

Whereas significant disparities exist among the obesity rates of children based on race and poverty;

Whereas the financial implications of childhood obesity pose a tremendous financial threat to our economy and health care system, carrying up to \$14,000,000,000 per year in direct health care cost, with people in the United States spending about 9 percent of their total medical costs on obesity-related illnesses;

Whereas obese young people have an 80 percent chance of being obese adults and are more likely than children of normal weight to become overweight or obese adults, and therefore more at risk for associated adult health problems, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, stroke, several types of cancer, and osteoarthritis;

Whereas in part due to the childhood obesity epidemic, 1 in 3 children (and nearly 1 in 2 minority children) born in the year 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes at some point in their lifetime if current trends continue;

Whereas some consequences of childhood and adolescent obesity are psychosocial and obese children and adolescents are targets of early and systematic social discrimination, leading to low self-esteem which, in turn, can hinder academic and social functioning and persist into adulthood;

Whereas participating in physical activity is important for children and teens as it may have beneficial effects not only on body weight, but also on blood pressure and bone strength;

Whereas proper nutrition is important for children before birth and through their lifespan as nutrition has beneficial effects for health and body weight, and is key in the prevention of various chronic diseases;

Whereas childhood obesity is preventable yet does not appear to be declining;

Whereas public, community-based, and private sector organizations and individuals throughout the United States, including First Lady Michelle Obama, are working to decrease childhood obesity rates for people in the United States of all races through a range of efforts, including educational presentations, media campaigns, Web sites, policies, healthier food options, and greater opportunities for physical activity; and

Whereas Members of Congress have championed legislation to reduce and bring awareness to the issue of childhood obesity: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month” in order to raise public awareness and mobilize the country to address childhood obesity;

(2) recognizes the importance of preventing childhood obesity and decreasing its prevalence in the United States; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government, States, tribes and tribal organizations, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of promoting healthy eating and physical activity and increasing awareness of childhood obesity among individuals of all ages and walks of life.

**NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK**

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration

of S. Res. 427, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 427) designating the first week of April, 2010 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week.”

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to; a Baucus amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 427) was agreed to.

The amendment to the preamble (No. 3719) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike the 8th whereas clause of the preamble.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended reads as follows:

**S. RES. 427**

Whereas dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

Whereas the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;

Whereas asbestos fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis, and other health problems;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;

Whereas the expected survival time for those diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

Whereas generally, little is known about late-stage treatment of asbestos-related diseases, and there is no cure for such diseases;

Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases may give some patients increased treatment options and might improve their prognoses;

Whereas the United States has reduced its consumption of asbestos substantially, yet continues to consume almost 2,000 metric tons of the fibrous mineral for use in certain products throughout the Nation;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases have killed thousands of people in the United States;

Whereas exposure to asbestos continues, but safety and prevention of asbestos exposure already has significantly reduced the incidence of asbestos-related diseases and can further reduce the incidence of such diseases;

Whereas asbestos has been a cause of occupational cancer;

Whereas thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure;

Whereas thousands of people in the United States die from asbestos-related diseases every year;

Whereas a significant percentage of all asbestos-related disease victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975;

Whereas people in the small community of Libby, Montana, have asbestos-related dis-

eases at a significantly higher rate than the national average and suffer from mesothelioma at a significantly higher rate than the national average; and

Whereas the establishment of a “National Asbestos Awareness Week” will raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of April 2010 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”;

(2) urges the Surgeon General to warn and educate people about the public health issue of asbestos exposure, which may be hazardous to their health; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Office of the Surgeon General.

**RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**

**NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR AUXILIARIES DAY**

**PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH**

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions: S. Res. 471, S. Res 472, S. Res. 473, and S. Res. 474.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

**S. RES. 471**

Whereas classes began at The University of Southern Mississippi (referred to in this preamble as “the University”), originally named Mississippi Normal College, on March 30, 1910;

Whereas throughout a century of growth, expansion, and changes of name, first to State Teachers College, in 1924, then Mississippi Southern College, in 1940, and ultimately The University of Southern Mississippi, in 1962, the institution has been dedicated to engaging and empowering the citizens of Mississippi to transform lives and communities;

Whereas the University is the only dual-campus university in Mississippi, and the innovative faculty of the University continues to cultivate intellectual development and creativity through the generation, dissemination, application, and preservation of knowledge by annually educating more than 16,000 students from over 100 countries;

Whereas the University is the home of numerous innovative and internationally recognized programs that contribute to the successful research enterprise of the University,

which generates more than \$90,000,000 annually;

Whereas the University has more than 125,000 graduates, whose talents and skills have reflected favorably on the State of Mississippi and who have served as trailblazers in the areas of politics, entertainment, law, business, professional athletics, and volunteerism, improving the lives of all they have touched;

Whereas the University is looking ahead as it enters its second century as a premier research university of the Gulf South, with programs in academics, athletics, community service, and the arts that are competitive in the State and region, and throughout the Nation and around the world; and

Whereas the significance of this centennial in the development of the University, and the State of Mississippi, cannot be over-emphasized: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes The University of Southern Mississippi for 100 years of service and excellence in higher education; and

(2) proudly shares this commemorative occasion with the administration, faculty, students, and alumni of The University of Southern Mississippi.

