

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.

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

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. INOUYE, 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.

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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