

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 100—AUTHORIZING THE LAST SURVIVING UNITED STATES VETERAN OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR TO LIE IN HONOR IN THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL UPON HIS DEATH

Mr. BYRD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 100

Whereas the veterans of the First World War fought bravely and made heroic sacrifices for the Allied forces;

Whereas the veterans of the First World War suffered the terrors of both trench warfare and the chemical battlefield;

Whereas the veterans of the First World War suffered the scourge of the Spanish influenza pandemic;

Whereas past resolutions have sought authorization for veterans, representative of specific wars, to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol;

Whereas it is the desire of all veterans to honor both those who serve and those who have served in time of war and peace;

Whereas it is the Nation's collective desire to express its gratitude for the sacrifice and service of all First World War veterans; and

Whereas Frank Woodruff Buckles, born February 1, 1901, in Bethany, Missouri, and residing in Jefferson County, West Virginia, at age 107, is believed to be the last surviving United States veteran of the First World War: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. HONORING VETERANS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In recognition of the historic contributions of United States veterans who served in the First World War, the last surviving United States veteran of the First World War shall be permitted to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon his death, so that the citizens of the United States may pay their last respects to these great Americans.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Architect of the Capitol, under the direction and supervision of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall take the necessary steps to implement subsection (a), including, if necessary, scheduling the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the purposes described in such subsection at such a time as such use will not coincide with the use of the Capitol for an Inauguration or a State of the Union address.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5632. Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mrs. BOXER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5834, to amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5632. Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mrs. BOXER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) pro-

posed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5834, to amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 3, beginning on line 4, strike the comma and all that follows to the end period and insert the following: "and has increased the bounty paid for turning in North Korean refugees".

On page 3, beginning on line 11, strike "including" and all that follows through "killings" on line 17.

On page 4, line 4, strike "On February", and insert the following: "Since the passage of the North Korean Human Rights Act, Congress has on several occasions expressed interest in the status of North Korean refugees, and on February".

On page 4, line 19, strike "at overseas posts".

On page 5, line 10, after "should", insert "continue to".

On page 6, line 3, strike "rights, humanitarian, and refugee issues," and insert the following: "rights and humanitarian issues, and to participate in policy planning and implementation with respect to refugee issues,".

On page 7, line 20, strike "\$4,000,000" and insert "\$2,000,000".

On page 9, line 13, after "including", insert the following: ", in coordination with the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration,".

On page 9, line 21, strike "coordinate" and insert "participate in the formulation and".

On page 11, line 13, strike "paragraphs" and insert "paragraph".

On page 11, strike line 14 and all that follows through line 19.

On page 11, line 20, strike "(4)" and insert "(3)".

On page 12, lines 3 and 4, strike "may be provided in a classified format, if necessary" and insert the following: "shall be provided in unclassified form, with a classified annex, if necessary".

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Tuesday, September 23, at 10 a.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a business meeting to consider pending legislative issues.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 202-224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, September 25, at 2:15 p.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on (1) H.R. 1294, Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2007; (2) S. 514, Muscogee Nation of Florida Federal Recognition Act; (3) S. 724, Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act of 2007; and (4) S. 1058, Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians of Michigan Referral Act.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 202-224-2251.

FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 1027, S. 3341.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3341) to reauthorize and improve the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 3341) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3341

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 11 of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "and sunset"; and

(2) by striking "and shall cease to be effective 8 years after such date of enactment".

SEC. 3. WEBSITE RELATING TO FEDERAL GRANTS.

Section 6 of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

"(e) WEBSITE RELATING TO FEDERAL GRANTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish and maintain a public website that serves as a central point of information and access for applicants for Federal grants.

"(2) CONTENTS.—To the maximum extent possible, the website established under this subsection shall include, at a minimum, for each Federal grant—

"(A) the grant announcement;

"(B) the statement of eligibility relating to the grant;

"(C) the application requirements for the grant;

"(D) the purposes of the grant;

"(E) the Federal agency funding the grant; and

"(F) the deadlines for applying for and awarding of the grant.

"(3) USE BY APPLICANTS.—The website established under this subsection shall, to the greatest extent practical, allow grant applicants to—

"(A) search the website for all Federal grants by type, purpose, funding agency, program source, and other relevant criteria;

“(B) apply for a Federal grant using the website;

“(C) manage, track, and report on the use of Federal grants using the website; and

“(D) provide all required certifications and assurances for a Federal grant using the website.”; and

(3) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by striking “All actions” and inserting “Except for actions relating to establishing the website required under subsection (e), all actions”.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.

The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended by striking section 7 and inserting the following:

“SEC. 7. EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008, and every 2 years thereafter until the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008, the Director shall submit to Congress a report regarding the implementation of this Act.

