

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 338

Calling on the President to designate April 16, 2004, as National Youth Service Day, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 8, 2004

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Calling on the President to designate April 16, 2004, as
National Youth Service Day, and for other purposes.

Whereas National Youth Service Day is an annual public awareness and education campaign that highlights the amazing contributions that young people make to their communities throughout the year;

Whereas the goals of National Youth Service Day are to mobilize youths as leaders to identify and address the needs of their communities through service and service-learning, to support youth on a lifelong path of service and civic engagement, and to educate the public, the media, and

policymakers about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders;

Whereas young people in the United States are volunteering more than has any generation in American history;

Whereas the ongoing contributions young people make to their communities throughout the year should be recognized and encouraged;

Whereas young people should be viewed as the hope not only of tomorrow, but of today, and should be valued for the inherent idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment that they employ in addressing the needs of their communities;

Whereas there is a fundamental and absolute correlation between youth service and lifelong adult volunteering and philanthropy;

Whereas a sustained investment by the Federal Government and commitment by corporate partners fuels the positive, long-term cultural change that will make service and service-learning the common expectation and common experience of all youth;

Whereas, through volunteer service and related learning opportunities, young people build character and learn valuable skills, including time management, teamwork, needs-assessment, and leadership, that are sought by employers;

Whereas service-learning, an innovative teaching method combining service to the community with a classroom curriculum, is a proven strategy to increase academic achievement;

Whereas private foundations and corporations support youth service and service-learning because they believe that

strong communities begin with strong schools and a community investment in the lives and futures of youth;

Whereas National Youth Service Day is a program of Youth Service America, and is being observed in 2004 for the 16th consecutive year;

Whereas Youth Service America continues to expand National Youth Service Day, now engaging millions of young people nationwide with 50 Lead Agencies in nearly every State to organize activities across the United States;

Whereas Youth Service America has expanded National Youth Service Day to involve over 90 national partners;

Whereas National Youth Service Day has inspired Global Youth Service Day, which occurs concurrently in 127 countries and is now in its fifth year; and

Whereas young people will benefit greatly from expanded opportunities to engage in meaningful volunteer service: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. RECOGNITION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF**
 3 **YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

4 The Senate recognizes and commends the significant
 5 contributions of American youth and encourages the cul-
 6 tivation of a common civic bond among young people dedi-
 7 cated to serving their neighbors, their communities, and
 8 the Nation.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY.**

2 (a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the
3 Senate that the President should designate April 16,
4 2004, as “National Youth Service Day”.

5 (b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests that the
6 President issue a proclamation—

7 (1) designating April 16, 2004, as “National
8 Youth Service Day”; and

9 (2) calling on the people of the United States
10 to—

11 (A) observe the day by encouraging and
12 engaging youth to participate in civic and com-
13 munity service projects;

14 (B) recognize the volunteer efforts of our
15 Nation’s young people throughout the year; and

16 (C) support these efforts as an investment
17 in the future of our Nation.

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