born preterm and at a low birthweight; and
- (3) reduce infant mortality and disabilities caused by prematurity.

SEC. 3. RESEARCH RELATING TO PRETERM LABOR AND DELIVERY AND THE CARE, TREATMENT, AND OUTCOMES OF PRETERM AND LOW BIRTHWEIGHT INFANTS.

(a) **GENERAL EXPANSION OF CDC RESEARCH.**—Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall expand, intensify, and coordinate the activities of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to preterm labor and delivery and infant mortality.”.

(b) **STUDIES ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PREMATURITY AND BIRTH DEFECTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, conduct ongoing epidemiological studies on the relationship between prematurity, birth defects, and developmental disabilities.

(2) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress reports concerning the progress and any results of studies conducted under paragraph (1).

(c) **PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SURVEY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall establish systems for the collection of maternal-infant clinical and biomedical information, including electronic health records, electronic databases, and biobanks, to link with the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) and other epidemiological studies of prematurity in order to track pregnancy outcomes and prevent preterm birth.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out paragraph (1)\$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

(d) **EVALUATION OF EXISTING TOOLS AND MEASURES.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall review existing tools and measures to ensure that such tools and measures include information related to the known risk factors of low birth weight and preterm birth.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, except for subsection (c), \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

SEC. 4. PUBLIC AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDER EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second section 399O (relating to grants to foster public health responses to domestic violence, dating violence,

sexual assault, and stalking) as section 399P; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 399Q. PUBLIC AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDER EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, directly or through the awarding of grants to public or private nonprofit entities, may conduct demonstration projects for the purpose of improving the provision of information on prematurity to health professionals and other health care providers and the public and improving the treatment and outcomes for babies born preterm.

“(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—Activities to be carried out under the demonstration project under subsection (a) may include the establishment of—

“(1) programs to test and evaluate various strategies to provide information and education to health professionals, other health care providers, and the public concerning—

“(A) the signs of preterm labor, updated as new research results become available;

“(B) the screening for and the treating of infections;

“(C) counseling on optimal weight and good nutrition, including folic acid;

“(D) smoking cessation education and counseling;

“(E) stress management; and

“(F) appropriate prenatal care;

“(2) programs to improve the treatment and outcomes for babies born premature, including the use of evidence-based standards of care by health care professionals for pregnant women at risk of preterm labor or other serious complications and for infants born preterm and at a low birthweight;

“(3) programs to respond to the informational needs of families during the stay of an infant in a neonatal intensive care unit, during the transition of the infant to the home, and in the event of a newborn death; and

“(4) such other programs as the Secretary determines appropriate to achieve the purpose specified in subsection (a).

“(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON PREMATURITY AND LOW BIRTHWEIGHT.

(a) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this section to stimulate multidisciplinary research, scientific exchange, and collaboration among the agencies of the Department of Health and Human Services and to assist the Department in targeting efforts to achieve the greatest advances toward the goal of reducing prematurity and low birthweight.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall establish an Interagency Coordinating Council on Prematurity and Low Birthweight (referred to in this section as the Council) to carry out the purpose of this section.

(c) **COMPOSITION.**—The Council shall be composed of members to be appointed by the Secretary, including representatives of the agencies of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(d) **ACTIVITIES.**—The Council shall—

(1) annually report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and Congress on current Departmental activities relating to prematurity and low birthweight;

(2) carry out other activities determined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(3) oversee the coordination of the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. SURGEON GENERAL'S CONFERENCE ON PRETERM BIRTH.

(a) **CONVENING OF CONFERENCE.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this

Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, shall convene a conference on preterm birth.

(b) **PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE.**—The purpose of the conference convened under subsection (a) shall be to—

(1) increase awareness of preterm birth as a serious, common, and costly public health problem in the United States;

(2) review the findings and reports issued by the Interagency Coordinating Council, key stakeholders, and any other relevant entities; and

(3) establish an agenda for activities in both the public and private sectors that will speed the identification of, and treatments for, the causes of and risk factors for preterm labor and delivery.

