

daughters of Representatives, Senators, Supreme Court Justices, and Cabinet members;

Whereas 7 members of the Congressional Club have become First Lady: Mrs. Florence Harding, Mrs. Lou Hoover, Mrs. Bess Truman, Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, Mrs. Patricia Nixon, Mrs. Betty Ford, and Mrs. Barbara Bush;

Whereas several members of the Congressional Club have been elected to Congress, including Mrs. Jo Ann Emerson, Mrs. Lois Capps, and Mrs. Mary Bono, and former presidents of the Congressional Club Mrs. Lindy Boggs and Mrs. Doris Matsui;

Whereas leading figures in politics, the arts, and the media have visited the Club-house throughout the past 100 years;

Whereas the Congressional Club is home to the First Lady's gown display, a museum with replica inaugural and ball gowns of the First Ladies from Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln to Mrs. Laura Bush;

Whereas the Congressional Club is charged with receiving the Presidential couple, honoring the Vice President and spouse, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and spouse, and the Chief Justice and spouse, and providing the orientation for spouses of new Members of Congress; and

Whereas the Congressional Club will celebrate its 100th anniversary with festivities and ceremonies during 2008 that include the ringing of the official bells of the United States Congress, a Founder's Day program, a birthday cake at the First Lady's Luncheon, an anniversary postage stamp and cancellation stamp, a 100-year pin and pendant designed by former President Lois Breaux, and invitations to President and Mrs. Bush, Speaker and Mr. Pelosi, and Chief Justice and Mrs. Roberts to visit and celebrate 100 years of public service, civility, and growth at the Congressional Club: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Congressional Club;

(2) acknowledges the contributions of political spouses to public life in the United States and around the world through the Congressional Club for the past 100 years;

(3) honors the past and present membership of the Congressional Club; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to strive for greater friendship, civility, and generosity in order to heighten public service, elevate the culture, and enrich human unity; and

(B) to seek opportunities to give financially and to volunteer to assist charitable organizations in their own communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 556—CONGRATULATING CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THEIR STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. VITTER, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 556

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality education and challenge all students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public entity that are responding to the needs of our communities, families, and students and promoting the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, they are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their financial and other operations;

Whereas 40 States and the District of Columbia have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas more than 4,300 charter schools are now operating in 40 States and the District of Columbia, serving more than 1,200,000 students;

Whereas, over the last 14 years, Congress has provided over \$2,237,256,000 in support to the charter school movement through facilities financing assistance and grants for planning, startup, implementation, and dissemination;

Whereas many charter schools improve their students' achievement and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools must meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the same manner as traditional public schools, and often set higher and additional individual goals to ensure that they are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas charter schools give parents new freedom to choose their public schools, routinely measure parental satisfaction levels, and must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and their communities;

Whereas over 50 percent of charter schools report having a waiting list, and the total number of students on all such waiting lists is enough to fill over 1,100 average-sized charter schools;

Whereas charter schools nationwide serve a higher percentage of low-income and minority students than the traditional public school system;

Whereas charter schools have enjoyed broad bipartisan support from the President, Congress, State Governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the United States; and

Whereas the 9th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 5 through May 9, 2008, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges and commends charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, especially their impressive results closing America's persistent achievement gap, and improving and strengthening our public school system.

(2) supports the ideas and goals of the 9th annual National Charter Schools Week; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this week

long celebration in communities throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 557—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DOMENICI, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 557

Whereas, on May 10, 1869, the "golden spike" was driven into the final tie at Promontory Summit, Utah, to join the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads, ceremonially completing the first transcontinental railroad and therefore connecting both coasts of the United States;

Whereas, in highly populated regions, Amtrak trains and infrastructure carry commuters to and from work in congested metropolitan areas providing a reliable rail option, reducing congestion on roads and in the skies;

Whereas, for many rural Americans, Amtrak represents the only major intercity transportation link to the rest of the country;

Whereas passenger rail provides a more energy-efficient form of transportation compared to autos or air travel;

Whereas passenger railroads emit only 0.2 percent of the travel industry's total greenhouse gases;

Whereas Amtrak annually provides intercity passenger rail travel to over 25,000,000 Americans residing in 46 States;

Whereas an increasing number of people are using trains for travel purposes beyond commuting to and from work;

Whereas our railroad stations are a source of civic pride, a gateway to our communities, and a tool for economic growth; and

Whereas Amtrak has designated May 10, 2008, as National Train Day to celebrate the way trains connect people and places: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Train Day, as designated by Amtrak.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4733. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes.

