

Whereas, in honor of its 50th anniversary, AARP renewed its commitment to improving the quality of life for all older people in the United States and helping people of all generations fulfill their goals and dreams: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends AARP for 50 years of outstanding service to people aged 50 and older; and

(2) recognizes AARP's commitment to serving future generations.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with so many of my colleagues in supporting a resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the AARP.

The 49 million members of the AARP take Government and public policy very seriously, and their association is a model of effective advocacy here in Washington. For instance, in the successful fight against the administration's attempt to privatize Social Security—a truly terrible idea that would have put Americans' retirement security at risk in the stock market casino—AARP was extraordinarily effective in marshalling facts, mobilizing experts, and educating members of Congress.

Likewise, AARP does a great job of informing and educating its own members about critical issues being debated here in Washington. I don't believe in top-down politics; I believe in bottom-up politics. And so does the AARP. The organization has members in virtually every neighborhood in the United States. It mobilizes old-fashioned people power in order to hold Government accountable. It takes on the powerful, entrenched interests when those interests attempt to trample on the rights of ordinary people.

AARP as an institution is an invaluable resource to us here in Congress. Just as AARP keeps its members informed about what is happening in Washington, it also closely monitors the concerns and wishes of its members so it can better represent them in Washington. Just this week, I chaired a hearing about the things that 401(k) participants and beneficiaries need to know about the fees they are paying. AARP was right there with the results of a timely survey of its members about what disclosure is most useful and understandable to them.

The staff at AARP pay close attention to every regulatory move, every newspaper article, every important hearing or meeting that could have some impact on older Americans. They are truly a wealth of information.

I am grateful for their active engagement on Capitol Hill, because, as our population ages, it is critical that we be attuned to the impact of our policies on older people and retirees. When we make policy and pass laws on everything from health care, to the economy, to improving workplace options for the millions of seniors who want or need to continue working, we have a tremendous resource in the AARP.

I would particularly like to thank the AARP for its assistance to me and my staff on some of our key legislative priorities, including improving retirement security; moving our health care system toward a greater emphasis on wellness and prevention; combating age discrimination in the workplace; preserving and strengthening Social Security; and ending the institutional bias in Medicare and Medicaid so that elderly people and people with disabilities can live in their own homes rather than nursing homes.

I look forward to continuing this rich collaboration with the outstanding professionals who staff and lead the AARP. I salute the people at AARP for the great job they do representing the interests of older Americans and retirees. It has been a remarkable first 50 years. In the years ahead, I wish them even greater success in increasing economic opportunities and retirement security for older Americans.

SENATE RESOLUTION 667—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2008 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. INOUE, Mr. VITTER, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DODD, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. ISAKSON and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 667

Whereas countless families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas, in 2008, over 186,320 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 28,660 men in the United States will die of prostate cancer;

Whereas 30 percent of new diagnoses of prostate cancer occur in men under the age of 65;

Whereas a man in the United States turns 50 years old about every 14 seconds, increasing his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer a prostate cancer incidence rate up to 65 percent higher than White males and double the mortality rates;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer and the

probability that the disease will lead to death, and high cholesterol levels are strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas, if a man in the United States has 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer, he has a 1 in 3 chance of being diagnosed with prostate cancer, if he has 2 family members with such diagnoses, he has an 83 percent risk, and if he has 3 family members with such diagnoses, he then has a 97 percent risk of prostate cancer;

Whereas screening by both a digital rectal examination (DRE) and a prostate specific antigen blood test (PSA) can diagnose the disease in its early stages, increasing the chances of surviving more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent, while only 33 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while it is still in the early stages, making screening critical;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatments; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2008 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that the Federal Government has a responsibility—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;

(B) to increase research funding that is commensurate with the burden of the disease so that the screening and treatment of prostate cancer may be improved, and so that the causes of, and a cure for, prostate cancer may be discovered; and

(C) to continue to consider ways for improving access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interested groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, their families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 668—TO COMMEND THE AMERICAN SAIL TRAINING ASSOCIATION FOR ITS ADVANCEMENT OF CHARACTER BUILDING UNDER SAIL AND FOR ITS ADVANCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL

Mr. KERRY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 668

Whereas the American Sail Training Association (ASTA) is an educational nonprofit corporation whose declared mission is “to encourage character building through sail training, promote sail training to the North American public and support education under sail”;

Whereas, since its founding in 1973, ASTA has promoted these goals through—(1) support of character building experiences

aboard traditionally-rigged sail training vessels; (2) a program of scholarship funds supporting such experiences; (3) a long history of tall ship races, rallies, and maritime festivals dating back as far as 1976; (4) the Tall Ships Challenge series of races and maritime festivals which have been conducted each year since 2001, have reached an aggregate audience to date of some 8,000,000 spectators, have had a cumulative economic impact of over \$400,000,000 for over 30 host communities, and involve sail training vessels, trainees, and crews from all the coasts of the United States and around the world; (5) support of its membership of more than 200 sail training vessels, embracing barks, barques, barkentines, brigantines, brigs, schooners, sloops, and full-rigged ships, which carry the flags of the United States, Canada, and many other nations and have brought life changing adventures to thousands and thousands of young trainees; (6) a series of more than 30 annual sail training conferences to date, conducted in numerous cities throughout the United States and Canada and embracing the Safety Under Sail Forum and the Education Under Sail Forum; (7) extensive collaboration with the Coast Guard and with the premier sail training vessel of the United States, the square-rigged barque USCGC Eagle; (8) publication of "Sail Tall Ships", a periodic directory of sail training opportunities; and (9) supporting the enactment of the Sailing Schools Vessel Act of 1982, Public Law 97-322, on October 15, 1982;

