

suffer from MS, which is approximately 1 out of every 1,000 people. In Rhode Island, the rate is slightly higher—1.5 out of every 1,000. Over 3,000 individuals and their families in my home state are affected by this disease.

It is my hope that through this resolution we can bring greater attention to the devastating affects of this disease, while also building support for additional research. It is through more intensive research efforts by agencies such as the National Institutes of Health that we will better understand some of the potential causes of this disease, as well as develop more effective methods of treatment, and maybe someday prevention. Indeed, it is only with greater resources that we can build public awareness about MS and enhance our scientific understanding of this mysterious illness.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as well as the Rhode Island Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society for their encouragement and assistance in developing this important Resolution. It is through their grassroots efforts that individuals suffering from MS can get information about their disease as well as learn more about resources available in their communities, research being conducted, and support services for family members. Their support is essential to those who have been afflicted with MS, and I hope that through this resolution the Congress can assist in bolstering these important efforts.

In closing, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this important Resolution to raise awareness and encourage people to become more educated about this debilitating disease.●

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 94—PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 94

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, March 9, 2000, or Friday, March 10, 2000, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, March 20, 2000, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95—COMMEMORATING THE TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALABJA MASSACRE

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. SHELBY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 95

Whereas on March 16, 1988, Saddam Hussein attacked the Iraqi Kurdish city of Halabja with chemical weapons, including nerve gas, VX, and mustard gas;

Whereas more than 5,000 men, women, and children were murdered in Halabja by Saddam Hussein's chemical warfare, in gross violation of international law;

Whereas the attack on Halabja was part of a systemic, genocidal attack on the Kurds of Iraq known as the "Anfal Campaign";

Whereas the Anfal Campaign resulted in the death of more than 180,000 Iraqi Kurdish men, women, and children;

Whereas, despite the passage of 12 years, there has been no successful attempt by the United States, the United Nations, or other bodies of the international community to bring the perpetrators of the Halabja massacre to justice;

Whereas the Senate and the House of Representatives have repeatedly noted the atrocities committed by the Saddam Hussein regime;

Whereas the Senate and the House of Representatives have on 16 separate occasions called upon successive Administrations to work toward the creation of an International Tribunal to prosecute the war crimes of the Saddam Hussein regime;

Whereas in successive fiscal years monies have been authorized to create a record of the human rights violations of the Saddam Hussein regime and to pursue the creation of an international tribunal and the indictment of Saddam Hussein and members of his regime;

Whereas the Saddam Hussein regime continues the brutal repression of the people of Iraq, including the denial of basic human, political, and civil rights to Sunni, Shiite, and Kurdish Iraqis, as well as other minority groups;

Whereas the Secretary General of the United Nations has documented annually the failure of the Saddam Hussein regime to deliver basic necessities to the Iraqi people despite ample supplies of food in Baghdad warehouses;

Whereas the Saddam Hussein regime has at its disposal more than \$12,000,000,000 per annum (at current oil prices) to expend on all categories of human needs;

Whereas, notwithstanding a complete lack of restriction on the purchase of food by the Government of Iraq, infant mortality rates in areas controlled by Saddam Hussein remain above pre-war levels, in stark contrast to rates in United Nations-controlled Kurdish areas, which are below pre-war levels; and

Whereas it is unconscionable that after the passage of 12 years the brutal Saddam Hussein dictatorship has gone unpunished for the murder of hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis, the use of banned chemical weapons on the people of Iraqi Kurdistan, and innumerable other human rights violations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That Congress—

(1) commemorates the suffering of the people of Halabja and all the victims of the Anfal Campaign;

(2) condemns the Saddam Hussein regime for its continued brutality towards the Iraqi people;

(3) strongly urges the President to act forcefully within the United Nations and the United Nations Security Council to constitute an international tribunal for Iraq;

(4) calls upon the President to move rapidly to efficiently use funds appropriated by Congress to create a record of the crimes of the Saddam Hussein regime;

(5) recognizes that Saddam Hussein's record of brutality and belligerency threaten both the people of Iraq and the entire Persian Gulf region; and

(6) reiterates that it should be the policy of the United States to support efforts to remove the regime headed by Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq and to promote the emergence of a democratic government to replace that regime, as set forth in Public Law 105-338.

