

the Federal deposit insurance system, and for other purposes.

S. 1992

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1992, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve diversification of plan assets for participants in individual account plans, to improve disclosure, account access, and accountability under individual account plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2003, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the applicability of the prohibition on assignment of veterans benefits to agreements regarding future receipt of compensation, pension, or dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 2026

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2026, a bill to authorize the use of Cooperative Threat Reduction funds for projects and activities to address proliferation threats outside the states of the former Soviet Union, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 185

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 185, a resolution recognizing the historical significance of the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States.

S. RES. 219

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 219, a resolution expressing support for the democratically elected Government of Columbia and its efforts to counter threats from United States-designated foreign terrorist organizations.

AMENDMENT NO. 3032

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3032 intended to be proposed to S. 517, a bill to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 2036. A bill to authorize the appointment of additional Federal district court judges for the middle and southern districts of Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, an estimated 200,000 new Floridians every year move into the Sunshine State, making Florida one of the fastest growing States in the Nation. As the population increases, so do the number of people seeking justice from the Federal Courts in our State.

Few are more familiar with these demands than the judges and personnel of the United States Courts in Florida's Middle and Southern Districts. The Judicial Conference of the United States has established a benchmark caseload standard of 430 case filings per judgeship. This is a goal that is rarely met in Florida's Middle and Southern Districts.

In fact, the number of case filings per judgeship in the Southern District has remained above 500 since 1995; at the end of last year it stood at 609. In the Middle District the courts' weighted caseload with 547 per judgeship at the end of 2001, 27 percent above the Conference standard.

In light of this considerable burden on Florida's judges and the outlook for continued growth within the State, the United States Judicial Conference has recommended that Congress add one permanent and one temporary judgeship to the Middle District and one permanent judgeship in the Southern District.

It is in accordance with these recommendations that my colleague from Florida and I introduce legislation to establish these needed judgeships. It is my hope that these additional judges will help to alleviate the heavy burden currently placed on Florida's Federal courts.

The administration of justice will continue to be a challenge in Florida's Federal courts unless adequate resources are committed. Perhaps the most egregious example of this lack of resources is in the Fort Myers division of the Middle District, where judge's criminal caseloads stand at an astounding ninety percent above the national average.

As Florida continues to grow, this burden will only increase. The services provided by the Federal judiciary must grow to meet these demands. I urge the Senate to support this legislation, ensure adequate resources for the administration of justice, and uphold the United States Constitution's guarantee of fair and speedy justice.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, Florida's Middle and Southern District Courts desperately need additional judges. These jurisdictions are among the busiest in the Nation and they face an avalanche of new cases

which threaten to further delay the administration of justice for thousands of Floridians. Simply put, Florida's judges are overwhelmed and unable to handle this many cases.

Today, Senator GRAHAM and I are introducing legislation which will create one additional permanent judgeship for the Middle District of Florida and one additional permanent judgeship for the Southern District of Florida. Our legislation also creates a temporary judgeship for the Middle District which will expire following the first vacancy on the court which occurs no sooner than seven years after the confirmation date of the individual named to fill the temporary position.

Our intention is to ensure that Florida's Federal courts have the jurists necessary to exact timely justice. After reviewing current judges' caseloads and consulting with the districts' chief judges, we believe authorizing new judgeships is absolutely essential to ensuring that these jurisdictions are able to meet their statutory and constitutional obligations. Florida's Federal courts need these judges and Senator GRAHAM and I intend to do everything we can to get them.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to quickly pass this legislation, so that we can bring relief to Florida's Middle and Southern District Courts.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 2037. A bill to mobilize technology and science experts to respond quickly to the threats posed by terrorist attacks and other emergencies, by providing for the establishment of a national emergency technology guard, a technology reliability advisory board, and a center for evaluating antiterrorism and disaster response technology within the National Institute of Standards and Technology; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, earlier today, along with my friend and colleague, Senator ALLEN of Virginia, I introduced bipartisan legislation that would establish the technology equivalent of the National Guard. It is an effort we have been pursuing in the Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee. I am very pleased to have the Presiding Officer of the Senate on the subcommittee and pleased that he is in the chair as we discuss this legislation tonight.

This is a subject we have been working on since September 11 and the tragedy that struck our country that day.

We are all aware that the public sector, government, military, and law enforcement have begun a very significant mobilization effort to fight terrorism. It is a laudatory effort, one I fully support. This public effort is not going to be successful alone, if we don't take steps to tap the tremendous technology and science talents of America's private sector.

Considering the enormous technological challenges faced on September 11, the quality of emergency response is more than exceptional. But the many private companies and their science and technology experts who rushed to offer their help that day have told our committee they can do more. They can move faster, and they can help save more lives if the U.S. Congress provides a portal, an opportunity for them to more accessibly participate and offer their talents. That is why the legislation Senator Allen and I offered today, the Science and Technology Emergency Mobilization Act, provides an opportunity to tap those talents of the private sector.

It doesn't create a large bureaucracy. It is not going to snarl our private companies in red tape. It is simply going to provide a gateway to bring the resources of the private sector to bear in the war against terrorism.

I believe, just as John F. Kennedy gave America's youth a forum for public service, now is the time for our Government to throw open its doors to a new generation raised on information technologies that will be able to respond to the wide variety of technology and science-related challenges that arise in the wake of a terrorist attack or other disaster.

The legislation we are offering today offers four opportunities to capitalize on the immense technology resources of our Nation. One I am especially pleased about would establish a virtual technology reserve. As my colleagues know, we have a strategic petroleum reserve in our country. It is an energy insurance policy, an energy bank, in effect, that we can tap when we are in a crunch with respect to oil products. I think we ought to look at technology as the same sort of resource.

So we have created a virtual technology reserve in our legislation that would allow communities all across this country to put in place a preexisting database of private sector equipment and expertise that they could call upon in the case of an emergency. Access to this database would enable Federal, State, and local officials, as well as nongovernmental relief organizations, to locate quickly whatever technology or scientific help they might need from the private sector.

For example, a city official tasked with setting up a command center in the wake of an emergency might need laptop computers and high capacity telecommunications equipment. A State health director facing a potential bioterrorism incident might need to locate experts with expertise concerning a specific pathogen and to obtain special detection and remediation technology as soon as possible. An emergency official coordinating in the field rescue and recovery efforts might need a batch of hand-held radios or might need to bring in mobile cellular units to expand local cellular coverage and capacity so people on the ground can communicate.

In all of these instances, the key is locating equipment and expertise quickly. By turning to our virtual technology reserve, these officials would have a quick way to identify companies that have what they need and companies that have expressed their willingness to help in an emergency.

The Wyden-Allen legislation has several other provisions that we believe will help make a meaningful difference in this fight against terrorism. The legislation provides for the formation of rapid response teams of science and technology experts. It establishes a clearinghouse and test bed for new antiterror technologies. Suffice it to say, our Government has received thousands and thousands of ideas, unsolicited, from private companies and citizens all across this country with respect to products to aid in the fight against terrorism. And there is no systematic way to evaluate the quality of those products.

The bipartisan legislation we brought to the Senate today would provide that test bed and a plan to have those products evaluated.

Finally, our legislation provides for pilot projects to help overcome a problem that seems incomprehensible in a communications center as advanced as the east coast of the United States. We saw on September 11 that first responders, people on the front lines, police and fire and others, were not able to communicate to each other. Before our subcommittee, we were told that on the east coast of the United States, arguably the most sophisticated communications center on the planet, there were firemen actually hand walking messages to their colleagues because all of the available communications systems—the hard-wire systems, the land lines, the cell lines—was down. So we badly need to have innovative work done in trying to make interoperable these communications systems that our first responders need.

Our Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space found, as we analyzed the events of September 11, that the private sector was ready, willing, and able to contribute, but too often they were up against obstacles when they wanted to help. Some couldn't get proper credentials to access disaster sites. Some simply could not find the right place to offer their people their expertise and equipment and were literally knocking on doors offering to help, and people literally could use their skills.

On December 5 of last year, FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh testified before our subcommittee that emergency response officials could have used the help of people in the technology sector to set up databases to track the missing and injured, as well as the goods and services being donated. But what Director Allbaugh has said—and he has been very helpful in this effort—was there simply wasn't a centralized go-to desk to provide experts for immediate needs.

In the event of a bioterror attack, we have been told by the health authorities that communities would face the very same confusion. Right now, if a town is hit with a biological agent and local officials are looking for the closest medical authority, there is no comprehensive list of certified experts to help them.

Suffice it to say, in our effort to try to come up with a coordinated plan to fight terrorism, there are going to be some difficult issues. I have great sympathy for Tom Ridge as he tries to bring together these agencies—perhaps 20 agencies—that are going to be involved in this effort. There are going to be some very difficult decisions that have to be made to maximize the talents and work of these agencies.

But it seems to me the idea of having a preexisting database, so that in communities in Florida, and in Oregon, and across this country, if you are hit with a bioterror agent or have a calamity involving a terrorist attack, that you would have a preexisting database of individuals who can help and companies that are willing to donate equipment. That strikes me as eminently doable, something practical that the Government can do to make a real difference. That is why our virtual technology reserve and setting up these databases can make a real difference.

In addition to that virtual technology reserve, the Wyden-Allen bill seeks to move experts into a community as rapidly as possible when problems arise. To that end, in our bill we provide for the creation and certification of national emergency technology guard teams. We call these teams NET guard teams. They would be made up of volunteers with technology and science expertise, and they would be organized in advance and available to be mobilized on short notice.

After consulting at length with leaders in the Bush administration, we have decided that these unique teams ought to be modeled after the urban search and rescue teams that are now under FEMA and the medical response teams under the Department of Health and Human Services. But instead of providing search and rescue or medical services, which, of course, is what is available today, the NET guard teams would provide the technology, information, and communications support to help rescuers work more effectively. Once assembled, NET guard teams can provide technology-related help in the aftermath of floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters as well.

In the testimony Director Allbaugh gave to the subcommittee, we were told that the technology challenges that are facing crises such as the September 11 attacks are not just technology problems, they are problems that ultimately cost lives. The essence of this legislation is about saving lives, and one way it can do that is to establish a structure to form and activate

what we call NET guard teams of technology experts who can step in when crises occur.

We also think science and technology experts from the Nation's leading private sector companies have a role to play before disaster strikes. Clearly, we need to respond more effectively when there is a disaster. But it is only common sense to utilize the talents and energy of those in the private sector in a preventive way as well, and that is also a key feature of our bipartisan legislation.

Since September 11, thousands of experts and entrepreneurs have contacted the Federal Government offering new technologies. We would like to have those evaluated. That evaluative kind of effort can go forward as we employ a preventive kind of strategy for our leaders in the private sector and for purposes of making sure we accept and evaluate and implement these ideas that are now flooding in from around the country.

We create a Center for Civilian Homeland Security Technology Evaluation. It is going to have two purposes. It will serve as a national clearinghouse for security and emergency response technologies, helping to match companies with innovative technologies with the Government agencies that need them; it would provide a single point of contact to which both companies and Government agencies could turn to have their technology proposals addressed.

What we have heard in our committee—and I have been told as well in the Commerce Committee, and in other forums—is that the private sector really doesn't know where to turn. Should they go to the Department of Health and Human Services? They have been interested in ideas from private sector leaders. Should they go to the Department of Defense? They are interested as well. We establish a center for evaluating technologies, so there will be a central clearinghouse for companies to know where to turn.

More particularly, the center will operate a test bed to evaluate the ability of proposed technologies to satisfy Government needs. This test bed will work in conjunction with existing Federal agencies and the national laboratories. It is not meant to be a technology gatekeeper, somehow having the Federal Government picking winners and losers, but it is designed to assist agencies that are now telling us they do not have the capability to evaluate these technologies on their own. This test bed is necessary, in my view, to keep new technologies from slipping through the cracks.

I don't want to see American lives lost because the Federal Government could not find a way to accommodate fresh, new ideas from our leaders in the technology and science area.

The legislation springs, as I have touched on, from firsthand accounts of what happened on September 11. Here in the Capital and in New York, the

terrorist strikes flattened telecommunications and information networks. Many people of New York wandered the streets, unable to find out anything about an injured or missing loved one or even to register their names. Web sites, voice mail, and e-mail systems of relief organizations filled up and crashed.

When emergency workers moved in, they told us they were hindered by the fact that their communications systems could not work together. Courageous emergency workers told our subcommittee that communications breakdowns made their job more difficult and more dangerous as well.

So for that reason, we would establish a pilot program under which grants of \$5 million each would be available for seven pilot projects aimed at achieving interoperability of communications systems used by fire, law enforcement, and emergency preparedness and response agencies.

In simple English, what that is all about is making sure the police, fire, and health agencies can communicate with each other. It is probably as important as anything the Government can do. But because in many instances there are overlapping authorities in different systems, we are not making that possible in our country. It involves a lot of complicated issues, many of which the occupant of the chair and I have a chance to wrestle with in the Commerce Committee. Certainly spectrum or forum are a part of it.

At a minimum, we ought to test out through the pilot projects in the bipartisan bill we are introducing today some ideas for making it easier for police, fire, and health to communicate and save the lives of citizens, and certainly make their lives less dangerous as well.

