

traced back to 1901, when Dr. T.H. Taliaferro, president of the Florida State Agricultural College, enthusiastically endorsed the new sport of football and by that deed ensured that the University of Florida Fightin' Gator football team exists today;

Whereas the University of Florida is a founding member of the Southeastern Conference, considered by many to be the toughest conference in college football;

Whereas the students, alumni, and friends of the University of Florida are to be commended for the dedication, enthusiasm, and admiration they share for the Fightin' Gator football team;

Whereas in 1990, Stephen Orr Spurrier, the most fabled football player in the history of the University of Florida and winner of the Heisman Trophy in 1966, was hired to be the head football coach to lead the team to the ever elusive "Year of the Gator";

Whereas in 1992, Coach Spurrier and his assistant coaches recruited a group of talented athletes who went on to form the nucleus of the 1996 football team;

Whereas the 1996 Fightin' Gator football team compiled a record of 12 wins and 1 loss and outscored their opponents by a margin of 611 points to 221 points, and for this achievement the Fightin' Gator football team was recognized by the Associated Press and the Division I college football coaches as college football's 1996 Division I national champions;

Whereas the 1996 Fightin' Gators football team and coaches are to be commended for winning the school's first Division I collegiate football national championship.

Whereas the 1996 Fightin' Gator football team broke several school, Southeastern Conference, and Division I football records during the 1996 football season;

Whereas the 1996 senior class of the Fightin' Gator football team should be commended for their leadership and their "team first" approach that helped win the 1996 Division I collegiate football national championship, 4 consecutive Southeastern Conference football championships, and the most victories for a senior class in school history;

Whereas Danny Wuerffel, the team's quarterback, field leader, and spiritual leader should be commended for winning numerous awards and accolades for his performance during the 1996 football season including the Heisman Trophy, which is presented yearly to college football's most outstanding player, and the Draddy Scholarship Trophy, which is presented annually to the Nation's premier football scholar athlete;

Whereas Lawrence Wright, the team's strong safety, should be commended for winning the prestigious Jim Thorpe Award, which is presented yearly to college football's most outstanding defensive back;

Whereas Reidel Anthony, one of the team's clutch wide receivers, should be commended for being selected by both the Football Writers Association and the Associated Press to their respective college football All-American teams;

Whereas Ike Hilliard, another of the team's deep threats at wide receiver, should be commended for being selected by the Walter Camp Football Foundation as a member of its college football All-American team;

Whereas all the loyal sons and daughters of the University of Florida join together in honoring Coach Spurrier and the 1996 Florida Fightin' Gators for winning the 1996 NCAA Division I football championship; and

Whereas the 1996 season will be known forever in the hearts and minds of the University of Florida faithful as the "Year of the Gator": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Florida for winning the 1996 Division I collegiate football national championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, and support staff who were instrumental in helping the University of Florida win the 1996 Division I collegiate football national championship and invites them to the Capitol to be honored in an appropriate manner to be determined;

(3) requests that the President recognize the accomplishments and achievements of the 1996 University of Florida Fightin' Gator football team and invite the team to Washington, D.C. for the traditional White House ceremony held for national championship teams; and

(4) directs the Secretary of the Senate to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the University of Florida for appropriate display and to transmit an enrolled copy to each member of the 1996 University of Florida Division I collegiate national championship football team.

AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING OF THE HISTORY MANUSCRIPT OF THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEES

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 67 submitted earlier today by Senators CRAIG and REID.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 67) authorizing the printing of the history manuscript of the Republican and Democratic Policy Committees in Commemoration of their 50th Anniversaries.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

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

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise to speak on "A History of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, 1947-1997."

Fifty years ago, the Senate established the Republican and Democratic policy committees. At the end of the Second World War and at the beginning of the cold war, U.S. Senators had concluded that this venerable old institution needed modernization to enable it to handle the increasingly complex foreign and domestic issues on its agenda, and to hold its own against an expanding presidential influence.

From 1945 to 1946, a joint committee chaired by Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., a Republican from Wisconsin, and Representative Mike Monroney, an Oklahoma Democrat, investigated ways to reform the legislative branch. The joint committee proposed creation of professional staffs for each standing committee and allowing Senators and Representatives to appoint administrative assistants. It also recommended expansion of the Legislative Reference Service, now known as the Congressional Research Service. Those reforms were incorporated into the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

One proposal that was not included in the act was the joint committee's recommendation that the Senate and House establish policy committees to

assist the parties in promoting their legislative agenda. House Speaker Sam Rayburn feared that such policy committees might threaten his authority and refused to support them. Although the idea was dropped from the Legislative Reorganization Act, it was shortly thereafter incorporated in an appropriations bill but authorized policy committees for the Senate alone. Some time later the House also established policy committees.

Chief credit for the policy committees belongs to Ohio Republican Senator Robert A. Taft. As chairman of the Republican Steering Committee, from 1944 to 1946, Taft firmly believed in thorough preparation and expertise. Although Republicans were then in the minority, Taft used the Steering Committee to plan and coordinate the party's legislative program, rather than wait to react defensively against the initiatives of the President and the majority party. Under Taft the Steering Committee helped Republican Senators become better informed on pending issues. His staff ran evening meetings that some called a night school for Senators. The Republican Steering Committee became the model for the proposed policy committees. Indeed, when the policy committees were written into law, the Republican Conference simply redesignated its Steering Committee as the Republican Policy Committee. Chairman Taft and all of the other members of the Steering Committee become the first members of the Policy Committee.