#### S. RES. 472

Whereas each year the Nation's underground utility infrastructure—including pipelines and electric, gas, telecommunications, water, sewer, and cable television lines—is jeopardized by unintentional damage due to those who fail to have underground lines located prior to digging;

Whereas some lines are buried only a few inches underground, making them easy to strike even during shallow digging projects;

Whereas such digging often has unintended consequences such as service interruption, environmental damage, personal injury, and even death;

Whereas April is the beginning of the peak of excavation projects around the Nation;

Whereas in 2002 Congress required the Department of Transportation and the Federal Communications Commission to establish a 3-digit, nationwide toll-free number to be used by State "One-Call" systems;

Whereas in 2005 the Federal Communications Commission designated "811" as the nationwide "One Call" number for homeowners and all excavators to call before conducting excavation activities;

Whereas the "One-Call" system has helped reduce the number of digging damages caused by failure to call before digging from 57 percent in 2004 to 37.5 percent in 2009;

Whereas the 1,400 members of the Common Ground Alliance, who are dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services, promote the national "Call Before You Dig" campaign to increase public awareness about the importance, for homeowners and excavators, of calling 811 to find out the exact location of underground lines;

Whereas the Common Ground Alliance has designated April as National Safe Digging Month in order to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the country and to celebrate the anniversary of 811, the national "Call Before You Dig" number: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals of National Safe Digging Month and encourages homeowners and all excavators throughout the country to call 811 before digging.

#### S. RES. 473

Whereas the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries and the members of the Na-

tional Association of Junior Auxiliaries provide valuable service and leadership opportunities for women who wish to take an active role in their communities;

Whereas the mission of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries is to encourage member chapters to render charitable services that—

(1) are beneficial to the general public; and  
(2) place a particular emphasis on providing for the needs of children; and

Whereas, since the founding of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries in 1941, the organization has provided strength and inspiration to women who want to effect positive change in their communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 4, 2010, as "National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Day";

(2) recognizes the great contributions made by members of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries to their communities and to the people of the United States; and

(3) especially commends the work of the members of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries to better the lives of children in the United States.

#### S. RES. 474

Whereas Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States, second only to Alzheimer's disease;

Whereas even though there is inadequate comprehensive data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, as of 2010, it is estimated that the disease affects over 1,000,000 people in the United States;

Whereas although research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown;

Whereas there is no objective test for Parkinson's disease and the rate of misdiagnosis can be high;

Whereas symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and include tremor, slowness, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking, rigidity, cognitive problems, dementia, mood disorders, such as depression and anxiety, constipation, skin problems, and sleep disruptions;

Whereas medications mask some symptoms of Parkinson's disease for a limited amount of time each day, often with dose-limiting side-effects;

Whereas ultimately the medications and treatments lose their effectiveness, generally after 4 to 8 years, leaving the person unable to move, speak, or swallow;

Whereas there is no cure, therapy, or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease;

Whereas increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and, ultimately, an effective treatment or cure for Parkinson's disease;

Whereas the Federal Government, through the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Parkinson's Research Program, the Veterans Affairs Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers, and other agencies, supports vital work to better understand Parkinson's disease and to find new treatments; and

Whereas the Parkinson's community will gather in Central Park on April 24, 2010, for the Parkinson's Unity Walk, an annual gathering inspiring people with Parkinson's, their friends, and their families: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April as Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments, and eventually, a cure for Parkinson's disease;

(4) recognizes the people living with Parkinson's who participate in vital clinical trials to advance our knowledge of this disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of local and regional organizations, volunteers, and millions of Americans across the country working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families.

#### APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences or inter-parliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent resolution of the two Houses or by order of the Senate.

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

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate, the Senate committees may file reported legislative and Executive Calendar business on Thursday, April 1, 2010, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 4851

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 4851 occur at 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 12, and that the time from 5 until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the majority leader controlling the final 15 minutes prior to the vote, and that the Senate resume the motion to proceed at 3 p.m. Monday, April 12; further, that the mandatory quorum be waived.