

Whereas international fishing treaties and agreements provide a framework for establishing rules to guide sustainable fishing activities among those nations that are parties to the agreement, and regional fisheries management organizations provide international fora for implementing these agreements and facilitating international cooperation and collaboration;

Whereas under its authorities in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council has proposed that the United States close all Federal waters in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas to commercial fishing until a fisheries management plan is fully developed; and

Whereas future commercial fishing and fisheries management activities in the Arctic Ocean should be developed through a coordinated international framework, as provided by international treaties or regional fisheries management organizations, and this framework should be implemented before significant commercial fishing activity expands to the high seas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled That—

(1) the United States should initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Arctic nations to negotiate an agreement or agreements for managing migratory, transboundary, and straddling fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean and establishing a new international fisheries management organization or organizations for the region;

(2) the agreement or agreements negotiated pursuant to paragraph (1) should conform to the requirements of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement and contain mechanisms, inter alia, for establishing catch and bycatch limits, harvest allocations, observers, monitoring, data collection and reporting, enforcement, and other elements necessary for sustaining future Arctic fish stocks;

(3) as international fisheries agreements are negotiated and implemented, the United States should consult with the North Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and Alaska Native subsistence communities of the Arctic; and

(4) until the agreement or agreements negotiated pursuant to paragraph (1) come into force and measures consistent with the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement are in effect, the United States should support international efforts to halt the expansion of commercial fishing activities in the high seas of the Arctic Ocean.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 299—RECOGNIZING THE RELIGIOUS AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FESTIVAL OF DIWALI

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 299

Whereas Diwali, a festival of great significance to Indian Americans and South Asian Americans, is celebrated annually by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains throughout the United States;

Whereas there are nearly 2,000,000 Hindus in the United States, approximately 1,250,000 of which are of Indian and South Asian origin;

Whereas the word “Diwali” is a shortened version of the Sanskrit term “Deepavali”, which means “a row of lamps”;

Whereas Diwali is a festival of lights, during which celebrants light small oil lamps, place them around the home, and pray for health, knowledge, and peace;

Whereas celebrants of Diwali believe that the rows of lamps symbolize the light within the individual that rids the soul of the darkness of ignorance;

Whereas Diwali falls on the last day of the last month in the lunar calendar and is celebrated as a day of thanksgiving and the beginning of the new year for many Hindus;

Whereas for Hindus, Diwali is a celebration of the victory of good over evil;

Whereas for Sikhs, Diwali is feted as the day that the sixth founding Sikh Guru, or revered teacher, Guru Hargobind, was released from captivity by the Mughal Emperor Jehangir; and

Whereas for Jains, Diwali marks the anniversary of the attainment of moksha, or liberation, by Mahavira, the last of the Tirthankaras (the great teachers of Jain dharma), at the end of his life in 527 B.C.: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation recognizing Diwali.

SENATE RESOLUTION 300—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA (FYROM) SHOULD STOP THE UTILIZATION OF MATERIALS THAT VIOLATE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS-BROKERED INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN FYROM AND GREECE REGARDING “HOSTILE ACTIVITIES OR PROPAGANDA” AND SHOULD WORK WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND GREECE TO ACHIEVE LONGSTANDING UNITED STATES AND UNITED NATIONS POLICY GOALS OF FINDING A MUTUALLY-ACCEPTABLE OFFICIAL NAME FOR FYROM

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. SNOWE and Mr. OBAMA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 300

Whereas, on April 8, 1993, the United Nations General Assembly admitted as a member the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), under the name the “Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 817 (1993) states that the dispute over the name must be resolved to maintain peaceful relations between Greece and FYROM;

Whereas, on September 13, 1995, Greece and FYROM signed a United Nations-brokered Interim Accord that, among other things, commits them to not “support claims to any part of the territory of the other party or claims for a change of their existing frontiers”;

Whereas a pre-eminent goal of the United Nations Interim Accord was to stop FYROM from utilizing, since its admittance to the United Nations in 1993, what the Accord calls “propaganda”, including in school textbooks;

Whereas a television report in recent years showed students in a state-run school in FYROM still being taught that parts of Greece, including Greek Macedonia, are rightfully part of FYROM;

Whereas some textbooks, including the Military Academy textbook published in 2004 by the Military Academy “General Mihailo Apostolski” in the FYROM capital city, contain maps showing that a “Greater Macedonia” extends many miles south into Greece to Mount Olympus and miles east to Mount Pirin in Bulgaria;

