

Whereas over 53,000 young people have gone to Safe Place locations to get help when faced with crisis situations;

Whereas through the efforts of Safe Place coordinators across the country each year more than one-half million students learn that Safe Place is a resource if abusive or neglectful situations exist;

Whereas increased awareness of the program's existence will encourage communities to establish Safe Places for the Nation's youth throughout the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) proclaims the week of March 17 through March 23, 2002 as "National Safe Place Week" and

(2) request that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups to promote awareness of and volunteer involvement in the Safe Place programs, and to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 219—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA AND ITS EFFORTS TO COUNTER THREATS FROM UNITED STATES-DESIGNATED FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. TORRICELLI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 219

Whereas the democratically elected Government of Colombia, led by President Andres Pastrana, is the legitimate authority in the oldest representative democracy in South America;

Whereas the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury, is required to designate as foreign terrorist organizations those groups whose activities threaten the security of United States nationals or the national security interests of the United States pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

Whereas the Secretary of State has designated 3 Colombian terrorist groups as foreign terrorist organizations, including the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC), and the National Liberation Army (ELN);

Whereas all 3 United States-designated foreign terrorist organizations regularly engage in criminal acts, including murder, kidnapping, and extortion perpetrated against Colombian civilians, government officials, security forces, and against foreign nationals, including United States citizens;

Whereas the FARC is holding 5 Colombian legislators, a presidential candidate, and Colombian police and army officers and soldiers as hostages and has recently escalated bombings against civilian targets, including a foiled attempt to destroy the city of Bogota's principal water reservoir;

Whereas, according to the Colombian government, the FARC has received training in terrorist techniques and technology from foreign nationals;

Whereas, since 1992, United States-designated foreign terrorist organizations in Colombia have committed serious crimes against United States citizens, kidnapping more than 50 Americans and murdering at least 10 Americans;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration believes that members of the FARC and the AUC directly engage in narcotics trafficking;

Whereas individual members of Colombia's security forces have collaborated with illegal paramilitary organizations by, inter alia, in some instances allowing such organizations to pass through roadblocks, sharing tactical information with such organizations, and providing such organizations with supplies and ammunition;

Whereas while the Colombian government has made progress in its efforts to combat and capture members of illegal paramilitary organizations and taken positive steps to break links between individual members of the security forces and such organizations, further steps by the Colombian government are warranted;

Whereas in 1998, Colombian President Andres Pastrana began exhaustive efforts to negotiate a peace agreement with the FARC and implemented extraordinary confidence-building measures to advance these negotiations, including establishing a 16,000-square-mile safe haven for the FARC;

Whereas the Government of Colombia has also undertaken substantial efforts to negotiate a peace agreement with the ELN;

Whereas the United States has consistently supported the Government of Colombia's protracted efforts to negotiate a peace agreement with the FARC and supports the Government of Colombia in its continuing efforts to reach a negotiated agreement with the ELN;

Whereas the United States would welcome a negotiated, political solution to end the violence in Colombia;

Whereas, after the FARC hijacked a commercial airplane and took Colombian Senator Jorge Eduardo Gechem Turbay as a hostage into the government-created safe haven, President Pastrana ended his government's sponsorship of the peace negotiations with the FARC and ordered Colombia's security forces to reestablish legitimate governmental control in the safe haven;

Whereas President Pastrana has received strong expressions of support from foreign governments and international organizations for his decision to end the peace talks and dissolve the FARC's safe haven; and

Whereas the Government of Colombia's negotiations with the ELN are continuing despite the end of the negotiations with the FARC: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) expresses its support for the democratically elected Government of Colombia and the Colombian people as they strive to protect their democracy from terrorism and the scourge of illicit narcotics; and

(B) deplores the continuing criminal terrorist acts of murder, abduction, and extortion carried out by all United States-designated foreign terrorist organizations in Colombia against United States citizens, the civilian population of Colombia, and Colombian authorities; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that the President, without undue delay, should transmit to Congress for its consideration proposed legislation, consistent with United States law regarding the protection of human rights, to assist the Government of Colombia to protect its democracy from United States-designated foreign terrorist organizations and the scourge of illicit narcotics.

