March 27, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE S3981

NATIONAL CUSHING’S SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 127.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 127) designating April 8, 2007 as “National Cushing’s Syndrome Awareness Day.”

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

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I rise today to have proudly introduced a resolution designating April 8, 2007, as “National Cushing’s Syndrome Awareness Day.”

Cushing’s Syndrome is among the most dangerous diseases we have today, due to quality health care and therefore seek to raise awareness of this debilitating disorder that affects an estimated 10 to 15 people per million.

I seek your help in raising awareness of Cushing’s Syndrome, which is an endocrine or hormonal disorder caused by prolonged exposure of the body’s tissue to high levels of the hormone cortisol. I seek your help in this effort to raise awareness of Cushing’s Syndrome.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 127) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 127

Whereas Cushing’s Syndrome annually affects an estimated 10 to 15 people per million, most of whom are currently between the ages of 20 and 50;

Whereas Cushing’s Syndrome is an endocrine or hormonal disorder caused by prolonged exposure of the body’s tissue to high levels of the hormone cortisol;

Whereas exposure to cortisol can occur by overproduction in the body or by taking glucocorticoid hormones, which are routinely prescribed for asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, or as an immunosuppressant following transplantation;

Whereas the syndrome may also result from pituitary adenomas, ectopic ACTH syndrome, adrenal tumors, and Familial Cushing’s Syndrome;

Whereas Cushing’s Syndrome can cause abnormal weight gain, skin changes, fatigue, diabetes, high blood pressure, depression, osteoporosis, and death;

Whereas Cushing’s Syndrome is diagnosed through a series of tests, often requiring x-ray examinations of the adrenal or pituitary glands to locate tumors;

Whereas many people who suffer from Cushing’s Syndrome are misdiagnosed or go undiagnosed for years because many of the symptoms are mirrored in milder diseases, thereby delaying important treatment options;

Whereas treatments for Cushing’s Syndrome include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, therapy, cortisone, and reducing the dosage of glucocorticoid hormones;

Whereas Cushing’s Syndrome was discovered by Dr. Harvey Williams Cushing, who was born on April 19, 1869; and

Whereas the Dr. Harvey Cushing stamp was part of the United States Postal Service’s “Great American” series, initiated in 1980 to recognize individuals for making significant contributions to the heritage and culture of the United States;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 8, 2007, as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness of the importance of financial education, including literacy, appropriateness, and growth;

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

AUTHORIZING LEGAL COUNSEL REPRESENTATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 128.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 128) to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in United States v. Philip G. Balcombe, Sashi G. Cooman, John S. Dear, Jan Lustig, Michella A. Marusa, Martin J. Ryan, Eleanor M. Vouelas, and Bruno Keller.


Whereas the Dr. Harvey Cushing stamp was designed to raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of Cushing’s Syndrome;

Whereas the Dr. Harvey Cushing stamp was designed to raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of Cushing’s Syndrome;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 8, 2007, as “National Cushing’s Syndrome Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that all Americans should become more informed and aware of Cushing’s Syndrome;

(3) Calls upon the people of the United States to observe the date with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(4) Requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Cushing’s Understanding, Support & Help Organization.
Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD, with action on the bill.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 128) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 128

Whereas, in the case of United States v. Philip G. Balcombe, Sani G. Coogan, John S. Dear, Jan Lustig, Michella A. Marusa, Martin J. Ryan, Eleonore M. Vouelas, and Bruno Keller, Cr. No. 07–297, pending in federal district court in Albuquerque, New Mexico, testimony and documents have been requested from Maggie Murray, an employee in the office of Senator Pete Domenici;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their positions as Senate employees;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Maggie Murray and any other employees of Senator Domenici’s office from whom testimony or the production of documents may be required are authorized to testify and produce documents in connection with this action, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD, and that there be no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 129) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 129

Whereas, in the cases of State of Alaska v. Robert S. Mulford (Cr. No. 4FA–97–547) and Don G. Muller (Cr. No. 4FA–97–548), pending in state court in Fairbanks, Alaska, testimony and documents have been requested from Diane Hutchison, an employee in the office of Senator Ted Stevens;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their positions as Senate employees;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Diane Hutchison and any other employees of Senator Stevens’ office from whom testimony or the production of documents may be required are authorized to testify and produce documents in connection with this action, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD, with action on the bill.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 474) to award a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill:

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, today the Senate will unanimously pass S. 474, a bill I introduced to award a Congressional Gold Medal—the highest civilian award which may be bestowed by the United States Congress—to my dear friend, Dr. Michael DeBakey. I thank my colleagues for joining me in recognizing and honoring Dr. Deakey for his lifetime of medical achievement and public service. I would especially like to thank my friend and colleague from Louisiana, Senator MARY LANDRIEU. She joined me in circulating a letter to our Senate colleagues on this bill, and she was very helpful in gathering key co-sponsors needed to pass this legislation today.

Dr. DeBakey is currently in Texas recovering from the very type of heart operation he pioneered. At the age of 98, he is the oldest survivor of the operation he developed to repair a damaged aorta, the main artery from the heart. I certainly wish him well as he continues to recover from this major operation. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank him once again for his lifetime of commitment and service not only to the medical community but to the world and strongly encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pass this legislation as soon as possible.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the Dear Colleague letter for S. 474 be printed in the RECORD, and I request that Senator LANDRIEU be added as an original cosponsor of this bill because without her help, this bill would not have passed.

There being no objection, the matter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:


DEAR COLLEAGUE: Please join us in recognizing Dr. Michael DeBakey, a public servant and world-renowned cardiologist, for his many outstanding achievements in the field of medicine. We encourage you to co-sponsor and support a bill for the award of a Congressional Gold Medal. This is the highest award which may be bestowed by the United States Congress, and Dr. DeBakey is most deserving.

Dr. Michael DeBakey, a native of Louisiana and graduate of the Tulane University School of Medicine, is a pioneer in every sense of the word. His distinguished career has impacted nearly every aspect of modern medicine.