SENATE RESOLUTION 267—EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE RETURN OF CERTAIN TREATIES TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported the following original resolution; which was placed on the Executive Calendar:

S. RES. 267

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Senate shall return to the President of the United States the following treaties:

(1) The Optional Protocol of Signature Concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. (Ex. N, 861 (Treaty Doc. 86-14)).

(2) The International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage done in Brussels at the International Legal Conference on Marine Pollution Damage, signed on November 29, 1969 (Ex. G, 91-2 (Treaty Doc. 91-17)).

(3)(A) The International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage (Supplementary to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage of 1969), done at Brussels, December 18, 1971.

(B) Certain Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil of 1954, relating to Tanker Tank Size and Arrangement and the Protection of the Great Barrier Reef. (Ex. K, 92-2 (Treaty Doc. 92-23)).

(4) The Trademark Registration Treaty, done at Vienna on June 12, 1973 (Ex. H, 94-1 (Treaty Doc. 94-8)).

(5) The Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and the Protocol Thereto, together referred to as the "SALT II Treaty", both signed at Vienna, Austria, on June 18, 1979, and related documents (Ex. Y, 96-1 (Treaty Doc. 96-25)).

(6) The Convention with Denmark for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Washington on June 17, 1980 (Ex. Q, 96-2 (Treaty Doc. 96-52)).

(7) The Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees Concerning Higher Education in the States Belonging to the Europe Region, signed on behalf of the United States on December 21, 1979 (Ex. V, 96-2 (Treaty Doc. 96-57)).

(8) The Protocol Amending the Convention of August 16, 1916, for the Protection of Migratory Birds in Canada and the United States of America, signed at Ottawa January 30, 1979 (Ex. W, 96-2 (Treaty Doc. 96-58)).

(9) The Supplementary Convention on Extradition Between the United States of

America and the Kingdom of Sweden, signed at Washington on May 27, 1981 (Treaty Doc. 97-15).

(10) The Protocol, signed at Washington on August 23, 1983, together with an exchange of letters, Amending the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Washington on June 17, 1980 (Treaty Doc. 98-12).

(11) The Consular Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of South Africa, signed at Pretoria on October 28, 1982 (Treaty Doc. 98-14).

(12) The Protocol signed at Washington on October 12, 1984, Amending the Interim Convention on Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals Between the United States, Canada, Japan, and the Soviet Union (Treaty Doc. 99-5).

(13)(A) The Protocol of 1984 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 (Civil Liability Convention).

(B) The Protocol of 1984 to Amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971 (Fund Convention) (Treaty Doc. 99-12).

(14) The Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Haiti Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment, with Protocol, signed at Washington, December 13, 1983 (Treaty Doc. 99-16).

(15) The Consular Convention Between the United States of America and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, signed at Belgrade June 6, 1988 (Treaty Doc. 101-3).

(16) The Treaty on the International Registration of Audiovisual Works. (Treaty Doc. 101-8).

(17) The Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Nigeria on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed at Washington on September 13, 1989 (Treaty Doc. 102-26).

(18) The Protocol Amending the Convention Between the United States of America and Canada with Respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital signed at Washington on September 26, 1980, as amended by the Protocols signed on June 14, 1983, and March 28, 1984, signed at Washington August 31, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-28).

SENATE RESOLUTION 268—DESIGNATING JULY 17 THROUGH JULY 23 AS “NATIONAL FRAGILE X AWARENESS WEEK”

Mr. EDWARDS (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBB, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. KERREY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 268

Whereas Fragile X is the most common inherited cause of mental retardation, affecting people of every race, income level, and nationality;

Whereas 1 in every 260 women is a carrier of the Fragile X defect;

Whereas 1 in every 4,000 children is born with the Fragile X defect, and typically requires a lifetime of special care at a cost of over \$2,000,000;

Whereas Fragile X remains frequently undetected due to its recent discovery and the lack of awareness about the disease, even within the medical community;

Whereas the genetic defect causing Fragile X has been discovered, and is easily identified by testing;

Whereas inquiry into Fragile X is a powerful research model for neuropsychiatric disorders, such as autism, schizophrenia, pervasive developmental disorders, and other forms of X-linked mental retardation;

Whereas individuals with Fragile X can provide a homogeneous research population for advancing the understanding of neuropsychiatric disorders;

Whereas with concerted research efforts, a cure for Fragile X may be developed;

Whereas Fragile X research, both basic and applied, has been vastly underfunded despite the prevalence of the disorder, the potential for the development of a cure, the established benefits of available treatments and intervention, and the significance that Fragile X research has for related disorders; and

Whereas the Senate as an institution and Members of Congress as individuals are in unique positions to help raise public awareness about the need for increased funding for research and early diagnosis and treatment for the disorder known as Fragile X: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 17 through July 23 as National Fragile X Awareness Week; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe National Fragile X Awareness Week with appropriate recognition and activities.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague, Senator HAGEL, submit the National Fragile X Awareness Week Resolution. This measure will establish July 17 through July 23 as National Fragile X Awareness Week.

Fragile X is the leading known cause of mental retardation. Despite the devastating impact of the disease, the disorder is relatively unknown to many, even in the medical community, largely due to its fairly recent discovery.

Today, one in 2,000 males and one in 4,000 females have the gene defect. One in every 260 women is a carrier. Current studies estimate that as many as 90,000 Americans suffer from Fragile X, yet up to 80 to 90 percent of them are undiagnosed. It does not effect one racial or ethnic group more than another, and it is found in every socioeconomic group.

Scientists have only known exactly what causes Fragile X since 1991. The disorder results from a defect in a single gene. Other diseases caused by single gene defects include cystic fibrosis and muscular dystrophy. In fact, the incidence of Fragile X is similar to that of cystic fibrosis.

Fragile X occurs when a specific gene, which should hold a string of molecules that repeat six to fifty times, over-expands, causing the gene to hold anywhere from 200 to 1,000 copies of the same sequence, repeating over and over, much like a record skipping out of control. The result of this error is that instructions needed for the creation of a specific protein in the brain are lost. Consequently, the Fragile X protein is either low or absent in the affected person. The lower the level of the protein, the more severe the resulting disabilities.

People with Fragile X have effects ranging from mild learning disabilities to severe mental retardation. Behavioral problems associated with Fragile X include aggression, anxiety, and seizures. The effects on both the victims of the disorder and their families are profound, taking a huge emotional and financial toll. People with Fragile X have a normal life expectancy but usually incur special costs that on average add up to over \$2 million over their lifetime. Because it is inherited, many families have more than one child with Fragile X.

Recent advances in Fragile X research now make it possible to test definitively for the disorder through DNA analysis. Yet many doctors are still not familiar with Fragile X, and subtle symptoms in early childhood can make it difficult to detect.

Today, in our country, thousands of children have Fragile X, but their parents have never heard of the disease. These parents know something is wrong, but they cannot give the problem a name, and neither can any doctor they have consulted. They may know their child has mental retardation, but they do not know why. They do not know that if they have more children, those children may also be at risk. They do not know there are treatments for the problem. They do not know that someone is working on a cure.

The same holds true for many adults in our society. They are living in group homes and in institutions around the country. They have been cared for during entire lifetimes by devoted family members. Yet they have never had a diagnosis beyond “mental retardation.”

The need to raise the profile of Fragile X across our nation is clear. The impact of the current lack of understanding of this disorder is that all too often it is years before the diagnosis is made. As a result, early intervention and treatment are delayed—treatment that could help to mitigate the effects of the disorder.

We also hope that by raising awareness we can communicate the good news about Fragile X. Now that scientists have identified the missing protein that causes the disorder, there is hope for a cure. And because Fragile X is the only single-gene disease known to directly impact human intelligence, understanding the disease can give us insight into human intelligence and learning and into dealing with other single gene defects. Understanding Fragile X may also unlock some of the mysteries of autism, schizophrenia, and other neurological disorders. But we need to fund research efforts into this devastating disease.

Mr. President, this resolution seeks to raise awareness in both the general population and the medical community about the presence and effects of Fragile X. By doing so, we hope to promote earlier diagnosis of the disease, more effective treatment, and support for research that will one day lead to a cure.