RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR GAYLORD A. NELSON

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 194, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

A resolution (S. Res. 194) relative to the death of Gaylord A. Nelson, a former United States Senator from the State of Wisconsin.

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

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to speak on a resolution submitted by Senator Frist and Senator Reid to honor the man and the work of Senator Gaylord Nelson. It is with mixed emotions that I make this statement honoring Senator Nelson.

I am proud—proud to have known Gaylord Nelson, proud to be from the same State as him, and proud to occupy his Senate seat. I am also deeply saddened—saddened by the loss to his family, especially to his wife of 58 years, Carrie Lee; saddened by the loss to our Nation; and saddened that a personal hero and dear friend of mine is gone. I am also thankful—for Senator Nelson’s long life, thankful for the example he set of how to make a difference in this world, and thankful to his family for sharing this good and decent man with the Nation. We mourn his death, but we also celebrate his remarkable legacy.

Gaylord Nelson was born on June 4, 1916, in Clear Lake, WI. Gaylord’s parents were always interested in protecting Wisconsin’s natural environment, and Nelson’s life was dedicated to preserving this natural beauty. Nelson was a leader in environmental conservation, working closely with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies to protect Wisconsin’s natural resources and a clean environment.

Nelson was also a strong advocate for international cooperation on environmental issues, particularly in relation to treaties and other international agreements. He was a vocal supporter of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and worked tirelessly to ensure that the United States played a leading role in efforts to combat climate change.

Nelson served in the Wisconsin State Assembly from 1949 to 1953 and was a member of the Wisconsin State Senate from 1953 to 1969. In 1969, he was elected to the United States Senate, where he served until his retirement in 2005.

Nelson is remembered as a dedicated public servant and a leader in conservation and environmental issues. His legacy continues to inspire future generations to protect our natural resources and work towards a sustainable future.

Mr. President, I urge all Members to join me in honoring Senator Nelson and his contributions to our Nation and the world.
years, people around the world have taken time out of our lives to think about, learn about and dedicate themselves to conservation. An astonishing 20 million Americans—10 percent of the U.S. population at the time—participated in the first observance of Earth Day on April 22, 1970. American Heritage magazine described the event as “one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy.” The day was marked by marches, rallies, teach-ins, and concerts. Fifth Avenue was closed for two hours and over 100,000 people celebrated Earth Day on Union Square in New York City.

Earth Day has become an important part of who we are. From Milwaukee, WI to Mumbai, India, millions of people across the world have taken Senator Nelson’s legacy to heart. People have dedicated thousands of hours to volunteer to conserve the environment—whether it’s in their backyard, local river, or park.

During five years of service in the Senate, Gaylord Nelson brought about significant change for the “greener” in education Act, which he sponsored with significant change for the “greener” in Senate, Gaylord Nelson brought about education Act, which he sponsored with significant change for the “greener” in Senate, Gaylord Nelson brought about education Act, which he sponsored with significant change for the “greener” in Senate, Gaylord Nelson brought about education Act, which he sponsored with significant change for the “greener” in Senate, Gaylord Nelson brought about climate change. Nelson’s parents were deeply involved in the movement on which Senator Nelson built a cornerstone of our environmental law. And he was the embodiment of the principle that one person can change the world. But Senator Nelson’s biographer may best capture his life.

He was always the boy from Clear Lake, Wisconsin, off on adventure.

Clear Lake is where he will return, but future generations will carry on his adventure, and his example and principles will show them the way.

Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Senator Gaylord Nelson. The people of Wisconsin owe him a debt of gratitude for his years of service to the State. And the Nation owes him honor as the founder of Earth Day and the driving force behind the way the American people and the world view the environment and environmental conservation.

Gaylord Nelson was born the third of four children on June 4, 1916 in Clear Lake, WI, a community of about 700 people in the northwest corner of the State. Nelson’s parents were deeply involved in Clear Lake civic activities and his first political and disinterest were around his boyhood kitchen table. Those early days were a foundation on which Senator Nelson built a lifetime of public service.

Senator Nelson first won elected office in 1948, after 4 years in the military during World War II. He served as a Wisconsin State Senator, Governor, and then as a U.S. Senator for 18 years. As Governor, he fought for preserving Wisconsin’s forests and wetlands long before they became popular nationally. As Senator, he built on his environmentalist legacy working to protect the Appalachian Trail corridor and to create the national trail system.

But without Presidential and Congressional leadership, even an enlightened public cannot cope with the greatest challenge of our time.

As always, Gaylord was right. I know that Wisconsin values a clean environment, not just for purely aesthetic or philosophical purposes, but because a clean environment ensures that Wisconsin and the United States as a whole remains a good place to raise a family, to start a business, or to buy a home. People across this country share those values, and we in this body owe it to them and to Gaylord’s memory to protect our natural resources.

Gaylord Nelson changed the consciousness of a nation. He was a distinguished Governor and Senator, a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a personal hero of mine. And he was the embodiment of the principle that one person can change the world. But Senator Nelson’s biographer may best capture his life.

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The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 194

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served in the United States Army from 1942–1946;
Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served as Governor of the State of Wisconsin from 1959–1963;
Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served the people of Wisconsin with distinction for 18 years in the United States Senate;
Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served the Senate as Chairman of the Select Committee on Small Business from the Ninety-Third through the Ninety-Sixth Congresses and as Chairman of the Special Committee on Official Conduct in the Ninety-Fifth Congress;
Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995;
Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Gaylord A. Nelson, former member of the United States Senate.
Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.
Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Gaylord A. Nelson.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1374 AND S. 1375

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant legislative clerk reads as follows:

A bill (S. 1374) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for a border preparedness pilot program on Indian land.
A bill (S. 1375) to amend the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 to modify provisions relating to criminal proceedings and civil actions, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own requests en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—H.R. 748

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

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

The assistant legislative clerk reads as follows:

A bill (H.R. 748) to amend Title 18 United States Code to prevent the transportation of minors in circumvention of certain laws related to abortion, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF PAPERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate request that the House return the papers with respect to H.R. 2985, the Legislative Branch appropriations bill.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2005

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:45 a.m., Tuesday, July 12. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of the Homeland Security appropriations bill. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly party luncheons.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order as a mark of further respect to the memory of former Senator Gaylord Nelson.

Chairman GREGG and Senator BYRD will be here tomorrow to work through additional amendments, and Senators who have time to file the amendments and wish to offer them should contact the bill managers, obviously, as soon as possible. Senators should expect rollcall votes throughout the day tomorrow as the Senate continues to make progress on this important piece of legislation.