

improving the lives of our children a priority.

The Child Tax Credit Expansion and Equity Act, would expand the child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000 as proposed by the President, but it would make the first \$500 refundable. Families which would otherwise receive nothing, would have a \$500 refundable credit to help mitigate the costs of raising their children today.

This bill just makes good sense. It makes sense that every family with children should be eligible for the child tax credit. It makes good sense to expand the number of families that qualify for the credit instead of just giving more money to those families that already benefit. It makes good sense and it does so in a simple and fair way. It does not create another complicated tax form. The amount of the credit is based on the number of dependents, period. It fits into the current tax code and doesn't require a complex calculation or a degree in accounting. This is good public policy.

If timing is everything, then this is the time to do this for some of our most needy families. America today is prosperous, healthy and strong. And yet, too many of our children, our most vulnerable of citizens are in need of assistance. When the federal government is expecting the largest surplus ever, shouldn't we make an investment in our future and help those who need it most.

I urge my colleagues to consider this legislation and work with me and the cosponsors to ensure that the child tax credit is assisting the most children possible.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Maine, Senator SNOWE, in introducing legislation to make the child tax credit refundable.

Throughout America, families with children struggle with the extra cost associated with raising children today.

Early in the President's campaign, he proposed to increase the current child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000. While a reduction in tax rates is helpful to families, an increase in the per child tax credit is especially helpful because it recognizes that there are costs associated with raising a family.

During the President's inaugural remarks, he said, "America at its best, is compassionate. In the quiet of American consciences, we know that deep, persistent poverty is unworthy of our nation's promise."

With much applause, the President continued, "And whatever our views of its cause, we can agree that children at risk are not at fault." "Americans in need are not strangers, they are citizens, not problems, but priorities.

While I very much support the President's proposal to increase the child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000, it makes sense to me that all families, not just families with tax liability, should receive such assistance.

Because the President's tax credit is not refundable, over 16 million children

are left behind. They live in families with no federal tax liability and therefore will receive no benefit from an increase in the child tax credit because it's not refundable—it's not available to families without federal tax liability.

An additional 7 million children live in families who will not benefit from an increase in the child tax credit unless it's refundable because their current credit would not increase due to limited tax liability.

Yet, these families pay taxes. They pay federal and state taxes, payroll taxes, gas taxes, phone taxes, and other taxes. Overwhelmingly, they represent working families. Yet, at \$12,000 or \$20,000, they have no federal tax liability and therefore unless the child tax credit is made refundable, they will receive no benefit from an increased child tax credit.

The legislation we are introducing today will increase the current child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000 as the President proposed, but would also provide a refundable credit of \$500 per child for those families without federal income tax liability. This reform will lift one million families out of poverty.

Often, people talk of the complexity of the tax code. The beauty of making the child tax credit refundable is its simplicity. All families, regardless of income, would receive the credit—no marriage penalty, no cliff, no complicated phase-outs.

Back in 1991, the Bipartisan National Children's Commission, chaired by my colleague from West Virginia, Senator Rockefeller, recommended enacting a refundable child tax credit. After a decade, the time is right. We have the resources. And, I hope and believe, we have the will.

Making the child tax credit refundable is simply one of the most effective antipoverty strategies in years.

I urge my colleagues to join with us today in supporting this legislation.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 82—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 82

Whereas, during the 105th Congress, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs conducted an oversight review of the Treasury Departments Office of Inspector General;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received requests from the parties to two appeals, Richard B. Calahan v. Department of Treas-

ury, No. DC—0752-01-0245-I-1, and Lori Y. Vassar v. Department of Treasury, No. DC—0752-01-0275-I-1, before the Merit Systems protection board, for access to records, including transcripts of depositions, from its oversight review;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent committees, subcommittees, Members, officer, and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony or documentary production relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate is needed for the promotion of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the Chairman and Ranking Minority member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to provide copies of records from its Treasury Department Office of Inspector General oversight review to the parties in Richard B. Calahan v. Department of Treasury and Lori Y. Vassar v. Department of Treasury, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate legal Counsel is authorized to represent the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, and any other committee, subcommittee, Member, officer, or employees of the Senate in connection with testimony or documentary production in these matters.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs has received requests from the parties in two appeals before the Merit Systems Protection Board for permission to use in those proceedings documents obtained from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. These cases grow in part out of the FBI files matter that several congressional committees, including the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, inquired into several years ago. The appeals are from adverse personnel actions taken by the Treasury Inspector General after an investigation by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency that followed a Subcommittee referral.

The documents that are the subject of this authorizing resolution were used in the PCIE investigation that underlay these personnel actions. The resolution would authorize the Subcommittee, through the Chairman and Ranking Member, acting jointly, to permit use of Subcommittee records in these proceedings. In order to protect the privileges of the Subcommittee, and the other Senate entities that addressed these matters, the resolution would also authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in connection with any discovery sought in these cases.

SENATE RESOLUTION 81—COM-
MENDING THE MEMBERS OF THE
UNITED STATES MISSION IN THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
FOR THEIR PERSISTENCE, DEVO-
TION TO DUTY, SACRIFICE, AND
SUCCESS IN OBTAINING THE
SAFE REPATRIATION TO THE
UNITED STATES OF THE CREW
OF THE NAVY EP-3E ARIES II
AIRCRAFT WHO HAD BEEN DE-
TAINED IN CHINA

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 81

Whereas, on March 31, 2001, two fighter aircraft of the People's Republic of China intercepted a United States Navy EP-3E ARIES II maritime patrol aircraft on a routine reconnaissance mission in international airspace over the China Sea;

Whereas one of the two Chinese aircraft collided with the United States aircraft, jeopardizing the lives of its 24 crewmembers, causing serious damage, and forcing the United States aircraft commander, Navy Lieutenant Shane Osborn, to issue a "MAY-DAY" distress call and perform an emergency landing at a Chinese airfield on Hainan Island;

Whereas, in violation of international norms, the Government of the People's Republic of China detained the United States aircrew for 11 days, initially refusing the requests of United States consular and military officials for access to the crew; and

Whereas the persistence and devotion to duty of the members of the United States mission in the People's Republic of China resulted in the release of all members of the United States aircrew on April 12, 2001: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate hereby commends the members of the United States mission in the People's Republic of China, and other responsible officials of the Departments of State and Defense, for their outstanding performance in obtaining the safe repatriation to the United States of the crew of the Navy EP-3E ARIES II aircraft.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION 36—HONORING THE NA-
TIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE NATION

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BOND, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 36

Whereas Congress created the National Science Foundation in 1950 to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure the national defense;

Whereas the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on May 10, 1950;

Whereas the National Science Foundation strengthens the economy and improves the quality of life in the United States as the Federal Government's only agency dedicated to the support of education and fundamental

research in all scientific and engineering disciplines;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has worked continuously and successfully to ensure that the United States maintains its leadership in discovery, learning, and innovation in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has supported the research of more than half of the United States Nobel laureates in physics, chemistry, and economics;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has been the lead Federal agency in a number of national science initiatives, such as those in information technology and nanotechnology;

Whereas the National Science Foundation funds almost 20,000 research and education projects in science and engineering at over 2,000 colleges and universities, elementary and secondary schools, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses throughout our Nation;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's innovative education programs work to ensure that every American student receives a solid foundation in science, technology, and mathematics through support for the training and education of teachers, the public, and students of all ages and backgrounds, and by supporting research into new teaching tools, curricula, and methodologies;

Whereas the programs funded by the National Science Foundation are an exemplary demonstration of the value of scientific peer review in selecting the most innovative and technically excellent research activities using a network of over 50,000 scientists and engineers each year;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's international programs promote new partnerships and cooperative projects between United States scientists and engineers and their foreign colleagues, and such partnerships play a key role in establishing and strengthening diplomatic and economic ties; and

Whereas research supported by the National Science Foundation has led to discoveries, technologies, and products which affect our daily lives, including a greater understanding of bacteria, viruses, and the structure of DNA; medical diagnostic tools, such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI); the Internet, web browsers, and fiber optics, which have revolutionized global communication; polymer materials used in products ranging from clothing to automobiles; Doppler radar used for accurate weather forecasting; artificial skin that can help recovering burn victims; economic research in game and decision theory which has led to a greater understanding of economic cycles; and discoveries of new planets, black holes, and insights into the nature of the universe: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the significance of the anniversary of the founding of the National Science Foundation;

(2) acknowledges the completion of 50 years of achievement and service by the National Science Foundation to the United States; and

(3) reaffirms its commitment for the next 50 years to support research, education, and technological advancement and discovery through the National Science Foundation, the premier scientific agency in the Federal Government.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to introduce this resolution to commemorate the National Science Foundation, (NSF)'s, fifty years of pub-

lic service. I am joined in this resolution by Senator HOLLINGS, Senator ALLEN, Senator BREAUX, Senator BOND, Senator ROCKEFELLER, Senator JEFFORDS, Senator MIKULSKI, Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senator KENNEDY. In addition, I would like to thank my colleague, Representative NICK SMITH, for his leadership on this issue. The NSF has played a crucial role in developing and maintaining the United States economic and scientific leadership, and it deserves the gratitude of the American people for its groundbreaking work.

Since its creation in 1950, the National Science Foundation has conducted "cutting-edge" research. More than half of the U.S. Nobel Laureates in physics, chemistry, and economics have had their research supported by NSF. The National Solar Observatory, and other NSF-sponsored programs, are finding new discoveries about the Sun, the planets, and other galaxies in our universe. The NSF also runs programs that study life here on Earth. The NSF Antarctic station, that has recently been in the news, studies the West Antarctic Ice Shelf to understand changes in global climate change. The recent news report on the Antarctic Station further highlights the risk, sacrifice, and dedication that many of our scientists and engineers take on a daily basis in our scientific research pursuits. A NSF-sponsored Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research studies new construction techniques to prevent death and destruction from earthquakes. The NSF Plant Genome Project is mapping a model plant, the Arabidopsis thaliana, to find ways to develop crops resistant to insects, disease, and harsh environmental conditions. Most important, NSF plays an important role in working with America's schools to teach children math and science and train the scientists and engineers that are necessary to maintaining America's technological leadership.

It is important to point out that NSF-sponsored research continues to play an important role in every day American life. Research sponsored by NSF developed Magnetic Resonance Imaging, (MRI), artificial skin, and other medical breakthroughs that have saved the lives of millions of Americans. NSF research also developed the Doppler radar, which is used every day to warn Americans of impending hazardous weather. In addition, the NSF played a major role in developing the Internet, web browsers, and fiber optics, which have revolutionized our economy and culture. The NSF also helped to develop the American Sign Language Dictionary. Currently, the NSF is pursuing a number of new research initiatives, including nanotechnology and information technology. These new endeavors promise to foster new discoveries throughout the 21st century.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this resolution to express our gratitude and support for