

(1) CENTER.—The term "Center" relates to the Center for Historically Black Heritage at Florida A&M University.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior Acting through the director of the Park Service.

(c) CONSTRUCTION OF CENTER.—The Secretary shall award a grant to the State of Florida to pay for the Federal share of the costs design construction, furnishing and equipping the Center at Florida A&M University.

(d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive the grant awarded under subsection (c), Florida A&M University, shall submit to the Secretary a proposal.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in subsection (c) shall be 50 percent.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out this section a total of \$3,800,000 for fiscal year 1998 and preceding fiscal years. Funds appropriated pursuant to the authority of the preceding sentence should remain available until expended.

SEC. 7. RELOCATION AND EXPANSION OF HAFENREFFER MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) MUSEUM.—The term "Museum" means the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) RELOCATION AND EXPANSION OF MUSEUM.—The Secretary shall make a grant to Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, to pay the Federal share of the costs associated with the relocation and expansion of the Museum, including the design, construction, renovation, restoration, furnishing, and equipping of the Museum.

(c) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under subsection (b), the Museum shall submit to the Secretary a proposal for the use of the grant.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in subsection (b) shall be 20 percent.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 8. ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall award a grant to Juniata College for the construction of environmental research facilities and structures at Raystown Lake, Pennsylvania.

(b) COORDINATION.—As a condition to receipt of the grant authorized in subsection (a), officials of Juniata College shall coordinate with the Baltimore District of the Army Corps of Engineers.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out this section.

SEC. 9. FORT PECK DAM INTERPRETIVE CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall design, construct, furnish and equip an historical, cultural and paleontological interpretive center and museum to be located at Fort Peck Dam, Montana.

(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall coordinate with officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Fort Peck Dam Interpretive Center and Museum.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to

carry out this section a total of \$10,000,000. Funds appropriated are available until expended.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Senate.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KERRY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

(The remarks of Mr. KERRY pertaining to the introduction of S. 1124 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

LIFTING OF TRAVEL BAN TO LEBANON

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to speak today with respect to a development which has occurred by an act of omission rather than commission on the part of the Secretary of State.

As the President I am sure is aware, for approximately 10 years American citizens have had passport restrictions which have prevented them from being able to travel to the country of Lebanon. The way the process works is, at various intervals—most recently at 6-month intervals—this "travel ban," as it is referred to, was back before the Secretary of State for renewal, and it has continued to be renewed for additional 6-month periods for quite some time. The 6-month period expired as of the 1st of August. This Secretary of State decided, after much consideration of the merits of these issues, not to extend the travel ban further.

I want to rise today—I have had a chance to be on the floor in morning business prior to this—to both commend the Secretary of State for her difficult situation and to applaud her courage in making this decision. This was a very controversial issue. It is one that both this Secretary of State and her predecessors have had to look at hard and long because, obviously, there is a need to balance, on the one hand, the security interests of United States citizens who might travel to Lebanon and, on the other hand, both humanitarian as well as economic considerations of those who had a desire to make such trips.

I believe the Secretary of State made the right decision. For a variety of reasons, Americans need to be able to travel to Lebanon. They need to be able to travel there freely. First and foremost is the need for families to be able to reunify. Many American citizens of Lebanese ancestry have close relatives who are in Lebanon and are not able to visit them because of this travel ban.

For economic reasons it makes sense for the travel ban to have been lifted. The fact is that Lebanon is in a very successful rebuilding period, and that rebuilding process has included many foreign nations who have come to Lebanon's aid and many foreign companies

who have taken advantage of the opportunities to rebuild the phone and utilities and other systems of the country. American companies have not been able to do that. Mr. President, they have missed an opportunity to create jobs and to create opportunities here at home as well as in Lebanon. By lifting the ban that opportunity is now available again.

Another argument for lifting the ban which I found very compelling was the argument that it is important from the standpoint of the Middle East stability for the United States to be engaged in Lebanon. In recent years, Lebanon has found itself occupied by numerous foreign forces. During that timeframe, it has not been able to look to the West, and particularly to the United States, for help and assistance in the process of moving the direction of economic growth and democratic principles.

Having a greater United States role in Lebanon, I think, will make it easier for Lebanon to be become once again a fully independent and fully sovereign nation and to see all foreign forces leave that country. So for all of these reasons, the lifting of this ban comes at the right time. It is the right choice.

Arrayed against these, as I said, are units with security concerns. The fact is that there are many countries in the world today that are no safer to travel to than Lebanon but in which case there is no travel ban. There are travel advisories. The Secretary of State will be issuing that type of travel advisory to make sure that Americans understand the risks involved. Indeed, I would like to put on the record my own strong observation that there are risks to Americans to travel there. It is not yet the case that one can go to Lebanon without being aware of the mind flow, of the potential problems that might exist there, particularly in certain parts of the country, for American travelers.

At the same time we have numerous countries in the world where such risks exist. I believe a travel advisory is the proper way in which to address it rather than an outright travel ban.

For all of these reasons, Mr. President, as I say, I think the Secretary of State has done the right thing. I hope that Americans will once again get to know Lebanon and that the relationship that once existed between our countries, which was a very close and warm relationship, can be built once more.

I would also like to conclude by congratulating the Lebanese people. This travel ban being lifted is in no small measure a result of the efforts on the part of the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese people to address the security concerns which we have had. A variety of actions have already taken place. A number of further commitments were made in the process of discussing the renewal of this ban. I believe that Prime Minister Hariri and the Government of Lebanon are prepared to live up to those commitments

fully and completely. As they do, I believe they will ensure that the decision made by the Secretary of State was the right one.

