

reporters throughout our state to emulate.

I wish Robert Pore the best on all his future endeavors.●

IN RECOGNITION OF ERICA AND SAMUEL BRASHER

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special recognition to two young Alabamians who made the journey to Washington D.C. this summer to learn about and celebrate America's heritage. Erica Brasher, who is 15, and Samuel Brasher, who is 12, spent 2 weeks in Washington and Northern Virginia traveling to the many historical sites located throughout the area. Most importantly, they were chosen for the honor of raising the flag at Mount Vernon on the Fourth of July. For this distinction, they received special citations which commemorated the annual celebration. Erica and Samuel Brasher's trip also included visits to Williamsburg, Harper's Ferry, and the many museums and monuments located in Washington, D.C. Upon their return home, a terrific account of Erica and Samuel's trip was written in their local newspaper, the Shelby County Reporter.

Erica and Samuel Brasher are both grandchildren of Howard and Pattie Brasher of Shelby County. Samuel is also the grandson of Tom and Chestine Cardin of Columbiana. Erica is also the granddaughter of Corinne Williams and the late Bob Williams of Shelby and the daughter of the late Martha Williams-Brasher. I had the chance to meet these two wonderful children when they visited, and I was proud to see young Alabamians so interested in American history.●

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK

● Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, Governor Mike Easley of my State of North Carolina has issued a proclamation designating the week of October 20-26, 2002 as "World Population Awareness Week." This proclamation highlights the need to better understand the environmental and social consequences of rapid population growth, particularly those issues surrounding the education and health of youth and adolescents around the world. I join Governor Easley in his recognition of World Population Awareness Week, and I ask unanimous consent to have his proclamation printed in the RECORD

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

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, more than one billion people—one sixth of the world's population—are between the ages of 15 and 24, the largest generation ever in this age bracket; and

Whereas, nearly half the world's population, and 63% in the least developed countries, is under age 25; and

Whereas, 17 million young women between the ages of 15 and 19 gave birth every year,

including about 13 million who live in less developed countries; and

Whereas, early pregnancy and childbearing are associated with serious health risks, less education, and lower future income potential; and

Whereas, the risks of dying from complications of pregnancy or childbirth are 25 times higher for girls under 15, and two times higher for women between the ages of 15 and 19; and

Whereas, approximately half of the 5 million people infected with HIV last year were young people between the ages of 15 and 24; and

Whereas, almost 12 million young people now live with HIV, and about 6,000 more become infected every day; and

Whereas, the choices young people make today regarding their sexual and reproductive lives, including responsible male behavior, will determine whether world population stabilizes at 8 billion or less or 9 billion or more; and

Whereas, the theme of World Population Awareness Week in 2002 is "Population and the Next Generation";

Now, therefore, I, Michael F. Easley, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 20-26, 2002, as "World Population Awareness Week" in North Carolina, and commend this observance to all our citizens.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH THE RESPECT TO THE SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—PM 116

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to significant narcotics

traffickers centered in Colombia is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2002, to the *Federal Register* for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on October 19, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3073).

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause unparalleled violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain economic pressure on significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia by blocking their property or interests in property that are in the United States or within the possession or control of United States persons and by depriving them of access to the United States market and financial system.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 16, 2002.

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12978 OF OCTOBER 21, 1995—PM 117

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report that my Administration has prepared on the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 16, 2002.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 11, 2002, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill joint resolution:

H.R. 5531. An act to facilitate famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan.

H.J. Res. 122. A joint resolution making further appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the enrolled bill and joint resolution were signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) on October 11, 2002.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 15, 2002, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 114. A joint resolution to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against Iraq.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the enrolled joint resolution was signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) on October 15, 2002.

At 11:22 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1339. An act to amend the Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 to provide an asylum program with regard to American Persian Gulf War POW/MIAs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4757. An act to improve the national instant criminal background check system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4967. An act to establish new non-immigrant classes for border commuter students.

H.R. 5590. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the enforcement and effectiveness of civilian orders of protection on military installations.

H.R. 5599. An act to apply guidelines for the determination of per-pupil expenditure requirements for heavily impacted local educational agencies, and for other purposes.

At 8:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

H.J. Res. 123. A joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 1339. An act to amend the Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 to provide an asylum program with regard to American Persian Gulf War POW/MIAs, and for other purposes.

S. 2558. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the collection of data on benign brain-related tumors through the national program of cancer registries.

H.J. Res. 113. A joint resolution recognizing the contributions of Patsy Takemoto Mink.

At 8:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5200. An act to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality development in Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5651. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make improvements in the regulation of medical devices, and for other purposes.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-354. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to an independent review and analysis of generic drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 293

Whereas, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is a vital agency responsible for ensuring safety in foods and medicines. The work it undertakes has a direct impact on each citizen. The FDA oversees the approval of drugs for the market and provides information to the health care network; and

Whereas, a key component of our health care resources is the availability of generic drugs, which can offer a less costly means of treatment. The use of this option, however, is only as good as the level of assurance that a generic drug is as safe as possible. The FDA considers generic drugs submitted for approval through its Office of Generic Drugs; and

Whereas, in spite of repeated assurances from the FDA and pharmaceutical companies that generic drugs are safe and are identical in the ingredients to their brand-name counterparts, there have been concerns over the safety of some generic drugs. Any concern must be investigated thoroughly to ensure that all standards of ingredients, preparation, and packaging are met. We must do all we can to ensure the highest standards for all prescription medications. Most importantly, there can be no doubt that the review of submitted medications is completely unaffected by criteria other than scientific evidence and the impact of the drugs in question on patients. Citizens as well as health care providers must have faith in the independence and reliability of all tests and determinations; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States and the Food and Drug Administration to provide for an independent review and analysis of generic drugs submitted for approval; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the Food and Drug Administration.

POM-355. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to Medicare

home health benefits and home health providers; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 576

Whereas, there are 321 Medicare-certified agencies in Pennsylvania providing critical care each year in the homes of nearly half a million Pennsylvanians; and

Whereas, home health patients receiving Medicare services are typically the sickest, frailest and most vulnerable of Pennsylvania's elderly population; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States in 1997 sought to cut growth in the Medicare home health benefit by \$16.2 billion over five years but resulted in cutting more than \$72 billion; and

Whereas, nearly one million fewer Medicare beneficiaries qualify for Medicare-reimbursed home care than in 1997; and

Whereas, additional cuts in the Medicare home health benefit would force many low-cost, efficient agencies in Pennsylvania which are struggling under the current system to go out of business, thereby harming access to Medicare beneficiaries; and

Whereas, total elimination of the 15% cut has been postponed for the past two years; and

Whereas, the impending 15% cut is making it difficult for home health agencies to secure lines of credit and is discouraging investment in advanced technologies and staff benefits; and

Whereas, sixty-five members of the United States Senate have joined in a bipartisan letter that recommends the elimination of the 15% cut; and

Whereas, one hundred thirteen members of the United States House of Representatives have joined in a bipartisan letter that recommends the elimination of the 15% cut; and

Whereas, the Budget Committee of the United States Senate has voted to set aside the funds necessary to do away with the 15% cut; and

Whereas, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), the group established by the Congress to advise on Medicare policy, has called upon the Congress to permanently eliminate the 15% cut in the Medicare home health benefit; and

Whereas, MedPAC has reported that there are three factors that can lead to a cost increase for rural home health providers; travel, volume of services and lack of sophisticated management and patient care procedures; and

Whereas, Medicare home health services are delivered to a large rural population in Pennsylvania which often lives miles apart, increasing the cost of providing home health services: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress to permanently eliminate the 15% cut in the Medicare home health benefit AND EXTEND THE 10% RURAL ADD-ON TO MEDICARE HOME HEALTH PROVIDERS; And be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representative urge the President to support the Congress in eliminating the 15% cut in the Medicare home health benefit AND EXTEND THE 10% RURAL ADD-ON TO MEDICARE HOME HEALTH PROVIDERS; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-356. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of California relative to home health care; to the Committee on Finance.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 49

Whereas, California's home health care industry has suffered a loss of over one-third of licensed home health agencies since 1998; and