SENATE RESOLUTION 220—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE CONTINUED ATTACKS ON DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW IN COLOMBIA, INCLUDING THE KIDNAPPINGS OF THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF COLOMBIA

Mr. GRASSLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 220

Whereas Colombia is home to the oldest democracy in Latin America and has consistently been a friend of the United States;

Whereas Colombia has been affected by the violence generated by the terrorist acts of illegal armed groups;

Whereas the largest of these groups, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), has used kidnapping, extortion, terrorism, and narcotics trafficking to raise money for its activities;

Whereas those most affected by the targets of these activities have been the people of Colombia;

Whereas in October 1997, almost 10,000,000 Colombians voted for a mandate for peace that asked all presidential candidates to find peace in Colombia through political negotiation;

Whereas in June 1998, 6,500,000 Colombians voted for President Andres Pastrana and his project for peace in Colombia;

Whereas, since his election, President Pastrana has worked consistently and persistently to find a peaceful solution to the ongoing conflict between the Government of Colombia and the insurgency groups operating within the borders of Colombia;

Whereas the Government of Colombia put forth several proposals for peace and made sacrifices in sovereign territory and commitments in funding in hopes of achieving peace in Colombia only to have these overtures repeatedly rejected;

Whereas, on January 20, 2002, the Government of Colombia and the FARC were able to agree on a schedule to be followed in order to define the future of the peace process;

Whereas, since this accord was signed by the FARC, the FARC has consistently and repeatedly taken violent actions against the people and the Government of Colombia in the form of terrorist attacks, including—

- (1) car bombs;
- (2) attacking government installations;
- (3) mining new fields;
- (4) homicides, including women and children;
- (5) destroying electric pylons;
- (6) bombing oil pipelines;
- (7) destroying bridges; and
- (8) attacks on the dam that provides water to Bogota;

Whereas five democratically elected representatives of the Colombian Congress are currently being held against their will after being kidnapped by the FARC, including—

(1) Representative Oscar Tulio Lizcano, a member of the Conservative Party and elected by the people of Colombia to represent the Province of Caldas, who was kidnapped in the municipality of Riosucio, Province of Caldas, on August 5, 2000, by members of the "Aurelio Rodriguez Front" of the "Jose Maria Cordoba Block" of the FARC;

(2) Senator Luis Eladio Perez, a member of the Liberal Party and elected by the people of Colombia, while visiting several municipalities on a political tour who was kidnapped in the town of Ipiales, Province of Nariflo, on June 10, 2001, by elements of the

FARC, as a second attempt to kidnap Senator Eladio, the first occurring at the end of May 2001, and frustrated by his security detail;

(3) Representative Orlando Beltran Cuellar, a member of the Liberal Party from the Province of Huila and elected by the people of Colombia, who was kidnapped by the FARC in the municipality of Gigante, Province of Huila, on August 28, 2001;

(4) Representative Consuelo Gonzalez de Perdomo, a member of the Liberal Party from the Province of Huila and elected by the people of Colombia, who was kidnapped by the FARC in the municipality of Hobo, Province of Huila, on September 11, 2001; and

(5) Senator Jorge Eduardo Gechem Turbay, a member of the Liberal Party from the Province of Huila, elected by the people of Colombia, and President of the Colombian Senate's Peace Commission, who was kidnapped on February 20, 2002, when four members of the FARC hijacked a commercial AIRES aircraft traveling from Neiva to Bogota with 30 passengers on board and who was removed from the aircraft after it was forced to land on a rural road in the municipality of Hobo, Province of Huila; and

Whereas Saturday, February 23, Presidential Candidate Ingrid Betancourt and her campaign manager Clara Rojas were kidnapped by the FARC as she traveled to San Vicente del Caguan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its strong support for the democratically elected Government of Colombia and the Colombian people in their struggle to protect their democracy from terrorism and the scourge of illicit narcotics;

(2) deplors the continuing criminal terrorist acts of murder, abduction, and extortion carried out by all illegal armed groups in Colombia against the civilian population of Colombia and Colombian authorities;

(3) condemns the kidnapping of elected representatives of the people of Colombia by the FARC and extends its sympathy to the families and friends of the kidnapped members of the Colombian Congress; and

(4) urges the President to develop a comprehensive strategic policy proposal, consistent with United States law regarding human rights and the environment, to assist the Government of Colombia in defending its democracy and rule of law from illegal armed groups and the scourge of illicit narcotics.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am sending to the desk a sense-of-the-Senate resolution on the current situation in Colombia.

The resolution expresses outrage over the current attacks on democracy and democratic institutions in Colombia by a gang of vicious thugs. The most recent outrage, in a long history of outrages, was the hijacking of a commercial airliner filled with innocent people that was forced to land, and then the kidnapping at gun point of a distinguished Colombian Senator. That Senator remains a prisoner, his fate unknown and uncertain. Four other members of the Colombian Congress are also prisoners, and now so is one of the candidates for president in Colombia's upcoming elections. Other members have been murdered, their families threatened, their children terrorized. These are only the most publicly visible victims of Colombia's guerrilla thugs.

There can be no clearer testimony, if further evidence was called for, of the

vicious nature of the actions of Colombia's insurgent movement, the FARC. They have branded themselves, if it was not clear before, as outright terrorists. Their actions are an assault on the rule of law and on democracy.

My resolution expresses the concern over the fate of those in a companion institution. Our sympathies must go to their families, our concern to their countryman in their time of threat and menace. I hope that other members will join me in expressing our unanimous concern for the fate of democracy and the rule of law in Colombia. The other body has passed a resolution expressing its concern. I hope we will as well.

SENATE RESOLUTION 221—TO COMMEMORATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. ALLARD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GREGG, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. HUTCHINSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 221

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 700,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 70 peace officers died at the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001, the most peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of the Nation;

Whereas more than 220 peace officers across the Nation were killed in the line of duty during 2001, 57 percent more police fatalities than the previous year, and the deadliest year for the law enforcement community since 1974;

Whereas every year, 1 out of every 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 25 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 4,400 peace officers is killed in the line of duty; and

Whereas on May 15, 2002, more than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2002 as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am joined by the chairman and

ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senators LEAHY and HATCH, along with several other Senators in submitting this resolution to keep alive in the memory of all Americans the sacrifice and commitment of those law enforcement officers who lost their lives serving their communities. Specifically, this resolution would designate May 15, 2002, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day.

As a former deputy sheriff, I know first-hand the risks which law enforcement officers face everyday on the front lines protecting our communities. Currently, more than 700,000 men and women who serve this Nation as our guardians of law and order do so at a great risk. Every year, about 1 in 9 officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 officers is injured, and 1 in 4,400 officers is killed in the line of duty. There are few communities in this country that have not been impacted by the words: "officer down."

On September 11, 2001, 70 peace officers died at the World Trade Center in New York City as a result of a cowardly act of terrorism. This single act of terrorism resulted in the highest number of peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of this country. Thirty-seven of those fallen heroes served with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department: twenty-three were New York City police officers; three worked for the New York Office of Court Administration; five were with the New York Office of Tax Enforcement; one was a FBI special agent; and one was a master special officer with the U.S. Secret Service. Before this event, the greatest loss of law enforcement like in a single incident occurred in 1917, when nine Milwaukee police officers were killed in a bomb blast at their police station.

In 2001, more than 200 Federal, State and local law enforcement officers give their lives in the line of duty. This represents more than a 57 percent increase in police fatalities over the previous year. And, in total, nearly 15,000 men and women have made the supreme sacrifice.

The chairman of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Craig W. Floyd, reminds us:

The level of public support and appreciation for our law enforcement officers has increased dramatically since September 11. But the incredible bravery and selfless sacrifice our officers displayed that day was no different than every other day of the year in communities across America. We owe all of our police officers a huge debt of gratitude for the invaluable work they do.

On May 15, 2002, more than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in our Nation's Capitol to join with the families of their fallen comrades who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities. In doing so, these heroes have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens. This resolution is a fitting tribute for this special and solemn occasion.