So for these reasons, I would like to commend once again the Secretary of State. I would like to commend the Lebanese Government and the people of Lebanon. I would like to urge our colleagues to keep their eye on Lebanon and to look for other ways by which we can build a strong relationship.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WYDEN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES FULL ACCESS TO THE SENATE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I take the floor tonight to discuss a resolution that I have introduced with Senator WARNER to permit individuals with disabilities full access to the floor of the U.S. Senate. I believe that this resolution will be approved later tonight and has been reviewed by both the majority and the minority. I anticipate that it will be incorporated into the final business of the U.S. Senate during the wrap-up session before the session formally concludes.

Mr. President, this resolution that I offer tonight will close the book on discrimination against individuals with disabilities on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Earlier this year, after a visually impaired professional on my staff was barred from bringing her guide dog onto the floor, the Senate adopted a resolution providing for temporary case-by-case entry to the floor for those professionals with disabilities. This was a good step—an important step. But it still left some room for discrimination.

The resolution that will be considered by the Senate tonight will ensure that as a matter of formal Senate rule there is no discrimination permitted against individuals with disabilities. There will no longer be a double standard in the U.S. Senate. Senate staffers with disabilities who have the privilege of the Senate floor will be permitted to bring onto the Senate floor supporting aids and services such as canes, service dogs, interpreters, or assistive devices.

This is an important day for the Senate, for people with disabilities, and for our whole country because it makes clear that the U.S. Congress ought to follow the laws that apply to everyone else in our country.

I especially want, Mr. President, to recognize the hard work of the chairman of the Rules Committee, Senator JOHN WARNER, in moving this resolution forward. As every Member of this body knows, he has an enormous workload. He was extremely gracious to me in working to develop this resolution and gain bipartisan support for it.

I would also like to pay a special tribute to the senior Senator from the

State of West Virginia, Senator BYRD, whose expert knowledge of the Senate rules was of enormous benefit in drafting this new resolution.

As a relatively new Senator, I have great esteem for the constant care which Senator BYRD uses to guard the traditions and prerogatives of this body. I am of the view that every U.S. Senator owes a debt of gratitude to the Senator from West Virginia for his constant vigilance with respect to ensuring the rights of all on the Senate floor.

Mr. President, this is an important resolution. It is justice long overdue. Earlier this year, a congressional fellow in my office was denied access to the Senate floor because she uses a guide dog. That guide dog is a working dog; a guide dog that serves as the eyes for a visually impaired person. The people of this country were offended, and they sent a message that this type of discrimination is unacceptable to them.

My office, like many others in the U.S. Senate, were inundated with calls, mail, and e-mail.

There was one letter I received that recounted a bit of history that I would like to briefly share.

The letter that was sent to me told a story about the Senate in the 1930s when there were some Members who disapproved of a guide dog coming onto the Senate floor. The individual then who needed the assistance of the guide dog was Senator Schall of Minnesota. The letter described the Senator's first entry into the Chamber with his guide dog and how the other Senators rose, one by one, and then in large numbers applauded him. The Senate galleries followed suit until the whole Senate was just one gigantic standing ovation.

The letter goes on to say that Senator Schall stopped by his seat, turned and listened to the ovation from all around him and was touched as the ovation continued and continued. Waving to the crowd, the Senator took his seat and commanded his guide dog, Lux, to lie down. The guide dog then curled up under the Senator's desk, tucking his body so it would not be in the way of any Senator who passed by. The May 22, 1933, issue of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD documents how strongly the American public reacted to the news of the death of Senator Schall's guide dog. The guide dog died after being separated a few days from the Senator when he thought it would be inappropriate to take the dog with him to attend the funeral of another Senator. Senator Schall said then:

Mr. President, since the death of my good dog, Lux, last March, the mails of this and other countries have brought me hundreds of letters of regret. So many expressions of interest have gladdened and surprised me.

It seems to me that the action that the Senate will take shortly makes it clear that we have not forgotten how important it is to stand for the principle of equal justice in this Chamber. What we do each day is set an example,

and here particularly an important example, because as a result of the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Congressional Accountability Act, and other statutes, we make clear that the laws of the United States are going to apply in this Chamber.

As a result of this resolution, and particularly the extremely helpful work that Senator WARNER and Senator BYRD have done, it is going to be possible to have a formal Senate rule that ensures that discrimination against individuals with disabilities is not going to be tolerated on this floor.

This rule takes the generally accepted definition of an individual with a disability, defined as one who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual, and says it is not possible to discriminate against that individual in this Chamber.

In closing, Mr. President, I want to observe that there are 49 million Americans with a disabilities. Under the law, they are guaranteed the same rights as all other Americans in terms of access to jobs, insurance, transportation, and telecommunications technology. They are not guaranteed special treatment. They are guaranteed just equal access. That is what this resolution is all about, equal access.

Finally, Mr. President, many lessons have been learned from this experience. I believe that the Senate and our country are more aware and sensitive to the many issues facing individuals with disabilities. We have seen that rules can and should be updated to meet the changing needs of our society. I believe that the Senate and our country as a whole are better off as a result of the consideration of this resolution and the strong bipartisan support that has developed here and in our country.

Mr. President, I think this is an important day for the Senate, a good day for the Senate, because it was a day which ensures that our country is a bit more fair, a bit more sensitive to the needs of those with disabilities. I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have helped me so much, particularly Senators WARNER and BYRD.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators BYRD, REID, KERRY, CHAFEE, AKAKA, KENNEDY, MURRAY, BINGAMAN, MURKOWSKI, FEINGOLD, HATCH, DURBIN, and HARKIN be added as cosponsors.

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

CONDEMNATION OF JERUSALEM BOMBING

Mr. REED. Mr. President, yesterday, while thousands of innocent men, women and children shopped in Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem, the peace of that sunny afternoon was shattered when two bombs filled with screws and nails detonated. Fifteen people were killed, close to 200 persons