“(b) CONTENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each report under subsection (a) shall include, for the applicable period—

“(A) a list of all grants for which an applicant may submit an application using the website established under section 6(e);

“(B) a list of all Federal agencies that provide Federal financial assistance to non-Federal entities;

“(C) a list of each Federal agency that has complied, in whole or in part, with the requirements of this Act;

“(D) for each Federal agency listed under subparagraph (C), a description of the extent of the compliance with this Act by the Federal agency;

“(E) a list of all Federal agencies exempted under section 6(d);

“(F) for each Federal agency listed under subparagraph (E)—

“(i) an explanation of why the Federal agency was exempted; and

“(ii) a certification that the basis for the exemption of the Federal agency is still applicable;

“(G) a list of all common application forms that have been developed that allow non-Federal entities to apply, in whole or in part, for multiple Federal financial assistance programs (including Federal financial assistance programs administered by different Federal agencies) through a single common application;

“(H) a list of all common forms and requirements that have been developed that allow non-Federal entities to report, in whole or in part, on the use of funding from multiple Federal financial assistance programs (including Federal financial assistance programs administered by different Federal agencies);

“(I) a description of the efforts made by the Director and Federal agencies to communicate and collaborate with representatives of non-Federal entities during the implementation of the requirements under this Act;

“(J) a description of the efforts made by the Director to work with Federal agencies to meet the goals of this Act, including a description of working groups or other structures used to coordinate Federal efforts to meet the goals of this Act; and

“(K) identification and description of all systems being used to disburse Federal financial assistance to non-Federal entities.

“(2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—The second report submitted under subsection (a), and each subsequent report submitted under subsection (a), shall include—

“(A) a discussion of the progress made by the Federal Government in meeting the goals of this Act, including the amendments made by the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008, and in implementing the strategic plan submitted under section 8, including an evaluation of the progress of each Federal agency that has not received an exemption under section 6(d) towards implementing the strategic plan; and

“(B) a compilation of the reports submitted under section 8(c)(3) during the applicable period.

“(C) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE PERIOD.—In this section, the term ‘applicable period’ means—

“(1) for the first report submitted under subsection (a), the most recent full fiscal year before the date of the report; and

“(2) for the second report submitted under subsection (a), and each subsequent report submitted under subsection (a), the period beginning on the date on which the most recent report under subsection (a) was submitted and ending on the date of the report.”.

SEC. 5. STRATEGIC PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 8, 9, 10, and 11 as sections 9, 10, 11, and 12, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 7, as amended by this Act, the following:

“SEC. 8. STRATEGIC PLAN.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008, the Director shall submit to Congress a strategic plan that—

“(1) identifies Federal financial assistance programs that are suitable for common applications based on the common or similar purposes of the Federal financial assistance;

“(2) identifies Federal financial assistance programs that are suitable for common reporting forms or requirements based on the common or similar purposes of the Federal financial assistance;

“(3) identifies common aspects of multiple Federal financial assistance programs that are suitable for common application or reporting forms or requirements;

“(4) identifies changes in law, if any, needed to achieve the goals of this Act; and

“(5) provides plans, timelines, and cost estimates for—

“(A) developing an entirely electronic, web-based process for managing Federal financial assistance, including the ability to—

“(i) apply for Federal financial assistance;

“(ii) track the status of applications for and payments of Federal financial assistance;

“(iii) report on the use of Federal financial assistance, including how such use has been in furtherance of the objectives or purposes of the Federal financial assistance; and

“(iv) provide required certifications and assurances;

“(B) ensuring full compliance by Federal agencies with the requirements of this Act, including the amendments made by the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008;

“(C) creating common applications for the Federal financial assistance programs identified under paragraph (1), regardless of whether the Federal financial assistance programs

are administered by different Federal agencies;

“(D) establishing common financial and performance reporting forms and requirements for the Federal financial assistance programs identified under paragraph (2), regardless of whether the Federal financial assistance programs are administered by different Federal agencies;

“(E) establishing common applications and financial and performance reporting forms and requirements for aspects of the Federal financial assistance programs identified under paragraph (3), regardless of whether the Federal financial assistance programs are administered by different Federal agencies;

“(F) developing mechanisms to ensure compatibility between Federal financial assistance administration systems and State systems to facilitate the importing and exporting of data;

“(G) developing common certifications and assurances, as appropriate, for all Federal financial assistance programs that have common or similar purposes, regardless of whether the Federal financial assistance programs are administered by different Federal agencies; and

“(H) minimizing the number of different systems used to disburse Federal financial assistance.

“(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing and implementing the strategic plan under subsection (a), the Director shall consult with representatives of non-Federal entities and Federal agencies that have not received an exemption under section 6(d).

“(c) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the Director submits the strategic plan under subsection (a), the head of each Federal agency that has not received an exemption under section 6(d) shall develop a plan that describes how the Federal agency will carry out the responsibilities of the Federal agency under the strategic plan, which shall include—

“(A) clear performance objectives and timelines for action by the Federal agency in furtherance of the strategic plan; and

“(B) the identification of measures to improve communication and collaboration with representatives of non-Federal entities on an on-going basis during the implementation of this Act.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—The head of each Federal agency that has not received an exemption under section 6(d) shall consult with representatives of non-Federal entities during the development and implementation of the plan of the Federal agency developed under paragraph (1).