Whereas, in direct contradiction of the spirit of the United Nations Interim Accord’s section “A”, entitled “Friendly Relations and Confidence Building Measures”, which attempts to eliminate challenges regarding “historic and cultural patrimony”, the Government of FYROM recently renamed the capital city’s international airport “Alexander the Great Airport”;

Whereas the aforementioned acts constitute a breach of FYROM’s international obligations deriving from the spirit of the United Nations Interim Accord, which provide that FYROM should abstain from any form of “propaganda” against Greece’s historical or cultural heritage;

Whereas such acts are not compatible with Article 10 of the United Nations Interim Accord, which calls for “improving understanding and good neighbourly relations”, as well as with European standards and values endorsed by European Union member-states; and

Whereas this information, like that exposed in the media report and elsewhere, being used contrary to the United Nations Interim Accord instills hostility and a rationale for irredentism in portions of the population of FYROM toward Greece and the history of Greece: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) urges the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) to observe its obligations under Article 7 of the 1995 United Nations-brokered Interim Accord, which directs the parties to “promptly take effective measures to prohibit hostile activities or propaganda by state-controlled agencies and to discourage acts by private entities likely to incite violence, hatred or hostility” and review the contents of textbooks, maps, and teaching aids to ensure that such tools are stating accurate information; and

(2) urges FYROM to work with Greece within the framework of the United Nations process to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals by reaching a mutually-acceptable official name for FYROM.

SENATE RESOLUTION 301—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DESEGREGATION OF LITTLE ROCK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. PRYOR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 301

Whereas the landmark 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* established that racial segregation in public schools violated the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas, in September 1957, 9 African-American students (Minnijean Brown, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Thelma Mothershed, Melba Pattillo, Gloria Ray, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas, and

Carlotta Walls), known as the “Little Rock Nine”, became the first African-American students at Little Rock Central High School;

Whereas the Little Rock Nine displayed tremendous strength, determination, and courage despite enduring verbal and physical abuse;

Whereas Little Rock Central High School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 19, 1977, and was designated a National Historic Landmark on May 20, 1982;

Whereas, on November 6, 1998, Congress established the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site in the State of Arkansas (Public Law 105-356), which is administered in partnership with the National Park Service, the Little Rock Public School System, the City of Little Rock, and other entities;

Whereas, in 2007, Little Rock Central High School and the Little Rock Central High School Integration 50th Anniversary Commission will host events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine entering Little Rock Central High School;

Whereas these events will include the opening of a new visitors’ center and museum, which will feature exhibits on the Little Rock Nine and the road to desegregation; and

Whereas Little Rock Central High School continues to be regarded as one of the best public high schools in the United States, with students scoring above the national average on the ACT, PSAT, and PLAN tests and receiving an average of \$3,000,000 in academic scholarships each year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the extraordinary bravery and courage of the Little Rock Nine, who helped expand opportunity and equality in public education in Arkansas and throughout the United States by becoming the first African-American students at Little Rock Central High School;

(2) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, one of the most significant events in the American civil rights movement;

(3) encourages all people of the United States to reflect on the importance of this event; and

(4) acknowledges that continued efforts and resources should be directed to enable all children to achieve equal opportunity in education in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 302—CENSURING THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 302

Resolved,

SECTION 1. BASIS FOR CENSURE.

(a) IRAQ’S ALLEGED NUCLEAR PROGRAM.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) In December 2001, the intelligence community assessed that Iraq did not appear to have reconstituted its nuclear weapons program.

(2) The October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate assessed that Iraq did not have a nuclear weapon or sufficient material to make one, and that without sufficient fissile material acquired from abroad, Iraq probably would not be able to make a weapon until 2007 or 2009.

(3) On October 6, 2002, the Central Intelligence Agency advised the White House to remove references to Iraq seeking uranium from Africa from a Presidential speech, citing weak evidence.

(4) In November 2002, the United States Government told the International Atomic Energy Association that “reporting on Iraqi attempts to procure uranium from Africa are fragmentary at best.”

(5) On March 7, 2003, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Association reported to the United Nations Security Council that inspectors had found “no evidence or plausible indication of the revival of a nuclear weapons program in Iraq.”

(6) On March 11, 2003, the Central Intelligence Agency stated that it did not dispute the International Atomic Energy Association conclusions that the documents on Iraq’s agreement to buy uranium from Niger were not authentic.