(c) **REPORT.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress and make available to the public a report on the agenda established under subsection (b)(3), including recommendations for activities in the public and private sectors that will speed the identification of, and treatments for, the causes of and risk factors for preterm labor and delivery.

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section (other than subsection (c)) \$125,000.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CERTAIN HEAD START REGULATIONS.

Section 1310.12(a) of title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (October 1, 2004) shall not be effective until June 30, 2007, or 60 days after the date of the enactment of a statute that authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2007 to carry out the Head Start Act, whichever date is earlier.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in support of the passage of the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act, the PREEMIE Act. This legislation which I introduced with Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER passed unanimously in the Senate last August and I am pleased to inform my colleagues that after working with the House on some modifications to the bill, it has now passed in both Chambers.

The PREEMIE Act takes a big step toward understanding the causes of premature birth and how to prevent it. Specifically, the bill authorizes approximately \$65 million over 5 years to expand and intensify activities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to preterm births and infant mortality, to study the relationship between prematurity and birth defects, to carry out a public and health care provider education and supportive services effort, to authorize an Interagency Coordinating Council on Prematurity and Low Birthweight, and to convene a Surgeon General's Conference on Preterm Birth which will make recommendations to the public and private sectors on ways to better identify and treat the causes of and risk factors for preterm labor and delivery.

This is not the same bill the Senate passed unanimously. To begin with,

this bill authorizes \$26 million less than the bill the Senate passed last August. This is due in large part to the removal of authorizations for multidisciplinary research underway at the National Institutes of Health. It is my hope that despite these changes, the NIH will continue this vital research in order to better understand the role DNA plays in prematurity and to improve maternal and fetal health outcomes.

Nearly 1 out of every 8 babies in the U.S. is born prematurely—that is more than 1,300 babies each day and more than 500,000 each year. According to recent data, in 2002 the infant mortality rate actually increased for the first time since 1958. Much of this increase is attributable to infant death in the first month of life, of which prematurity is the leading cause.

Although we know some risk factors associated with prematurity such as advanced age of the mother, smoking, and certain chronic diseases, the cause of nearly 50 percent of all premature births is still unknown. Prematurity has been linked to such long-term health problems as cerebral palsy, chronic lung disease, and vision and hearing loss.

According to a recent report by the Institute of Medicine, medical care costs due to prematurity and low birth weight were \$16.9 billion in 2005, \$33,200 per preterm infant. The March of Dimes estimates that about half of preterm birth medical care costs were paid for by Medicaid. For employers, health care costs for a premature baby during the first year of life average \$41,610 compared to \$2,830 for a full-term baby. However, none of these numbers can quantify the emotional toll a premature birth takes on a family.

That is why the PREEMIE bill is so essential. This legislation will go a long way toward helping families during what can be the most difficult moments of their baby's life and will help us better understand and prevent premature births in the future.

I conclude by thanking Senator ALEXANDER for his leadership on this legislation. He has been a terrific partner in this effort and I look forward to working with him in the 110th Congress. I also thank Chairman ENZI and Ranking Member KENNEDY and their staffs for making the passage of the PREEMIE Act a priority this Congress. Lastly, I would to recognize Page Kranbuhl of Senator ALEXANDER's staff for her work on this legislation as well as Emil Wigode, Carolyn Doyle and Jo Merrill of the March of Dimes who have stood with us every step of the way.●

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

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AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING AS A HOUSE DOCUMENT OF "UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS: A HISTORY, 1789-2006"

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 495, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 495), authorizing the printing as a House document of "United States House of Representatives, The Committee on Ways and Means: A History, 1789-2006".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 495) was agreed to.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2006

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6060.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6060) to authorize certain activities by the Department of State, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 6060) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

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PHYSICIANS FOR UNDERSERVED AREAS ACT

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4997, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4997) to extend for 2 years the authority to grant waivers of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to certain international medical graduates.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 4997) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

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BELARUS DEMOCRACY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2006

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5948, received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5948) to reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act of 2004.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 5948) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

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APPOINTING THE DAY FOR THE CONVENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 101 which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 101) appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Tenth Congress.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 101) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

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CORRECTING THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 5782

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate