linguistic backgrounds and benefits from this rich diversity; and
Whereas, these individuals, while keeping their own backgrounds alive, are encouraged to take pride in our national educational system that teaches the English language and American history; and
Whereas, throughout the history of the United States, the common thread binding individuals of differing backgrounds has been the English language; and
Whereas, English was established as the official language of Louisiana as a condition of statehood in 1812; and
Whereas, command of the English language is necessary to participate in and take full advantage of the opportunities afforded by American life.

Therefore, be it resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States of America to take such actions as are necessary to enact legislation establishing English as the official language of the United States.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-186. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the making permanent the increases in Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance coverage and the Death Gratuity benefits to provide financial security of survivors of members of the Louisiana National Guard and other servicemembers who make the ultimate sacrifice with their lives while serving our country and the state of Louisiana; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to make permanent the increases in Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance coverage and the Death Gratuity benefits to provide financial security of survivors of members of the Louisiana National Guard and other servicemembers who make the ultimate sacrifice with their lives while serving our country and the state of Louisiana.

Whereas, members of the Louisiana National Guard (LANG) have been asked to serve as active duty members of Army and Air National Guard units in Louisiana, and to serve in combat areas in Iraq; and
Whereas, the 256th Infantry Brigade is not scheduled to return from Iraq until October 2006, and there is always the possibility that members of LANG will be deployed in combat areas; and
Whereas, under the FY 2005 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill (H.R. 1268) of the 109th Congress adopted by both houses of congress and enrolled, members of LANG will be eligible for one hundred thousand dollars in death gratuity benefits and life insurance policies with limits up to four hundred fifty thousand dollars through the federal Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance program; and
Whereas, under the FY 2005 Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 1268), the Secretary of Defense is authorized to pay the cost of premiums for the increased coverage under federal Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance program, but may not pay increased coverage and authority to pay the costs of premiums terminates on September 30, 2005.

Therefore, be it resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to make permanent the increased Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance coverage and the Death Gratuity benefits to provide financial security of survivors of members of the Louisiana National Guard and other servicemembers who make the ultimate sacrifice with their lives while serving our country and the state of Louisiana.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-187. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County, Florida relative to the support for $385 Million in funding for Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS (HOPWA) Program for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
The following reports of committees were submitted:
By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:
S. 1291. A bill to provide for the acquisition of subsurface mineral interests in land held in trust for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and land held in trust for the Tribe (Rept. No. 119–116).
By Mr. ENZI, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:
S. 518. A bill to provide for the establishment of a controlled substance monitoring program in each State (Rept. No. 119–117).
By Mr. McCAIN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment in the nature of a substitute:
S. 1251. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to modify provisions relating to the National Fund for Excellence in American Indian Education (Rept. No. 119–118).
By Mr. ENZI, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:
S. 1568. An original bill to reauthorize the Agricultural Marketing Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119–119).
By Mr. STEVENSON, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:
S. 1567. An original bill to reauthorize and improve surface transportation safety programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119–120).
By Mr. ENZI, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:
H.R. 804. A bill to exclude from consideration as income certain payments under the national flood insurance program (Rept. No. 119–121).
By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment:
S. 1097. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation’s past Presidents and their spouses, respectively to improve circulation of the $1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE
The following executive report of committee was submitted:
By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

TEXT OF RESOLUTION RATIFICATION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
Section 1. Senate Advice and Consent Subject to Understanding.
The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism (the “Convention”), adopted at the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by the United States on January 28, 2003, subject to the understanding in Section 2.
Section 2. Understanding.
The advice and consent of the Senate under Section 1 is subject to the following understanding, which shall be included in the United States instrument of ratification:
The United States of America understands the term “international instrument of ratification” of Article 2 of the Convention to have the same substantive meaning as the law of war.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS
The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:
By Mr. BOND:
S. 1553. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance tax incentives for small property and casualty insurance companies (Rept. No. 109–108).

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. LIEBERMAN):
S. 1554. A bill to establish an intergovernmental framework program to identify and develop homeland security information, equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services to further the homeland security of the United States and to meet homeland security needs of Federal, State, and local governments; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. MURAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. CORZINE):
S. 1556. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to reform funding for the Seniors Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WYDEN:
S. 1558. A bill to amend the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 to increase the authorization of appropriations for grants to support the competitiveness of specialty crops, to amend the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 to improve the program of value-added agricultural product market development grants by routing funds through State departments of agriculture, to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to require a nationwide expansion of the adjusted gross revenue insurance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. DEMINT):
S. 1557. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate the establishment of additional long-term care insurance partnerships between insurers in order to promote the use of long-term care insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LUTENBERG, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. PYOR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. OHAMA, Mr. DODD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1580. A bill to improve the health of minority individuals to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. BUNNING):

S. 1581. A bill to facilitate the development of science parks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 1582. A bill to reauthorize the United States Grain Standards Act; to require the official inspection at export port locations of grain required or authorized to be inspected under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. DODGON, and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 1583. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to expand the contribution base for universal service, establish a separate account within the universal service fund to support the deployment of broadband service in underserved areas of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. LINDSAY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1584. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to expand the contribution base for universal service, establish a separate account within the universal service fund to support the deployment of broadband service in underserved areas of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. REED):

S. 1586. A bill to allow all businesses to make up to 24 transfers each month from interest-bearing transaction accounts to other transaction accounts; to require the payment of interest on reserves held for depositary institutions at Federal reserve banks to repeal the prohibition of interest on business accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. MURRAY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. AKARA, Mr. REED, Mr. CRASPE, Mr. LEAHEY, Mr. DODD, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 1587. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to permit qualifying States to use a portion of their allotments under the statute's children's health insurance program for any fiscal year for certain Medicaid expenditures; to the Committee on Finance.
By Mrs. LINCOLN: S. 1588. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAIG; Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUYE, Ms. LANDRY, and Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 1600. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure full access to digital television in areas served by low-power television, and to make certain amendments to the Communications Act of 1934; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 1603. A bill to establish a National Prepared Lender Program, facilitate the delivery of financial assistance to small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. CRABO: S. 1606. A bill to establish an opt-out system for the collection of DNA samples from persons arrested and detained under Federal authority; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Kyl: S. 1607. A bill to amend section 10501 of title 49, United States Code, to exclude solid waste disposal from the jurisdiction of the Surface Transportation Board; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. McCain, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 1608. A bill to enhance Federal Trade Commission enforcement public safety against illegal spam, spyware, and cross-border fraud and deception, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 1609. A bill to increase the production and use of biofuels and diversify biofuel feedstocks as key elements to achieving energy independence for the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Res. 224. A resolution to express the sense of the Senate supporting the establishment of September as Campus Fire Safety Month, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. LANDRUE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 225. A resolution designating the month of November 2005 as the “Month of Global Health”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. HAGEL):

S. Res. 226. A resolution calling for free and fair parliamentary elections in the Republic of Azerbaijan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. KOhl, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. DURBEN, Mr. LINCOLN, Mr. SMITH, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. COLKMAN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. OBAMA, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. CHAFECK, Mr. LIBERMAN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. McCAIN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. SARBAKES, Ms. MIKULAKI, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. RICHARDSON:

S. Res. 227. A resolution pledging continued support for international hunger relief efforts and expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Government should use resources and diplomatic leverage to secure food aid for countries that are in need of further assistance to prevent acute and chronic hunger; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. Res. 228. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should use its diplomatic influence to improve the conditions for international peace and security; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. LANDRUE:

S. Res. 229. A resolution designating the month of September 2005 as “National Preparedness Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. BUNNING, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. HATCH, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. FENSTEIN, Mr. LOTT, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 230. A resolution designating September 2005 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Ms. MURkowski, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MIKULAKI, Ms. MURRAY, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. STABENOW, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. LIBERMAN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. Dole, Mr. LAUtenberg, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. LlNCOLN, and Mr. SANTORUM:

S. Res. 231. A resolution encouraging the Transitional National Assembly of Iraq to