

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.

SENATE RESOLUTION 269—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, GIVEN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S CONDUCT IN CHECHNYA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. HELMS submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 269

Whereas the Senate of the United States unanimously passed Senate Resolution 262 on February 24th, 2000, to condemn the indiscriminate use of force by the Government of the Russian Federation against the people of Chechnya, to prompt peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Chechnya led by elected President Aslan Maskhadov, and to prompt the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately grant international organizations full and unimpeded access in Chechnya and the surrounding regions so that they can provide much needed humanitarian assistance and investigate alleged atrocities and war crimes;

Whereas the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate received credible evidence and testimony reporting that Russian forces in Chechnya caused the deaths of countless thousands of innocent civilians; caused the displacement of well over 250,000 innocents; forcibly relocated refugee populations; and have committed widespread atrocities, including summary executions, torture, and rape;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has repeatedly violated the principles of the freedom of the press by subjecting journalists, such as Radio Free Liberty/Radio Europe correspondent Andrei Babitsky, who oppose or question its policies to censorship, intimidation, harassment, incarceration, and violence;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues its military campaign in Chechnya, including the use of indiscriminate force, causing further dislocation of people from their homes, the deaths of non-combatants and widespread suffering;

Whereas this war contributes to ethnic hatred and religious intolerance within the Russian Federation, jeopardizes prospects for the establishment of democracy in the Russian Federation, undercuts the ability of the international community to trust the Russian Federation as a signatory to international agreements, generates political instability within the Russian Federation, and is a threat to the peace in the region; and

Whereas the Senate expresses its concern over the war and humanitarian tragedy in Chechnya, and its desire for a peaceful and durable settlement to the conflict: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the indifference of most Western governments, including that of the United States, toward this conflict has encouraged the Government of the Russian Federation to intensify and expand its military campaign in Chechnya, further contributing to the suffering of the Chechen people;

(2) the Acting President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, is directly responsible for the conduct of Russian troops in and around Chechnya and accountable for war crimes and atrocities committed by them against the Chechen people;

(3) the Acting President of the Russian Federation should—

(A) immediately cease the military operations in Chechnya and initiate negotiations toward a just peace with the leadership of the Chechen government, including President Aslan Maskhadov;

(B) grant international missions immediate full and unimpeded access into Chechnya and surrounding regions so that they can monitor and report on the situation there and investigate alleged atrocities and war crimes;

(C) allow international humanitarian agencies immediate full and unimpeded access to Chechen civilians, including those in refugee, detention and so-called "filtration camps" or any other facility where citizens of Chechnya are detained; and

(D) investigate fully the atrocities committed in Chechnya, including those alleged in Alkhan-Yurt and Grozny, and initiate prosecutions against officers and soldiers accused of those atrocities;

(4) the President of the United States should—

(A) affirm respect for human rights, democratic rule of law, and international accountability as a foundation of United States foreign policy;

(B) affirm respect for human rights, democratic rule of law, and international accountability as a precondition to United States-Russian cooperation;

(C) reevaluate United States foreign policy toward the Russian Federation given its conduct in Chechnya, remilitarization, and questionable commitment to democracy;

(D) support societal forces in the Russian Federation fighting to preserve democracy there, including empowering human rights activists and promoting programs designed to strengthen the independent media, trade unions, political parties, civil society, and the democratic rule of law;

(E) promote peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the leadership of the Chechen government, including President Aslan Maskhadov, through third-party mediation by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations, or other appropriate parties;

(F) endorse the call of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for an investigation of alleged war crimes committed by the Russian military in Chechnya; and

(G) take tangible steps to demonstrate to the Government of the Russian Federation that the United States strongly condemns its conduct in Chechnya and its unwillingness to find a just political solution to the conflict in Chechnya, including—

(i) a refusal to participate in bilateral summit meetings with the Government of the Russian Federation;

(ii) a call for the suspension of the Russian Federation from the forum of G-7 plus 1 state; and

(iii) a suspension of financial assistance to the Russian Federation provided through the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; and

(5) the President of the United States should not reverse the actions taken under paragraph (4)(G) until the Government of the Russian Federation has—

(A) ceased its military operations in Chechnya and initiated negotiations toward a just peace with the leadership of the Chechen government led by President Aslan Maskhadov;

(B) provided full and unimpeded access into and around Chechnya to international missions to monitor and report on the situation there and to investigate alleged atrocities and war crimes;

(C) granted international humanitarian agencies immediate full and unimpeded access to Chechen civilians, including those in refugee, detention, and so-called "filtration camps" or any other facility where citizens of Chechnya are detained; and

(D) investigated fully the atrocities committed in Chechnya including those alleged in Alkhan-Yurt and Grozny, and initiated prosecutions against officers and soldiers accused of those atrocities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 270—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 11, 2000, AS "NATIONAL GIRL SCOUT WEEK"

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the following original resolution; which was placed on the calendar:

S. RES. 270

Whereas March 12, 2000, is the 88th anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America;

Whereas on March 16, 1950, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America became the first national organization for girls to be granted a Federal charter by Congress;

Whereas through annual reports required to be submitted to Congress by its charter, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America regularly informs Congress of its progress and program initiatives;

Whereas the Girl Scouts of the United States of America is dedicated to inspiring girls and young women with the highest ideals of character, conduct, and service to others so that they may become model citizens in their communities;

Whereas the Girl Scouts of the United States of America offers girls aged 5 through 17 a variety of opportunities to develop strong values and life skills and provides a wide range of activities to meet girls' interests and needs;

Whereas the Girl Scouts of the United States of America has a membership of nearly 3,000,000 girls and over 900,000 adult volunteers, and is one of the preeminent organizations in the United States committed to girls growing strong in mind, body, and spirit; and

Whereas by fostering in girls and young women the qualities on which the strength of the United States depends, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, for 88 years, has significantly contributed to the advancement of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning March 11, 2000, as "National Girl Scout Week"; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation designating the week beginning March 11, 2000, as "National Girl Scout Week" and calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 271—REGARDING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations: