

appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities; and

(2) convey to all signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles, economic liberty, and the implementation of related commitments continue to be vital elements in promoting a new era of democracy, peace, and unity in the region covered by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

CONDEMNING PREJUDICE AGAINST ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLAND ANCESTRY

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 698, S. Con. Res. 53.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 53) condemning all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States and supporting political and civic participation by such individuals throughout the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment to the preamble, and an amendment to the title; as follows:

(Strike out all after the enacting clause and the preamble and insert the part printed in italic)

Whereas the belief that all persons have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is a truth that individuals in the United States hold as self-evident;

Whereas all individuals in the United States are entitled to the equal protection of law;

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have made profound contributions to life in the United States, including the arts, the economy, education, the sciences, technology, politics, and sports, among other areas;

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have demonstrated their patriotism by honorably serving to defend the United States in times of armed conflict, from the Civil War to the present;

Whereas recent allegations of espionage and illegal campaign financing involve allegations of misconduct by certain individuals, such allegations should not result in questioning the loyalty and probity of individuals of the same or similar ancestry in the United States, simply due to such ancestry; and

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have suffered discrimination and unfounded accusations of disloyalty throughout the history of the United States, resulting in discriminatory laws, including the former Act of May 6, 1882 (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126) (often referred to as the "Chinese Exclusion Act") and a 1913 California law relating to alien-owned land, and discriminatory actions, including internment of patriotic and loyal individuals of Japanese ancestry during the Second World War, the repatriation of Filipino immigrants, and the prohibition of individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry from owning property, voting, testifying in court, or attending school with other people in the United States: Now, therefore be it

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

(1) Congress condemns all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States; and

(2) it is the sense of Congress that—

(A) no individual in the United States should stereotype or generalize the actions of an individual to an entire group of people;

(B) individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States are entitled to all due process rights and privileges afforded to all individuals in the United States; and

(C) all executive agencies should act within their respective jurisdictions in accordance with existing civil rights laws.

Amend the title to read as follows: "Condemning all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States."

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. I ask unanimous consent that the substitute amendment, the concurrent resolution, the amendment to the preamble, the preamble, and the amendment to the title be agreed to en bloc, that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 53), as amended, was agreed to.

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 53

Whereas the belief that all persons have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is a truth that individuals in the United States hold as self-evident;

Whereas all individuals in the United States are entitled to the equal protection of law;

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have made profound contributions to life in the United States, including the arts, the economy, education, the sciences, technology, politics, and sports, among other areas;

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have demonstrated their patriotism by honorably serving to defend the United States in times of armed conflict, from the Civil War to the present;

Whereas recent allegations of espionage and illegal campaign financing involve allegations of misconduct by certain individuals, such allegations should not result in questioning the loyalty and probity of individuals of the same or similar ancestry in the United States, simply due to such ancestry; and

Whereas individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry have suffered discrimination and unfounded accusations of disloyalty throughout the history of the United States, resulting in discriminatory laws, including the former Act of May 6, 1882 (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126) (often referred to as the "Chinese Exclusion Act") and a 1913 California law relating to alien-owned land, and discriminatory actions, including internment of patriotic and loyal individuals of Japanese ancestry during the Second World War, the repatriation of Filipino immigrants, and the prohibition of individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry from owning property, voting, testifying in court, or attending school with other people in the United States: Now, therefore be it

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

(1) Congress condemns all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States; and

(2) it is the sense of Congress that—

(A) no individual in the United States should stereotype or generalize the actions of an individual to an entire group of people;

(B) individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States are entitled to all due process rights and privileges afforded to all individuals in the United States; and

(C) all executive agencies should act within their respective jurisdictions in accordance with existing civil rights laws.

The title was amended so as to read: "Condemning all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States."

NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 301 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 301) designating August 16, 2000, as "National Airborne Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the immediate consideration of the resolution.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. 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 any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 301) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 301

Whereas the Parachute Test Platoon was authorized by the War Department on June 25, 1940, to experiment with the potential use of airborne troops;

Whereas the Parachute Test Platoon was composed of 48 volunteers that began training in July, 1940;

Whereas the Parachute Test Platoon performed the first official Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940;

Whereas the success of the Parachute Test Platoon led to the formation of a large and successful airborne contingent serving from World War II until the present;

Whereas the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, and 101st Airborne Divisions and the numerous other regimental and battalion-sized airborne units were organized following the success of the Parachute Test Platoon;

Whereas the 501st Parachute Battalion participated successfully and valiantly in achieving victory in World War II;

Whereas the airborne achievements during World War II provided the basis for continuing the development of a diversified force of parachute and air assault troops;

Whereas paratroopers, glidermen, and air assault troops of the United States were and are proud members of the world's most exclusive and honorable fraternity, have earned and wear the "Silver Wings of Courage", have participated in a total of 93 combat jumps, and have distinguished themselves in battle by earning 69 Congressional Medals of Honor, the highest military decoration of the United States, and hundreds of

Distinguished Service Crosses and Silver Stars;

Whereas these airborne forces have performed in important military and peace-keeping operations, wherever needed, in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, Sinai, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Somalia, Haiti, and Bosnia; and

Whereas the Senate joins together with the airborne community to celebrate August 16, 2000 (the 60th anniversary of the first official parachute jump by the Parachute Test Platoon), as "National Airborne Day": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2000, as "National Airborne Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on Federal, State, and local administrators and the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

NATIONAL RELATIVES AS PARENTS DAY

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 212, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 212) to designate August 1, 2000, as National Relatives As Parents Day.

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

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 212) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 212

Whereas children are this Nation's most valuable resource;

Whereas the most important responsibility for this Nation's lawmakers and citizens is the protection and care of children;

Whereas in order to ensure the future success of this Nation, children must be taught values that will help them lead happy, healthy, and productive lives;

Whereas the family unit is most suitable to provide the special care and attention needed by children;

Whereas this year, many children will suffer from child abuse, neglect, poor nutrition, and insufficient child care, all of which jeopardize the well-being of young children and the opportunity for a fulfilling and successful adulthood;

Whereas extended family members, willing to open their hearts and homes to children whose immediate families are in crises, play an indispensable role in helping those children heal by providing them with a stable and secure environment in which they can grow and develop;

Whereas approximately 520,000 children are currently under the care and guidance of foster parents—about 150,800, or 29 percent, of whom are children living in foster homes

with extended family members who care for these children and provide them with a positive home environment; and

Whereas "National Relatives as Parents Day" is an appropriate occasion to recognize the dedication, compassion, and selflessness of extended family members who willingly assume the often thankless responsibility of providing a relative child with a family and home: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 1, 2000, as "National Relatives as Parents Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe "National Relatives as Parents Day" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE TOWARD MUSLIMS

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 699, S. Res. 133.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 133) supporting religious tolerance toward Muslims.

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

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am pleased to cosponsor S. Res. 133, a resolution supporting religious tolerance toward Muslims. I wholeheartedly believe that anti-Muslim intolerance and discrimination should be condemned and must be fought at every opportunity. As Americans, we enjoy the right to speak and think freely. With that right comes a responsibility to ensure that free speech does not foster intolerance and lead to an atmosphere of hatred or fear. It is wrong when entire religions are made to be a scapegoat because of ignorance or spite, and I will continue to do all I can to promote thoughtful understanding and appreciation of the Muslim faith.

I am proud of the accomplishments and contributions made by Muslims in South Dakota and across America. I am hopeful that the Senate and entire Congress will approve this resolution in order to highlight the important role Muslim Americans play in our society.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 133) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 133

Whereas the American Muslim community, comprised of approximately 6,000,000 people, is a vital part of our Nation, with more than 1,500 mosques, Islamic schools, and Islamic centers in neighborhoods across the United States;

Whereas Islam is one of the great Abrahamic faiths, whose significant contributions throughout history have advanced the fields of math, science, medicine, law, philosophy, art, and literature;

Whereas the United States is a secular nation, with an unprecedented commitment to religious tolerance and pluralism, where the rights, liberties, and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution are guaranteed to all citizens regardless of religious affiliation;

Whereas Muslims have been subjected, simply because of their faith, to acts of discrimination and harassment that all too often have led to hate-inspired violence, as was the case during the rush to judgment in the aftermath of the tragic Oklahoma City bombing;

Whereas discrimination against Muslims intimidates American Muslims and may prevent Muslims from freely expressing their opinions and exercising their religious beliefs as guaranteed by the first amendment to the Constitution;

Whereas American Muslims have regrettably been portrayed in a negative light in some discussions of policy issues such as issues relating to religious persecution abroad or fighting terrorism in the United States;

Whereas stereotypes and anti-Muslim rhetoric have also contributed to a backlash against Muslims in some neighborhoods across the United States; and

Whereas all persons in the United States who espouse and adhere to the values of the founders of our Nation should help in the fight against bias, bigotry, and intolerance in all their forms and from all their sources: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate condemns anti-Muslim intolerance and discrimination as wholly inconsistent with the American values of religious tolerance and pluralism;

(2) while the Senate respects and upholds the right of individuals to free speech, the Senate acknowledges that individuals and organizations that foster such intolerance create an atmosphere of hatred and fear that divides the Nation;

(3) the Senate resolves to uphold a level of political discourse that does not involve making a scapegoat of an entire religion or drawing political conclusions on the basis of religious doctrine; and

(4) the Senate recognizes the contributions of American Muslims, who are followers of one of the three major monotheistic religions of the world and one of the fastest growing faiths in the United States.

PARITY AMONG THE PARTIES TO THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 333, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 333) expressing the sense of the Senate that there should be parity among the countries that are parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement with respect to the personal exemption allowance for merchandise purchased abroad by returning residents, and for other purposes.

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