Whereas ASTA has ably represented the United States as its national sail training organization as a founding member of Sail Training International, the recognized international body for the promotion of sail training, which itself carries forward a series of international races amongst square-rigged and other traditionally-rigged vessels reaching back as far as the 1950s; and

Whereas ASTA and Sail Training International are collaborating with port partners around the Atlantic Ocean to produce Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge 2009, an international fleet of sail training vessels originating in Europe, voyaging to North America, and returning to Europe: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the American Sail Training Association for its advancement of character building experiences for youth at sea in traditionally-rigged sailing vessels and its advancement of the finest traditions of the sea;

(2) commends the American Sail Training Association as the national sail training association of the United States, representing the sail training community of the United States in the international forum; and

(3) encourages all citizens of the United States and of nations around the world to join in the celebration of Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge 2009 and in the character building and educational experience that it represents for the youth of all nations.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today it is my great pleasure to honor the incredible achievement, tradition, and performance of the American Sail Training Association, ASTA. This educational nonprofit corporation has allowed young participants from across the country to build character through sail training and to represent the United States around the world with distinction and good spirit. I am proud of the dedicated trainers who have taught young sailors to persevere in international adventures on brigan-

tines, schooners, sloops, and other vessels. I commend the efforts of the ASTA to provide such exciting and educational opportunities for youth, and I look forward to the coming Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge 2009.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

**SA 5631.** Mr. CASEY (for Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2606, to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 5631.** Mr. CASEY (for Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2606, to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes; as follows:

In lieu of the matter to be inserted, insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008".

##### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The number of lives lost each year because of fire has dropped significantly over the last 25 years in the United States. However, the United States still has one of the highest fire death rates in the industrialized world. In 2006, the National Fire Protection Association reported 3,245 civilian fire deaths, 16,400 civilian fire injuries, and \$11,307,000,000 in direct losses due to fire.

(2) Every year, more than 100 firefighters die in the line of duty. The United States Fire Administration should continue its leadership to help local fire agencies dramatically reduce these fatalities.

(3) The Federal Government should continue to work with State and local governments and the fire service community to further the promotion of national voluntary consensus standards that increase firefighter safety.

(4) The United States Fire Administration provides crucial support to the 30,300 fire departments of the United States through training, emergency incident data collection, fire awareness and education, and support of research and development activities for fire prevention, control, and suppression technologies.

(5) The collection of data on fire and other emergency incidents is a vital tool both for policy makers and emergency responders to identify and develop responses to emerging hazards. Improving the data collection capabilities of the United States Fire Administration is essential for accurately tracking and responding to the magnitude and nature of the fire problems of the United States.

(6) The research and development performed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the United States Fire Administration, other government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations on fire technologies, techniques, and tools advance the capabilities of the fire service of the United States to suppress and prevent fires.

(7) Because of the essential role of the United States Fire Administration and the fire service community in preparing for and responding to national and man-made disas-

ters, the United States Fire Administration should have a prominent place within the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

##### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION.

Section 17(g)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding after subparagraph (D) the following:

"(E) \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, of which \$2,520,000 shall be used to carry out section 8(f);

"(F) \$72,100,000 for fiscal year 2010, of which \$2,595,600 shall be used to carry out section 8(f);

"(G) \$74,263,000 for fiscal year 2011, of which \$2,673,468 shall be used to carry out section 8(f); and

"(H) \$76,490,890 for fiscal year 2012, of which \$2,753,672 shall be used to carry out section 8(f)."

##### SEC. 4. NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS AND REPORTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING.—Section 7(d)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2206(d)(1)) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraph (H) to read as follows:

"(H) tactics and strategies for dealing with natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters;";

(2) in subparagraph (K), by striking "forest" and inserting "wildland";

(3) in subparagraph (M), by striking "response";

(4) by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through (N) as subparagraphs (M) through (R), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following:

"(I) tactics and strategies for fighting large-scale fires or multiple fires in a general area that cross jurisdictional boundaries;

"(J) tactics and strategies for fighting fires occurring at the wildland-urban interface;

"(K) tactics and strategies for fighting fires involving hazardous materials;

"(L) advanced emergency medical services training;";

(b) ON-SITE TRAINING.—Section 7 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2206) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(6), by inserting ", including on-site training" after "United States";

(2) in subsection (f), by striking "4 percent" and inserting "7.5 percent"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(m) ON-SITE TRAINING.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Administrator may enter into a contract with nationally recognized organizations that have established on-site training programs that comply with national voluntary consensus standards for fire service personnel to facilitate the delivery of the education and training programs outlined in subsection (d)(1) directly to fire service personnel.

"(2) LIMITATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not enter into a contract with an organization described in paragraph (1) unless such organization provides training that—