The Republican Policy Committee came into existence at the beginning of the 80th Congress, just as Republicans resumed the majority in the Senate and House. The 50th anniversary finds Republicans back in the majority in both Houses of Congress. Over the years the Policy Committee's services and functions have expanded considerably. Since 1947, it has produced the very useful Record Vote Analyses. Since 1956, it has hosted working lunches each week for Republican Senators. Since 1987, it has operated an in-house bulletin-board cable information channel to keep Senators and their staffs apprised of Senate floor activities and the upcoming agenda. In 1995, the Policy Committee stood among the first Senate offices to develop a home page on the Internet's World Wide Web, to provide information inside and outside the Senate on its publications, and to share information on key Republican policies.

The Policy Committee staff prepares both brief and indepth reports on the major issues facing the Senate. The Policy Committee conducts seminars for new legislative staff members, and holds issue forums and roundtable discussions for Senators. It also hosts regular meetings for staff directors, legislative directors, and press secretaries.

During its first 50 years, the Republican Policy Committee grew into a thriving operation staffed by a variety of experts. Working directly with the

Senators, and educating the journalists who report on them, the Policy Committee has assisted Republican Senators in setting policy, enacting legislation, and getting their message out. That is an accomplishment entirely consistent with the goals that Robert Taft set in founding the Republican Policy Committee. The story of how those goals were achieved is contained in the history of the Policy Committee that was prepared by the Senate Historical Office, and will now be available for Senators, staff, students, and the general public.

I understand that the Democratic Policy Committee is considering a companion publication, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate its chairman, Senator TOM DASCHLE, and cochairman, Senator HARRY REID, on our mutual 50th anniversary.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 67) was agreed to.

The resolution is as follows:

S. RES. 67

SECTION 1. PRINTING OF THE HISTORY MANUSCRIPT OF THE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be printed as a Senate document the book entitled, "A History of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, 1947-1997," prepared by the Senate Historical Office under the supervision of the Secretary of the Senate, with the concurrence of the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee.

(b) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Senate document described in subsection (a) shall include illustrations and shall be in the style, form, manner, and binding as directed by the Joint Committee on Printing after consultation with the Secretary of the Senate.

(c) NUMBER OF COPIES.—In addition to the usual number of copies, there shall be printed with suitable binding the lesser of—

(1) 1,000 copies for use of the Senate, to be allocated as determined by the Secretary of the Senate; or

(2) a number of copies that does not have a total production and printing cost of more than \$1,200.

SEC. 2. PRINTING OF THE HISTORY MANUSCRIPT OF THE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be printed as a Senate document the book entitled, "A History of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, 1947-1997," prepared by the Senate Historical Office under the supervision of the Secretary of the Senate, with the concurrence of the U.S. Senate Democratic Policy Committee.

(b) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Senate document described in subsection (a) shall include illustrations and shall be in the style, form, manner, and binding as directed by the Joint Committee on Printing after consultation with the Secretary of the Senate.

(c) NUMBER OF COPIES.—In addition to the usual number of copies, there shall be printed with suitable binding the lesser of—

(1) 1,000 copies for use of the Senate, to be allocated as determined by the Secretary of the Senate; or

(2) a number of copies that does not have a total production and printing cost of more than \$1,200.

NATIONAL FORMER PRISONER OF WAR RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 68 submitted earlier today by Senators SPECTER and AKAKA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 68) designating April 9, 1997 and April 9, 1998 as "National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

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

Mr. SANTORUM. 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 the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 68) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 68

Whereas the United States has fought in many wars;

Whereas thousands of members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in such wars were captured by the enemy and held as prisoners of war;

Whereas many prisoners of war were subjected to brutal and inhumane treatment by their captors in violation of international codes and customs for the treatment of prisoners of war and died, or were disabled, as a result of the treatment; and

Whereas the great sacrifices of the prisoners of war and their families deserve national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 9, 1997, and April 9, 1998, as "National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day" in honor of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have been held as prisoners of war; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to commemorate this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

WAIVER OF D.C. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 514, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H. R. 514) to permit the waiver of D.C. residency requirements for certain employees of the Office of Inspector General of the District of Columbia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

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

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 514) was passed.

ESTATE TAX RELIEF FOR THE AMERICAN FAMILY ACT OF 1997

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of S. 479, the Estate Tax Relief for the American Family Act of 1997, be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 479

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Estate Tax Relief for the American Family Act of 1997".

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN UNIFIED ESTATE AND GIFT TAX CREDIT.

(a) ESTATE TAX CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2010(a) (relating to unified credit against estate tax) is amended by striking "\$192,800" and inserting "the applicable credit amount".

(2) APPLICABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—Section 2010 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) APPLICABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section, the applicable credit amount is the amount of the tentative tax which would be determined under the rate schedule set forth in section 2001(c) if the amount with respect to which such tentative tax is to be computed were the applicable exclusion amount determined in accordance with the following table:

"In the case of estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, during:	The applicable exclusion amount is:
1997	\$700,000
1998	\$800,000
1999	\$850,000
2000	\$900,000
2001	\$950,000
2002 or thereafter	\$1,000,000."

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 6018(a)(1) is amended by striking "\$600,000" and inserting "the applicable exclusion amount in effect under section 2010(c) for the calendar year which includes the date of death".

(B) Section 2001(c)(2) is amended by striking "\$21,040,000" and inserting "the amount at which the average tax rate under this section is 55 percent".