(7) President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney overstated the nature and urgency of the threat posed by Saddam Hussein by making repeated, unqualified assertions about an Iraqi nuclear program that were not supported by available intelligence, including—

(A) on March 22, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[Saddam] is a dangerous man who possesses the world’s most dangerous weapons.”;

(B) on August 26, 2002, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “[m]any of us are convinced that Saddam will acquire nuclear weapons fairly soon.”;

(C) on September 8, 2002, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “[w]e do know, with absolute certainty, that he is using his procurement system to acquire the equipment he needs in order to enrich uranium to build a nuclear weapon.”;

(D) on September 20, 2002, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “we now have irrefutable evidence that he has once again set up and reconstituted his program, to take uranium, to enrich it to sufficiently high grade, so that it will function as the base material as a nuclear weapon.”;

(E) on October 7, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[f]acing clear evidence of peril, we cannot wait for the final proof—the smoking gun—that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud.”;

(F) on December 31, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[w]e don’t know whether or not [Saddam] has a nuclear weapon.”;

(G) on January 28, 2003, President George W. Bush stated that “[t]he British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa.”; and

(H) on March 16, 2003, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “[w]e believe [Hussein] has, in fact, reconstituted nuclear weapons.”.

(b) SADDAM’S ALLEGED INTENT TO USE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate assessed that “Baghdad for now appears to be drawing a line short of conducting terrorist attacks with conventional or CBW against the United States, fearing that exposure of Iraqi involvement would provide Washington a stronger cause for making war” and that “Iraq probably would attempt clandestine attacks against the United States Homeland if Baghdad feared an attack that threatened the survival of the regime were imminent or unavoidable, or possibly for revenge.”.

(2) President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney made misleading statements, that were not supported by the available intelligence, suggesting that Saddam Hussein sought weapons of

mass destruction for the purpose of an unprovoked, offensive attack, including—

(A) on August 26, 2002, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “. . . there is no doubt that Saddam Hussein now has weapons of mass destruction. There is no doubt he is amassing them to use against our friends, against our allies, and against us.”;

(B) on August 26, 2002, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “[t]hese are not weapons for the purpose of defending Iraq; these are offensive weapons for the purpose of inflicting death on a massive scale, developed so that Saddam can hold the threat over the head of anyone he chooses, in his own region or beyond.”; and

(C) on October 2, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “On its present course, the Iraqi regime is a threat of unique urgency. We know the treacherous history of the regime. It has waged a war against its neighbors, it has sponsored and sheltered terrorists, it has developed weapons of mass death, it has used them against innocent men, women and children. We know the designs of the Iraqi regime.”.

(c) SADDAM’S ALLEGED LINKS TO AL QAEDA AND 9/11.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) Before the war, the Central Intelligence Agency assessed that “Saddam has viewed Islamic extremists operating inside Iraq as a threat, and his regime since its inception has arrested and executed members of both Shia and Sunni groups to disrupt their organizations and limit their influence,” that “Saddam Hussain and Usama bin Laden are far from being natural partners,” and that assessments about Iraqi links to al Qaeda rest on “a body of fragmented, conflicting reporting from sources of varying reliability.”.

(2) President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney overstated the threat posed by Saddam Hussein by making unqualified assertions that were not supported by available intelligence linking Saddam Hussein to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and stating that Saddam Hussein and al Qaeda had a relationship and that Saddam Hussein would provide al Qaeda with weapons of mass destruction for purposes of an offensive attack against the United States, including—

(A) on September 25, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[Y]ou can’t distinguish between al Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror.”;

(B) on September 26, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[t]he dangers we face will only worsen from month to month and from year to year . . . Each passing day could be the one on which the Iraqi regime gives anthrax or VX—nerve gas—or some day a nuclear weapon to a terrorist ally.”;

(C) on October 14, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[t]his is a man that we know has had connections with al Qaeda. This is a man who, in my judgment, would like to use al Qaeda as a forward army.”;

(D) on November 7, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “[Saddam is] a threat because he is dealing with al Qaeda . . . [A] true threat facing our country is that an al Qaeda-type network trained and armed by Saddam could attack America and not leave one fingerprint.”;

(E) on January 31, 2003, President George W. Bush stated that “Saddam Hussein would like nothing more than to use a terrorist network to attack and to kill and leave no fingerprints behind.”;

(F) on March 16, 2003, Vice President Richard B. Cheney stated that “we also have to address the question of where might these terrorists acquire weapons of mass destruction, chemical weapons, biological weapons,