

the military regime in Burma to permit a credible and fair election process and the transition to civilian, democratic rule.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 3913) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the resolving clause)

On page 2, beginning on line 7, strike “the National League for Democracy and other opposition groups,” and insert “all political groups and individuals dedicated to democratic ideals.”

On page 3, beginning on line 9, strike “(including the People’s Republic of China, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the United Nations Security Council)” and insert “, as appropriate, in order”.

On page 3, line 17, strike “the National League for Democracy and”.

The resolution (S. Res. 480), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

S. RES. 480

Whereas the military regime in Burma, headed by General Than Shwe and the State Peace and Development Council, continues to persecute Burmese democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her supporters in the National League for Democracy, and ordinary citizens of Burma, including ethnic minorities, who publically and courageously speak out against the regime’s many injustices;

Whereas Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been imprisoned in Burma for 14 of the last 19 years and many members of the National League for Democracy have been similarly jailed, tortured, or killed;

Whereas the Constitution adopted in 2008 and the election laws recently promulgated effectively prohibit the National League for Democracy, Buddhist monks, ethnic minority leaders, and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from participating in upcoming elections, and do not leave much opportunity for domestic dialogue among key stakeholders; and

Whereas the persecution of the people of Burma has continued even though the Department of State has pursued a policy of engagement with the military regime designed to secure the release of political prisoners, foster national reconciliation, and facilitate peaceful transition to civilian, democratic rule: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the continued detention of Burmese democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all prisoners of conscience in Burma, and calls for their immediate and unconditional release;

(2) calls on the military regime in Burma to engage in dialogue with all political groups and individuals dedicated to democratic ideals, as well as with ethnic minorities, to broaden political participation in an environment free from fear and intimidation;

(3) calls upon the Secretary of State to assess the effectiveness of the policy of engagement with the military regime in Burma in

furthering United States interests, and to maintain, and consider strengthening, sanctions against Burma if the military regime continues its systematic violation of human rights and fails to embrace the democratic aspirations of the people of Burma;

(4) calls upon the Secretary of State to engage regional governments and multilateral organizations, as appropriate, in order to push for the establishment of an environment in Burma that encourages the full and unfettered participation of the people of Burma in a democratic transition to civilian rule; and

(5) calls on the Secretary of State to support the people of Burma in calling for significant constitutional and election reforms by the military regime, which will broaden political participation, further democracy, accountability, and responsive governance, and improve human rights in Burma.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 247 which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 247) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 247) was agreed to.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 263, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (H. Con. Res. 263) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table without any intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 263) was agreed to.

ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the judiciary committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 503 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. 503) designating May 21, 2010 as “Endangered Species Day.”

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble 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. 503) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 503

Whereas in the United States and around the world, more than 1,000 species are officially designated as at risk of extinction and thousands more also face a heightened risk of extinction;

Whereas the actual and potential benefits that may be derived from many species have not yet been fully discovered and would be permanently lost if not for conservation efforts;

Whereas recovery efforts for species such as the whooping crane, Kirtland’s warbler, the peregrine falcon, the gray wolf, the gray whale, the grizzly bear, and others have resulted in great improvements in the viability of such species;

Whereas saving a species requires a combination of sound research, careful coordination, and intensive management of conservation efforts, along with increased public awareness and education;

Whereas ⅔ of endangered or threatened species reside on private lands;

Whereas voluntary cooperative conservation programs have proven to be critical to habitat restoration and species recovery; and

Whereas education and increasing public awareness are the first steps in effectively informing the public about endangered species and species restoration efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 21, 2010, as “Endangered Species Day”;

(2) encourages schools to spend at least 30 minutes on Endangered Species Day teaching and informing students about—

(A) threats to endangered species around the world; and

(B) efforts to restore endangered species, including the essential role of private landowners and private stewardship in the protection and recovery of species;