

from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 237, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations should hold hearings and the Senate should act on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

S. RES. 258

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE, L.), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. THOMPSON), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 258, a resolution designating the week beginning March 12, 2000 as "National Safe Place Week."

S. RES. 263

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, L., his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 263, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, before the meeting of the OPEC nations in March 2000, the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 266—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY EVERY YEAR FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS AS "NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH"

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. THOMPSON, and Mr. DEWINE)) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 266

Whereas the freedom and security that citizens of the United States enjoy today are direct results of the vigilance of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas recognizing contributions made by members of the United States Armed Forces will increase national awareness of the sacrifices that such members have made to preserve the freedoms and liberties that enrich this Nation;

Whereas it is important to preserve and foster admiration and respect for the service provided by members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas it is vital for youth in the United States to understand that the service provided by members of the United States Armed Forces has secured and protected the freedoms that United States citizens enjoy today;

Whereas it is important to recognize the unfailing support that families of members of the United States Armed Forces have provided to such members during their service and how such support strengthens the vitality of our Nation;

Whereas recognizing the role that the United States Armed Forces plays in maintaining the superiority of the United States as a nation and in contributing to world peace will increase awareness of all contributions made by such Forces;

Whereas it is appropriate to recognize the importance of maintaining a strong, equipped, well-educated, well-trained military for the United States to safeguard freedoms, humanitarianism, and peacekeeping efforts around the world;

Whereas it is proper to foster and cultivate the honor and pride that citizens of the United States feel towards members of the United States Armed Forces for the protection and service that such members provide;

Whereas recognizing the many sacrifices made by members of the United States Armed Forces is important; and

Whereas it is proper to recognize and honor the dedication and commitment of members of the United States Armed Forces, and to show appreciation for all contributions made by such members since the inception of the Armed Forces: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of May every year for the next 5 years as "National Military Appreciation Month"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today to submit along with Senators HAGEL, DEWINE, and THOMPSON a resolution to designate the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. As my colleagues may recall, I had sponsored a resolution earlier in the year, cosponsored by 61 senators, designating May 1999 as National Military Appreciation Month. That resolution, S. Res. 33, passed by a vote of 93-0 on March 30.

Subsequent to passage of S. Res. 33, I introduced S. 1419, which would have made that designation permanent by amending Title 36 of the U.S. Code. To date, S. 1419 has 66 cosponsors. Because of the failure of S. 1419 to pass, I have agreed to submit a revised resolution designating May National Military Appreciation Month for the next five years, and requesting the President issue a proclamation calling for the American people and interested groups to observe such months with appropriate ceremonies and activities. It is my hope that this new resolution will

receive the Senate's favorable consideration.

The introduction of an All-Volunteer Army was an outgrowth of the disenchantment many Americans felt in the wake of the Vietnam War. The end of conscription and the transition to the All-Volunteer concept has been criticized by some for not adequately reflecting socioeconomic divisions without our country. In point of fact, however, with the requisite attention and care, it produced the finest armed forces in history. How far we had come since the tumultuous times of the 1970s when military readiness descended to abysmal levels was evident for all the world to see in the overwhelming victory over Iraqi forces during Operation Desert Storm. But that success has been taken for granted too long. Over 15 years of declining military budgets, combined with record high levels of deployments, have stretched the military to precarious levels.

The end of conscription had another, more far-reaching and subtle implication: it diminished the percentage of the public, including its elected officials, with military experience. This is not a criticism of those who did not serve; on the contrary, as a strong supporter of the All-Volunteer Army, I remain committed to its survival and success. This gradual diminishment in the shared experience of having served in uniform, however, makes it increasingly important that the public reflect every year on the enormous role their armed forces have on preserving freedom.

As thousands of American soldiers serve increasingly hazardous duty in Kosovo, while others continue to serve in Bosnia as well as on the demilitarized zone in Korea and around the world, it is imperative that our men and women in uniform know of the strong continuing support of their country for their dedication and service to this country. Whether we individually agree with each and every deployment or not, we have learned to separate our support for the armed forces from our differences over the policies that sent them into harm's way. Dedicating one month every year to express our appreciation for the armed forces, the same month in which we recognize Victory in Europe Day, Military Spouse Day, Armed Forces Day, and, most importantly, Memorial Day, is an appropriate measure that I hope will have the support of all my colleagues in Congress.

Mr. President, I generally take a somewhat dim view of celebratory resolutions. But those who fought on the battlefields of Lexington, Gettysburg, Normandy, in the Ardennes and on Okinawa, in Hue and at Khe Sanh, in the deserts of the Persian Gulf and the dusty streets of Mogadishu, in the skies over Kosovo and who stand a lonely vigil on the DMZ, must not be forgotten. Too much blood has been spilled in defense of liberty. We owe to those who perished and those who survived, to devote one month out of the

year to reflect on the sacrifices of those who have worn their nation's uniform throughout its history.

Mr. President, I request that the attached correspondence in support of S. 1419 from the Military Coalition be made a part of the RECORD.

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

THE MILITARY COALITION,
Alexandria, VA, February 28, 2000.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
Senate Armed Services Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: The Military Coalition, a consortium of nationally-prominent uniformed services and veterans organizations, representing more than 5.5 million members of the uniformed services plus their families and survivors urge you to encourage your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to render a favorable report on S. 1419, to designate May as National Military Appreciation Month. S. 1419 is a follow-on to S. Res. 33, which the Senate approved last year by a vote of 93-0. That resolution designated May 1999 as National Military Appreciation Month; S. 1419 will make that designation permanent.

Over the three decades since the advent of the All Volunteer Force, a seemingly impossible challenge has been met with spectacular results. Instead of a uniformed service comprised of conscripts, we are blessed with high quality volunteers from all walks of life. Active, Guard and Reserve forces have responded commendably to the increased operations and personnel tempos and in return, deserve this special recognition of a grateful nation.

Another compelling reason for approving this legislation is that the gradual decrease in the shared experience of having served in uniform, makes it increasingly important that the public reflect every year on the enormous role that their armed forces have on preserving freedom. As we commit thousands of servicemembers to missions around the world it is imperative that they know of the strong and enduring support of their country for their dedication and service. We owe it to those who paid the ultimate price and those who survived, to devote one month out of the year to reflect on the sacrifices of those who have worn their nation's uniform throughout its history.

Please demonstrate your commitment to them by acting promptly to bring S. 1419 to the Senate floor for action.

Sincerely,

THE MILITARY COALITION.

NOTICE OF HEARING

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTRY, CONSERVATION,
AND RURAL REVITALIZATION

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, And Rural Revitalization of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on March 8, 2000 in SR-328A at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the National Rural Development Council.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, in open and closed sessions, to receive testimony from the unified and regional commanders on their military strategy and operational requirements in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2001 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. on S. 1755—Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet in executive session for the consideration of S.2, the Educational Opportunities Act, during the session of the Senate on March 7th, 2000.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, to hear testimony regarding Agriculture Negotiations in the WTO After Seattle.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the Legislative presentations of the Retired Enlisted Association, Gold Star Wives of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Air Force Sergeants Association, and the Fleet Reserve Association. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at 9:30 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select

Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT
AND THE COURTS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at 9:30 a.m., in SH216.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2000 at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on readiness programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2001 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM,
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at 2 p.m., in SD226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7 at 2:30 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will consider the President's proposed FY2001 budget for the Bureau of Reclamation (Department of the Interior) and the Bonneville Power Administration, the Southeastern Power Administration, the Southwestern Power Administration, and the Western Area Power Administration (Department of Energy).

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2000

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8. I further ask consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for