The Nation's top technology companies have been very involved in developing this effort, including Intel, Microsoft, America Online, and Oracle, that have all expressed support for the legislation. All of them believe that creating a high-technology reserve talent bank—a talent bank that serves as a new force to confront a new threat—and the other initiatives proposed in the Wyden-Allen bipartisan legislation make sense. I thank them and other leaders in the private sector for their involvement.

In drafting the legislation, I have consulted with a number of leaders in the administration in the antiterrorism effort, including Director Allbaugh; Richard Clarke, the President's Special Advisor for Cybersecurity; Commerce Secretary Donald Evans; and John Marburger of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. To a person, they have been very responsive and they have met us more than halfway in terms of making their own time and that of their staffs available. Senator ALLEN and I appreciate their bipartisan commitment.

I pledge tonight to continue to work with them and, on a bipartisan basis,

with the administration and with colleagues in the Congress on both sides of the aisle, to move this bill forward as rapidly as possible.

At this point, I ask unanimous consent that letters in support from several of the Nation's leading technology companies be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INTEL CORPORATION,  
Santa Clara, CA, March 18, 2002.

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WYDEN: I write to express our support for the "Science and Technology Emergency Mobilization Act", your legislation—soon to be introduced—that would establish a national emergency technology guard and a civilian homeland security evaluation center within NIST. This legislation would provide a means for enhancing emergency response and recovery of information technology infrastructure in the event of major disasters such as the events on September 11 of last year.

A national strategy for ensuring the resiliency of our IT infrastructure against attacks and natural disasters is long overdue, particularly as our country has become increasingly dependent on the interconnected digital network. We look forward to working with you on the details of this legislation in committee and on the floor as it moves toward enactment.

Again, we applaud your leadership and forward vision on the need for strengthening our information technology backbone.

Sincerely,  
ANDREW S. GROVE,  
Chairman of the Board.

ORACLE CORPORATION,  
Washington, DC, March 18, 2002.

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
United States Senate, Washington, DC.

SENATOR WYDEN: I am writing to express Oracle's support for the "Science and Technology Emergency Mobilization Act", your proposed legislation that would establish a national emergency technology guard, and a "virtual technology reserve" consisting of a database of private sector equipment and expertise that emergency officials may call upon in an emergency. This legislation would improve and enhance emergency response capabilities, particularly the recovery of information technology infrastructure, in the event of major disasters such as the events on September 11 of last year.

As you well know, this country has become increasingly dependent on continued operation of its vast information networks. That is why a national strategy to ensure the resiliency and continued operation of our information technology infrastructure against attacks and national disasters is critical. Oracle looks forward to working with you on the details of your proposal as it moves through the legislative process.

On behalf of Oracle, thank you for your leadership on issues important to maintaining our nation's technology infrastructure.

Sincerely,  
ROBERT P. HOFFMAN,  
Director.

MICROSOFT CORPORATION,  
Washington, DC, March 19, 2002.

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
United States Senator, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WYDEN: We welcome the opportunity to comment on your legislation to create a reserve of technology and science experts capable of responding to national

cyber emergencies. We applaud your ongoing leadership on this and other key technology matters in the United State Senate.

Microsoft is deeply engaged in security matters. Our Trustworthy Computing Initiative, recently announced by Bill Gates, places a primary emphasis on security, privacy and reliability across our products, services and operations.

We agree with you that, in case of a national cyber emergency, the Federal Government should draw upon the brightest minds in industry in its efforts to protect Federal agencies and other critical entities. In fact, on September 11th our Chief Security Officer was called to active military duty to support the government's response to the attacks. He recently left Microsoft to become the Vice Chairman of the President's Critical Infrastructure Protection Board.

We view your focus on a National Emergency Technology Guard, like our Trustworthy Computing Initiative, as a means to strengthen America's cybersecurity via better trained personnel.

We thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this matter and commend you once again for your ongoing leadership in cybersecurity.

Sincerely,

JACK KRUMHOLTZ,  
Director, Federal Government Affairs,  
Associated General Counsel.

AOL TIME WARNER,  
Washington, DC, March 19, 2002.

Hon. RON WYDEN,

Hon. GEORGE ALLEN,

United States Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WYDEN AND SENATOR ALLEN: On behalf of AOL Time Warner, I would like to express my appreciation for your efforts and leadership in the area of antiterrorism and disaster response, including the development of legislation to address this critical issue.

September 11th forever changed the way our country thinks about crisis response and emergency management, and has made all of us realize the importance of working together as a team when disaster strikes. Like so many other organizations and individuals across the country and around the world, we at AOL Time Warner watched with horror as the tragic events of that day unfolded—and did what we could to contribute to the immediate needs of the emergency response personnel, from financial and humanitarian assistance to technical support.

