

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—H.R. 1274

Mr. FRIST. I understand that H.R. 1274, which was just received from the House, is at the desk and I now ask for its first reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1274) to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey to Fresno County, California, the existing Federal courthouse in that county.

Mr. FRIST. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

HUGH GREGG POST OFFICE
BUILDING

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 397, H.R. 3185.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3185) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 38 Spring Street in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the Hugh Gregg Post Office Building.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3185) was read the third time and passed.

JOHN G. DOW POST OFFICE
BUILDING

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 367, H.R. 3166.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3166) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 57 Old Tappan Road in Tappan, New York, as the John G. Dow Post Office Building.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3166) was read the third time and passed.

CORRECTION OF HEALTH CARE
SAFETY NET AMENDMENTS ACT
OF 2003

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be dis-

charged from further consideration of H.R. 3038 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3038) to make certain technical and conforming amendments to correct the Health Care Safety Net Amendments Act of 2002.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3038) was read the third time and passed.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE WITH RESPECT TO POLIO

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 266 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 266) expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to Polio.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 266) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 266

Whereas polio has caused millions of casualties through history, paralyzing millions and killing untold numbers of others;

Whereas polio remains a public health threat in today's world, despite being easily preventable by vaccination;

Whereas polio is now limited to 10 countries, with the distinct possibility that it can be once and forever extinguished as an affliction on mankind by ensuring the vaccination of all children in these countries under the age of 5;

Whereas a Global Polio Eradication Initiative exists that seeks to once and forever end polio as an illness, which includes efforts underway by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

Whereas the United States has the capacity to act to speed the eradication of polio by assisting in the targeting of its few remaining reservoirs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses serious concern about the continuing threat posed by polio;

(2) encourages the United Nations and its component agencies, the private sector, private voluntary organizations and non-gov-

ernmental organizations, concerned States, and international financial institutions to act with haste and manifold dedication to eradicate polio as soon as possible; and

(3) calls upon the United States government to continue its contribution to the multilateral effort to eradicate polio, including closely monitoring laboratory stocks of the polio virus.

ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL
MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORY AND CULTURE

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3491, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3491) to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, over 200 years ago, there was a dream that was America for a group of individuals who were brought to our shores in shackles. A dream so powerful that compelled a race of people to fight for the liberty of others when they were in bondage themselves. A dream that not only served as a catalyst for physical liberation in the African-American community but removed societal shackles from our culture and enabled us to realize the ideals set before us in the Constitution—that all men are created equal under God.

Today, I am proud to stand here with my colleagues, from both the House and the Senate, and announce the passage of the National Museum of African-American History and Culture Act. After over 70 years, we have finally created a museum to honor—nationally—the contributions and sacrifice of African Americans in this country.

I would specifically like to thank Senator DODD, who was committed to honoring this history and has worked hard to get us to this point today.

I would also like to thank Senator TRENT LOTT for his unwavering support to move this bill through the Committee of Jurisdiction. As well as Senator TED STEVENS for his leadership and commitment to this project.

Additionally, I would like to recognize Senator SANTORUM for his continued unwavering commitment to this bill as well as the majority leader of the Senate, Senator BILL FRIST. It means a great deal to have such widespread support and I am grateful.

Perhaps most important, I would like to thank Representative JOHN LEWIS for championing this bill for over 15 years. It has been a pleasure for me to work with you, JOHN, on this bill.

With the creation of this museum, we will celebrate a rich and magnificent history. A history of a people's quest for freedom that shaped this Nation into a symbol of freedom and democracy around the world. I am proud to

stand here today with my colleagues and celebrate the passage of this wonderful bill.

Perhaps most important, I believe that this museum will be a catalyst for needed racial reconciliation in this country. There will be many tears shed at this museum—tears that cleanse the soul and that transcend race, creed, and color.

I remember when I met with the dean of the Afro-American Studies at Howard University. He told me of a story about his grandfather who finished a bowl the day the Emancipation Proclamation was authorized.

His grandfather decided to keep the bowl because it no longer was the property of a slave master but the man who made it—his grandfather. The dean has this bowl in his home—an incredible piece of history and I am sure there are many more pieces out there waiting for a home—a national home and today we have ensured that there will indeed be a home for such artifacts.

