

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 117

Congratulating the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary and commending the many men and women of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service who have served the Nation's labor-management community and the American people.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 2, 1997

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Congratulating the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary and commending the many men and women of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service who have served the Nation's labor-management community and the American people.

Whereas the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (referred to in this resolution as the "FMCS") was created as an independent agency of the United States by the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947;

Whereas for 50 years, the FMCS has been instrumental in promoting the United States policy that "sound and stable industrial peace and the advancement of the general

welfare, health, and safety of the Nation and of the best interest of employers and employees can most satisfactorily be secured through the settlement of issues between employers and employees through the processes of collective bargaining between employers and representatives of their employees”;

Whereas the FMCS has provided mediation services to labor and management by assisting them to settle disputes and reach agreement in collective bargaining negotiations, thereby helping to prevent or minimize work stoppages that disrupt the free flow of commerce and to promote sound and stable labor-management relations;

Whereas the FMCS has provided arbitration services by administering a roster of qualified, private arbitrators to resolve disputes arising under collective bargaining agreements, thereby minimizing disruptions to commerce and preserving labor-management peace;

Whereas the FMCS has encouraged joint initiatives designed to assist employers and the representatives of their employees explore better ways to manage differences and to work together for mutual benefit and has awarded grants to promote labor-management cooperation and to encourage innovative workplace practices, thereby improving economic performance and enhancing economic development, employment security, and organizational effectiveness;

Whereas the FMCS has provided dispute resolution services to government agencies as an alternative to costly litigation or formal rulemaking, thereby enabling less adversarial and more participative approaches to governing;

Whereas the FMCS has helped management, labor, and government leaders from many nations throughout the world to establish sound industrial relations and conflict resolution systems and practices, thereby promoting sound economic development and democratic principles; and

Whereas the FMCS has developed the art, science, and practice of conflict resolution as a means to improve the lives of the working men and women of this Nation and the relationships between labor and management and between others in our society, to sustain democratic institutions, and to strengthen the American economy, thereby making an important contribution to our Nation: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) commends the Federal Mediation and Con-
3 ciliation Service for 50 years of dedicated and im-
4 portant service to the Nation; and

5 (2) congratulates the FMCS as it commemo-
6 rates its fiftieth anniversary.

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