“(3) REPORTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the head of a Federal agency that has not received an exemption under section 6(d) develops the plan under paragraph (1), and every 2 years thereafter until the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 2008, the head of the Federal agency shall submit to the Director a report regarding the progress of the Federal agency in achieving the objectives of the plan of the Federal agency developed under paragraph (1).”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5(d) of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended by inserting “, until the date on which the Federal agency submits the first report by the Federal agency required under section 8(c)(3)” after “subsection (a)(7)”.

ALBUQUERQUE INDIAN SCHOOL ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to Calendar No. 925, S. 1193.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1193) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust 2 parcels of Federal land for the benefit of certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1193) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1193

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Albuquerque Indian School Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) 19 PUEBLOS.—The term "19 Pueblos" means the New Mexico Indian Pueblos of—

- (A) Acoma;
- (B) Cochiti;
- (C) Isleta;
- (D) Jemez;
- (E) Laguna;
- (F) Nambe;
- (G) Ohkay Owingeh (San Juan);
- (H) Picuris;
- (I) Pojoaque;
- (J) San Felipe;
- (K) San Ildefonso;
- (L) Sandia;
- (M) Santa Ana;
- (N) Santa Clara;
- (O) Santo Domingo;
- (P) Taos;
- (Q) Tesuque;
- (R) Zia; and
- (S) Zuni.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior (or a designee).

(3) SURVEY.—The term "survey" means the survey plat entitled "Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Pueblos Agency, BIA Property Survey" (prepared by John Paisano, Jr., Registered Land Surveyor Certificate No. 5708), and dated March 7, 1977.

SEC. 3. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR BENEFIT OF 19 PUEBLOS.

(a) ACTION BY SECRETARY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall take into trust all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in subsection (b) (including any improvements and appurtenances to the land) for the benefit of the 19 Pueblos.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

(A) take such action as the Secretary determines to be necessary to document the transfer under paragraph (1); and

(B) appropriately assign each applicable private and municipal utility and service right or agreement.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a)(1) is the 2 tracts of Federal land, the combined acreage of which is approximately 18.3 acres, that were historically part of the Albuquerque Indian School, more particularly described as follows:

(1) TRACT B.—The approximately 5.9211 acres located in sec. 7 and sec. 8 of T. 10 N., R. 3 E., of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico, as identified on the survey.

(2) TRACT D.—The approximately 12.3835 acres located in sec. 7 and sec. 8 of T. 10 N., R. 3 E., of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico, as identified on the survey.

(c) SURVEY.—The Secretary may make minor corrections to the survey and legal description of the Federal land described in subsection (b) as the Secretary determines to be necessary to correct clerical, typographical, and surveying errors.

(d) USE OF LAND.—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall be used for the educational, health, cultural, business, and economic development of the 19 Pueblos.

(e) LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS.—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall remain subject to any private or municipal encumbrance, right-of-way, restriction, easement of record, or utility service agreement in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. EFFECT OF OTHER LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, land taken into trust under section 3(a) shall be subject to Federal laws relating to Indian land.

(b) GAMING.—No gaming activity (within the meaning of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.)) shall be carried out on land taken into trust under section 3(a).

FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS AND INCREASING ADOPTIONS ACT OF 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6893.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6893) to amend Parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to connect and support relative caregivers, improve outcomes for children in foster care, provide for tribal foster care and adoption access, improve incentives for adoption, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 6893) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NORTH KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5834, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will state the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5834) to amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate is considering H.R. 5834, a bill to reauthorize the North Korea Human Rights Act. The act underscores U.S. concern about the poor human rights conditions inside North Korea and the difficulties faced by thousands of North Koreans who have fled the country and become refugees. I support this bill because I believe our Government's approach to North Korean human rights and refugee issues must be seamlessly integrated into a coherent strategy that promotes regional peace and stability, advances core U.S. national security interests by verifiably eliminating North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons, and step by step encourages North Korea to adhere to international norms in the areas of human rights, security, and trade.

It is essential that the United States reach out and begin a dialogue with North Korea on issues related to basic human rights. Four years ago, I was proud to work with my colleague, Senator BROWNBACK of Kansas, on an amendment to the North Korean Human Rights Act that created within the Department of State a Special Envoy for Human Rights in North Korea. In reauthorizing the act, the Congress expresses its intent that the envoy should be a full-time employee, and Congress elevates the post to the rank of ambassador, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. The incumbent special envoy has pursued his duties part-time while residing outside of Washington, making coordination with the Department more difficult and limiting the overall effectiveness of his diplomatic efforts. By expressing the sense of the Congress that the new ambassador should be a full-time position, the Congress does not preclude the possibility that the President may find it desirable to nominate as ambassador an individual who already has other duties closely related to those to be pursued by the Ambassador for North Korean Human Rights Issues. Indeed, such dual assignments are not uncommon within the State Department.