SA 4734. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4735. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended

to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4736. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4737. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CARPER, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. REED, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4738. Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4739. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4740. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4741. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4742. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4743. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4744. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4745. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4746. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4747. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4748. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4749. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4733. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 34, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

(d) COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

(A) work to enhance communication and outreach to States, local communities, and property owners about the effects of—

(i) any potential changes to National Flood Insurance Program rate maps that may result from the mapping program required under this section; and

(ii) that any such changes may have on flood insurance purchase requirements; and

(B) engage with local communities to enhance communication and outreach to the residents of such communities on the matters described under subparagraph (A).

(2) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—The communication and outreach activities required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) notifying property owners when their properties become included in, or when they are excluded from, an area having special flood hazards and the effect of such inclusion or exclusion on the applicability of the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) to such properties;

(B) educating property owners regarding the flood risk and reduction of this risk in their community, including the continued flood risks to areas that are no longer subject to the flood insurance mandatory purchase requirement;

(C) educating property owners regarding the benefits and costs of maintaining or acquiring flood insurance, including, where applicable, lower-cost preferred risk policies under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4011 et seq.) for such properties and the contents of such properties;

(D) educating property owners about flood map revisions and the process available such owners to appeal proposed changes in flood elevations through their community; and

(E) encouraging property owners to maintain or acquire flood insurance coverage.

On page 34, line 15, strike “(d)” and insert “(e)”.

SA 4734. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . . FERNLEY FLOOD COMPENSATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED PERSON.—The term “covered person” means a United States citizen, an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, the City of Fernley, Lyon County, a person that is not an individual, or a school district.

(2) FERNLEY FLOOD.—The term “Fernley flood” means the breach of the Truckee Irrigation Canal on January 5, 2008, and subsequent flooding of the City of Fernley, Nevada.

(3) INJURED PARTY.—The term “injured party” means a covered person that suffered damages resulting from the Fernley flood.

(b) COMPENSATION AND SOURCE OF FUNDS.—

(1) COMPENSATION.—Each injured party shall be eligible to receive from the United States compensation for damages suffered as a result of the Fernley flood.

(2) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—The Director shall compensate each injured party for damages resulting from the Fernley flood from the permanent judgment appropriation under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) INSURANCE AND OTHER BENEFITS.—The Director shall reduce the amount to be paid to an injured party relating to the Fernley flood by an amount that is equal to the total of insurance benefits (excluding life insurance benefits) or other payments or settlements of any nature relating to the Fernley flood that were paid, or will be paid, to that injured party.

(d) ACCEPTANCE OF AWARD.—The acceptance by a injured party of any payment under this section shall (excluding claims relating to life insurance benefits)—

(1) be final and conclusive as to any claim of that injured party relating to damages suffered because of the Fernley flood; and

(2) constitute a complete and full release of all claims of that injured party relating to the Fernley flood against the United States, the State of Nevada, Lyon County, Nevada, the City of Fernley, Nevada, and the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District.

(e) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall promulgate and publish in the Federal Register interim final regulations to carry out this section.

SA 4735. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 301. BIG SIOUX RIVER AND SKUNK CREEK, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

The project for flood control, Big Sioux River and Skunk Creek, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, authorized by section 101(a)(28) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3666), is modified to authorize the Secretary to reimburse the non-Federal interest for funds advanced by the non-Federal interest for the Federal share of the project, only if additional Federal funds are appropriated for that purpose.

SA 4736. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 10, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

(3) ACCURATE PRICING.—In carrying out the mandatory purchase requirement under paragraph (1), the Director shall ensure that the price of flood insurance policies in areas of residual risk accurately reflects the level of flood protection provided by any levee, dam, or other the man-made structure in such area.

On page 31, after line 14 add:

“(v) The level of protection provided by man-made structures.”

On page 10, after line 16, insert:

(d)—upon decertification of any levee, dam, or man-made structure under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers, the