Specifically, this bill creates this museum within the Smithsonian Institution—America's premier museum complex. We have worked very hard with the Smithsonian Institution to craft a bill that will compliment their programs—and indeed we have done just that.

The legislation outlines a museum that is very similar to the American Indian Museum, slated to open next year. And I know that the Smithsonian Institution will create another national treasure, one that tells the story of African Americans in this country—a proud history, a rich history.

This bill charges the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution along with the Council of the National Museum to plan, build and construct a museum dedicated to celebrating nationally African-American history—which is American history.

In addition, this bill charges the board of regents with choosing a site on or adjacent to the National Mall for the location of the museum.

Additionally, the bill instructs the director of the museum to create and oversee an education and program liaison section designed to work with educational institutions and museums across the country in order to promote African-American history.

Finally, the bill sets fourth a federal-private partnership for funding the museum and creates a council for the museum, which will be comprised from a mixture of leading African Americans from the museum, historical, and business communities.

I do not pretend that this museum is a panacea for racial reconciliation. It is, however, a productive step in recognizing the important contributions African Americans have made to this country.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once expressed his desire for this Nation, "That the dark clouds of [misconceptions] will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted

from our fear-drenched communities and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great Nation with all their scintillating beauty." We are one step closer today—God bless.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today is a truly historic day. After nearly three-quarters of a century of trying, a national museum dedicated to telling the story of the African American struggle and contribution to the founding and development of this country is about to be realized with passage of H.R. 3491, legislation to create a National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Many individuals are to be congratulated and thanked for their efforts to bring this dream to fruition. In the Senate, my distinguished colleague and author of legislation this Congress to authorize the African American Museum, Senator SAM BROWNBACK, has been a champion of this effort for the past two Congresses. I was pleased to be his coauthor on this measure.

As chairman of the Senate Rules Committee last Congress, it was my great honor to work with him to produce legislation to create the Presidential Commission, whose report underpinned the legislation we introduced earlier this year. We would not be voting on this matter today but for the continuing efforts of Senator BROWNBACK.

In the House, my good friend, Congressman BOB NEY, and my friend and colleague from Connecticut, Congressman JOHN LARSON, worked with us to find a compromise that could be supported in the House and shepherded this legislation to passage on the House suspension calendar on Wednesday by an overwhelming vote of 409 to 9. Their diligence and dedication to this effort was tireless.

But no one deserves more credit for helping to realize this dream than does my dear friend from Georgia, Congressman JOHN LEWIS. This bill is truly his dream, his inspiration, his vision, his mission.

For nearly 12 years JOHN LEWIS has made creation of this museum his personal crusade. It has been a labor of love and while the road has been long and filled with bumps, the victory today is his victory. I salute JOHN LEWIS for his courage and tireless dedication to this cause.

But the ultimate winner today is not just a handful of Members, it is our Nation as a whole. For today, Congress has acted to heal old wounds of the past and formally acknowledge that the stories and contributions of African Americans to the birth and growth of this great Nation must be told to complete our history.

Since 1929, efforts have been made to recognize the contributions and unique history of Americans of African descent. It is past time that we publicly acknowledge and incorporate the African American experience into our collective identity.

This legislation will help ensure that the compelling stories and invaluable contributions of African Americans to our national fabric will no longer be ignored, but shared with all Americans, indeed, all peoples of the world.

With the creation of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Americans of all races, ethnic backgrounds, and personal histories can come together to celebrate the contributions of all Americans to the rich heritage and culture that is the American melting pot.

That is the essence of this legislation—the completion of the American story of our quest for freedom and truth through the public incorporation of the experiences and contributions of African Americans to that struggle. This Museum offers the promise and hope that all Americans can come to understand the full story of how this nation was formed.

The House bill before us is virtually identical to the bill Senator BROWNBACK and I introduced in May of this year, S. 1157, which the Senate passed on June 23rd.

This legislation directs the Smithsonian Institution to establish a museum known as the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Within 12 months of enactment, the Smithsonian Board of Regents will choose a site for this Museum from among four sites listed in the bill.

With regard to the sites available for selection, the House bill deletes the Capitol grounds site contained in the Senate-passed bill and substitutes a fourth site, known as the "Banneker Overlook site" located on 10th Street Southwest at the foot of the L'Enfant Plaza promenade on axis with the Smithsonian Castle.

The bill directs that, prior to the selection of the site, the Board of Regents will consult with the chair of the National Capital Planning Commission and the chair of the Commission on Fine Arts, as well as the chairman of the Presidential Commission, Congressional oversight committees and others.

In the meantime, the Smithsonian Board of Regents will appoint a 19 member council, comprised of leaders within the African American community and others, to advise the Regents on the development, design and construction of the Museum.

With regard to the selection of these council members, I was disappointed that the House deleted a provision in the Senate-passed bill which would have required that at least 9 members of the council be of African American descent.

This important provision in the Senate-passed bill was modeled on provisions of the act which created the National Museum of the American Indian. As in the case of that Museum, this language was intended to ensure that the sensitivities and perspectives of those individuals whose stories this Museum will tell are properly considered and portrayed.

Although I regret that the House deleted this provision, the bill still requires that, in appointing 17 of the 19 members of the council, the Board of Regents take into consideration individuals recommended by organizations and entities that are committed to the advancement of knowledge of African American life, art, history, and culture.

Although this change weakens the Senate version of this bill some, the Smithsonian Institution can still ensure the integrity of the content of this museum by appointing members to the council in keeping with the Senate's original intent. As the ranking member of the Rules Committee which has oversight jurisdiction over the Smithsonian, I look forward to working with the Smithsonian to see that this happens.

This Museum will include exhibits and programs relating to all aspects of African American life, art, history, and culture from the time of slavery through present day and will provide leadership to other museums and will collaborate with historically Black colleges and universities and educational organizations to ensure the integrity of the exhibits and programming and to broaden the reach of its story and mission.

The House compromise also retains provisions of the Senate-passed bill which authorizes a grant program within the National Institute of Museum and Library Services. This program is intended to support organizations dedicated to expanding the knowledge of the African American experience and slavery by providing support for improving operations, care of collections, and intern and scholarship programs.

Equally important is a provision which will provide grants to nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to promote the study of the African American diaspora. Such grants can be used to increase existing endowment funds for the purpose of enhancing education programs and maintaining and operating traveling exhibits.

In Connecticut, we are fortunate to have such an organization in Amistad America, Inc. Amistad America is a national, non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the legacies of the Amistad incident of 1839 through the traveling exhibit of the freedom schooner *Amistad*.

The *Amistad* is literally a floating classroom which celebrates and teaches the historic lessons of perseverance, leadership, cooperation, justice, and freedom inherent in the Amistad Incident. Although its home port is New Haven, CT, the freedom schooner *Amistad* travels to both national and international ports to bring the story of our collective history and the continuing struggle for equality and human rights to school children and adults around the globe.

It is through the efforts of such organizations as Amistad America, with

the support of the new Museum of African American History and Culture and the National Institute of Museum and Library Services, that we can ensure that the lessons of the past are not lost on current or future generations.

In short, this legislation offers the hope that through knowledge and education, the history of the struggles for freedom and equality of some Americans becomes the interwoven history of all Americans and ensures that future generations will not have to repeat such struggles.

I was honored to be the lead Democratic sponsor of this legislation in the Senate, and I am honored to stand before the Senate today to urge my colleagues to adopt this compromise which the House has passed and send this measure to the President for his signature.

We would not be at this point today without the dedication and assistance of many people, including the staff who labor many hours and late into the night to facilitate the legislative process. At the risk of leaving someone off the list, I want to recognize those staff for their considerable contributions to this measure, including LaRochelle Young of Senator BROWNBACk's staff; Michael Collins and Tammy Boyd of Congressman JOHN LEWIS's staff; Paul Vinovich and George Hagijski of Congressman BOB NEY's House Administration Committee staff; George Shevlin and Matt Pinkus of Congressman JOHN LARSON's House Administration Committee staff; Susan Brita of Congressman JAMES OBERSTAR's House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff; Dan Mathews of Congressman STEVEN LATOURETTE's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff; Bill Johnson of Congressman JACK KINGSTON's staff; and Kennie Gill of my Rules Committee staff.

The action we take today is historic not only in its ability to unify this nation, but in its message to the world that we recognize and cherish the contributions of all Americans to the creation of this great democracy.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3491) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. FRIST. I want to take just one moment and comment on the unanimous consent agreement and the establishment within the Smithsonian Institution of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which we just approved.

This has been a fairly long journey, to come to the point of the establishment of this African American History and Culture Museum. It really goes back to the time of African-American history, when it began in 1619 in Jamestown, VA. It was there a Dutch

slave trader exchanged his cargo of Africans for food. Over the next 400 years, the descendants of men and women brought to America in chains would seek and find freedom. They would transform the American consciousness. They would permanently revolutionize American culture, American music, American art, and American literature.

We are on the cusp of really a momentous event, and that is the enshrining of these events in a national museum devoted to African-American history and culture. With this, visitors from around the world will learn about 400 years of struggle and progress.

The museum will house priceless artifacts, it will house documents, it will house recordings—all commemorating that 400-year history. It will serve as a wellspring of inspiration and scholarship. With the action of just a few moments ago, we will be sending the President a bill to fulfill this vision.

What the African American Museum of History and Culture Act does is establish this museum within the Smithsonian. It is a Federal-private partnership. It authorizes \$17 million for the first year in order to launch this museum.

The Board of Regents will have 12 months to designate a site and the legislation lays out four possibilities for that site. Once that site is selected, the Board will set to work raising up this new national institution. America will finally have a museum worthy of the generations of men and women who have sacrificed so much and given so deeply to the cause of freedom.

I do commend my colleagues, Senator BROWNBACk, Senator DODD, Senator LOTT, Senator SANTORUM, Senator STEVENS, and on the House side especially Representative JOHN LEWIS of Georgia and Representative J.C. Watts for their hard work and their leadership in coming to this point.

Indeed, the African-American journey is America's journey and tonight we take another major step forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. If the Senator has finished his comment on the passage of this important legislation, I would like to briefly say JOHN LEWIS's name was mentioned, and rightfully so. Everyone the distinguished majority leader mentioned has played a significant role in this legislation before us, but when JOHN LEWIS came to Washington, this became a personal crusade of his.

JOHN LEWIS is one of my heroes. I have such great admiration and respect for him. I think this is the culmination of a dream he started many years ago. I want the record to be clear as to how much this means to him, the people of Georgia, and this country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. I, again, want to second that. When this bill passed the House of Representatives—I think it was 2 nights ago—I immediately called Representative LEWIS the next morning for exactly the same reason.

I have not been around Washington quite as long to be able to build upon the shoulders of somebody like Representative LEWIS, who had this vision of a museum, but we are now taking that major step forward. As museums are approved and money is put forward, it takes a while, but to see that dream really becoming concrete, I want to tell him thank you for me, for this body, for America, and for all the millions of people who will benefit from that vision he had.

CONGRATULATING COACH JOHN GAGLIARDI

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 270, submitted by Senators COLEMAN and DAYTON earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 270) congratulating John Gagliardi, football coach of St. John's University, on the occasion of his becoming the all-time winningest coach in collegiate football history.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of S. Res. 270, congratulating John Gagliardi on becoming the winningest college football coach in history. He is a truly remarkable coach and an even better man.

While thousands of his players have known this for years, the rest of the country has come to learn over the last several weeks that it not just John's 410 wins which make him special. In an era when collegiate student athletes are pressured to avoid academics, John Gagliardi consistently coaches teams with graduation rates at or close to 100 percent. He values sportsmanship, hard work and humility. And he treats his players and opponents with respect.

I am proud that several South Dakotans have contributed to John's success over the years. This year's conference championship team includes three fine student athletes from South Dakota: Aaron Babb, of Sioux Falls; Jason Hardie, of Beresford; and Dana Kinsella, also of Sioux Falls.

There have been other fine South Dakotans before them. While there are dozens, I will name just a couple. Sean Dailey, an all-conference defensive end, is now an accomplished chemist. And Jay Conzemius, an All-American running back was until recently the Chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls.

It is right and fitting for the Senate to honor John Gagliardi for his historic accomplishments. It is unlikely that anyone will ever win as many games as he has, and maybe even more unlikely that any coach will so positively impact the lives of so many young men. I yield the floor.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, 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 relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 270) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 270

Whereas John Gagliardi began his coaching career in 1943 at the age of 16 when his high school football coach was drafted and John Gagliardi was asked to take over the position;

Whereas John Gagliardi won 4 conference titles during the 6 years he coached high school football;

Whereas John Gagliardi graduated from Colorado College in 1949 and began coaching football, basketball, and baseball at Carroll College in Helena, Montana, winning titles in all 3 sports;

Whereas John Gagliardi took over the football program at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, in 1953 and the football team won the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title in his first year as coach;

Whereas by the end of the 2002 season, John Gagliardi had won 3 national championships, coached 22 conference title teams, appeared in 45 post-season games and compiled a 376-108-10 record during his 50 years at St. John's University;

Whereas under the leadership of John Gagliardi, St. John's University has been nationally ranked 37 times in the past 39 years, and the university set a record with a 61.5 points per game average in 1993;

Whereas over 150 students participate in the St. John's University football program each year and every player dresses for home games;

Whereas John Gagliardi's coaching methods follow the "Winning with No's" theory: no blocking sleds or dummies, no whistles, no tackling in practices, no athletic scholarships, and no long practices;

Whereas John Gagliardi has coached over 5,000 players during his 50 years at St. John's University, and no player has failed to graduate and most have graduated in 4 years;

Whereas, in 1993, the John Gagliardi trophy was unveiled, and it is given each year to the most outstanding Division III football player;

Whereas on November 1, 2003, John Gagliardi tied Grambling University coach Eddie Robinson's record of 408 wins with a 15 to 12 victory over the University of St. Thomas;

Whereas on November 8, 2003, John Gagliardi broke Eddie Robinson's record with a 29 to 26 victory over Bethel College;

Whereas John Gagliardi is admired by his players, as well as by the students, faculty, and fans of St. John's University for his ability to motivate and inspire;

Whereas students who take his course, Theory of Football, credit John Gagliardi for teaching them more about life than about football;

Whereas those closest to John Gagliardi will tell you that football is only part of his life—he values the time he spends with Peg, his wife of 47 years, and their 4 children; and

Whereas the on- and off-the-field accomplishments of John Gagliardi have placed him in an elite club that includes the best coaches in history: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates John Gagliardi, football coach of St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, on becoming the all-time winningest coach in collegiate football history; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to John Gagliardi and St. John's University.

RECOGNITION OF THE EVOLUTION AND IMPORTANCE OF MOTORSPORTS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 395, S. Res. 253.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 253) to recognize the evolution and importance of motorsports.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 253) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 253

Whereas on March 26, 1903, an automotive race was held on a beach in Volusia County, Florida, inaugurating 100 years of motorsports;

Whereas 100 years later, motorsports are the fastest growing sports in the country;

Whereas races occur at hundreds of motorsport facilities in all 50 States;

Whereas racing fans can enjoy a wide variety of motorsports sanctioned by organizations that include Championship Auto Racing Teams (CART), Grand American Road Racing (Grand Am), Indy Racing League (IRL), International Motorsports Association (IMSA), National Association for Stock Car Automobile Racing (NASCAR), National Hot Rod Association (NHRA), Sports Car Club of America (SCCA), and United States Auto Club (USAC);

Whereas the research and development of vehicles used in motorsports have directly contributed to improvements in safety and technology for the automobiles and motor vehicles used by hundreds of millions of Americans;

Whereas 13,000,000 fans will attend NASCAR races alone in 2003;

Whereas fans of all ages spend days at motorsport facilities participating in a variety of interactive theme and amusement activities surrounding races;

Whereas motorsport facilities that provide these theme and amusement activities contribute millions of dollars into local economies;

Whereas motorsports make a significant contribution to the national economy; and

Whereas tens of millions of people in the United States enjoy the excitement and speed of motorsports every week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the evolution of motorsports and honors those