Since that time, we have participated in numerous discussions, including several ongoing initiatives led by the Administration, about both how to prevent such a catastrophe in the future and how to mitigate the effects of such a disaster should the unthinkable occur again. It is clear from these discussions and from our experiences on that day, that one of the most critical objectives in formulating a disaster response strategy is to ensure the functioning of our communications infrastructure in the event of an emergency.

Your legislation, "The Science Technology Emergency Mobilization Act," recognizes the important role played by volunteers—like those from our company and countless and countless others across the nation—in providing technical assistance to enhance communication in times of crisis, and creates a mechanism for coordinating and deploying such assistance in a systematic fashion during a national emergency. We believe that this type of voluntary partnership between industry and government is vital to ensuring that disaster response and recovery efforts are coordinated and effective.

We are grateful for your work on this issue of such importance to our nation, and look

forward to continuing to work with both Congress and the Administration on matters relating to security and critical infrastructure.

Sincerely,

SUSAN A. BROPHY,  
Senior Vice President, Domestic Public Policy,  
AOL Time Warner.

## STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 228—HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA AND ITS WORLD WAR II CREW ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSIONING OF THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 228

Whereas March 20, 2002, marks the 60th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. South Dakota;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota and her crew served with distinction throughout World War II;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota served in many of the major battles of the Pacific Campaign, including the engagements in support of the battle for Guadalcanal, the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands, the invasions of the Gilbert Islands and Marshall Islands, the Marianas Campaign, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the invasions of Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines, the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and attacks on the home islands of Japan;

Whereas, from February through August of 1943, the U.S.S. South Dakota operated in the Atlantic Ocean, and served there with the British Home Fleet;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota and her crew became the most decorated American battleship of World War II, having been awarded 13 battle stars;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota became one of only four battleships to be awarded the Navy Unit Commendation;

Whereas Admiral Chester W. Nimitz used the U.S.S. South Dakota as his flagship for the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota served as the flagship for Admiral William F. Halsey on the return of the Navy's Third Fleet to the United States after World War II ended; and

Whereas the memory of those who served and those who died on the vessel are honored at the U.S.S. South Dakota Memorial in Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) remembers the service of the U.S.S. South Dakota and its World War II crew on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. South Dakota;

(2) commends the members of the World War II crew of the U.S.S. South Dakota for their dedicated service to the United States during that war;

(3) pays solemn tribute to those who were killed or wounded on the decks of the U.S.S. South Dakota; and

(4) honors the lasting legacy of the great fighting spirit of the U.S.S. South Dakota and its crew.

### THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution honoring the 60th anniversary of the commissioning of the USS *South Dakota*.

The USS *South Dakota* was the lead ship of a class of 35,000-ton battleships and was officially commissioned on March 20, 1942. Few ships in the history of the United States Navy have had such a distinguished service record or have been as integral to the defense of our Nation. The Resolution I am submitting today honors both the USS *South Dakota* and her dedicated crew.

The USS *South Dakota* served throughout World War II, and became the most decorated American battleship of the war having been awarded 13 battle stars. In addition, the South Dakota became one of only four battleships to receive the Navy Unit Commendation.

While the South Dakota spent the majority of its service in World War II in the Pacific, it did serve in the Atlantic along with the British Home Fleet from February to July 1943. However, no one can deny that the crew truly distinguished themselves in the Pacific Campaign. Very few of the battles fought in that theater of operation occurred without the support of the USS *South Dakota*. In fact, the South Dakota saw action at the battle for Guadalcanal, the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands, the invasions of the Gilbert Islands and Marshall Islands, the Marianas Campaign, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the invasions of Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines, the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and attacks on the home islands of Japan. All told, the USS *South Dakota* was credited with sinking three enemy ships and downing 64 enemy aircraft during the war.

The proudest moment for the crew may have been when the South Dakota served as the flagship for Admiral Chester W. Nimitz during the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. For the ship, its crew, and our Nation, this signalled the end of World War II and our complete victory over the forces of fascism. Following the surrender of Japan, the South Dakota was the flagship for Admiral William F. Halsey during the return of the fleet to the United States.

On the 60th Anniversary of its commissioning, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the crew of the USS *South Dakota* for their service to our Nation. Their contributions to the freedoms we enjoy today is a debt we can never fully repay. I ask my colleagues to join with me in remembering the USS *South Dakota* and honoring the lasting legacy of her crew.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 229—CONDEMNING THE INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN SUICIDE BOMBINGS

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs.