

school performance and attendance, self-confidence, attitudes and relationships with adults, and motivation to reach their potential;

Whereas mentoring is an adaptable, flexible approach that can be tailored to focus on helping young people with academics, social skills, career preparation, or leadership development;

Whereas over 15,000,000 young people in this Nation still need mentors, falling into a "mentoring gap";

Whereas mentoring relies principally on volunteer mentors, so mentoring programs must recruit even more volunteers in order to expand their program to help more young people;

Whereas, in an effort to begin closing the mentoring gap, this year Congress has significantly increased Federal grant funding for local mentoring organizations to \$100,000,000;

Whereas the recipients of these grants and other entities carrying out mentoring programs all across the country will need an influx of volunteers to meet the growing demand for mentoring;

Whereas nonprofit groups and leading media companies have joined together to designate January 2004 as National Mentoring Month to recruit more mentors for young people; and

Whereas the month-long celebration of mentoring will encourage more adults to volunteer their time as mentors for young people and enlist the involvement of nonprofit organizations, schools, businesses, faith communities, and government agencies in the mentoring movement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1)(A) designates the month of January 2004 as "National Mentoring Month"; and

(B) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of and volunteer involvement with mentoring;

(2) praises individuals who are already giving their time to mentor young people; and

(3) supports efforts to recruit more adults as mentors, in an effort to close the Nation's mentoring gap.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with Senator KENNEDY in introducing a resolution designating January 2004 as "National Mentoring Month."

We all agree that young people need a supportive environment based on structured and trusting relationships with adults. Mentors play a significant role in many young peoples' lives by sharing their experiences and providing the support and encouragement that children need in order to grow into responsible, caring adults. Mentors often are the key to helping a young person achieve the type of future they might never have thought possible.

A growing body of research has shown the tremendous benefits of mentoring. Children with mentors are shown to improve in school performance and attendance; they are more self-confident; they have good social skills; and above all else, they're motivated to reach their full potential. Mentoring works. Unfortunately, a severe shortage of volunteers has left over 15 million young people without mentors.

National Mentoring Month highlights the needs and goals of mentoring

in this country. This month, non-profit organizations, schools, businesses, faith communities, and government agencies will join together to encourage adults to serve as mentors for our young people. Programs must be expanded to recruit more volunteers to help fill the mentoring gap. Mentoring has successfully helped many children in this country and we must work together to expand such valuable programs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 87—WELCOMING THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED STATES

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

S. CON. RES. 87

Whereas for more than 50 years a strategic partnership has existed between the United States and Turkey that has been of enormous political, economic, cultural, and strategic benefit to both countries;

Whereas the United States and Turkey share common ideals and a clear vision for the 21st century, where freedom and democracy are the foundations for peace, prosperity, and progress;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has demonstrated its unequivocal support for the war against terrorism throughout the world, and has called for the international community to unite against this threat;

Whereas Turkey commanded the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan from June 2002 to February 2003 and provided humanitarian and medical assistance in Afghanistan and in Iraq;

Whereas in October 2003 Turkey became the first predominantly Muslim state to authorize sending peacekeepers to Iraq when the Turkish Parliament voted to approve a deployment of 10,000 troops;

Whereas the people of Turkey also have been victims of international attacks on November 15, 2003, and November 20, 2003;

Whereas the Government of Turkey immediately condemned the terrorist attacks in the strongest possible terms, detained the perpetrators, and quickly brought them to justice.

Whereas the terrorist attacks in Turkey brought the United States and Turkey closer together, in spite of the terrorists' motive of driving the two countries apart;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has made its bases in Incirlik available as a transit point for United States troops returning to the United States from Iraq;

Whereas Prime Minister Erdoğan supports a renewed effort by the United Nations to reunify the divided country of Cyprus;

Whereas the United States supports Turkey's bid for membership in the European Union;

Whereas Turkey and Israel, the only democracies in the Middle East, established diplomatic relations in 1949, and have a multi-faceted and thriving relationship; and

Whereas Turkish Prime Minister Erdoğan brings a strong message from the Turkish people that Turkey will continue to support the United States campaign against international terrorism as well as United States efforts to rebuild and bring democracy and stability to Afghanistan and Iraq: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) offers its warmest welcome to Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan upon his visit to the United States from January 26 through 31, 2004;

(2) asks Prime Minister Erdoğan to communicate the continuing support of Congress and of the people of the United States to the people of Turkey;

(3) recognizes that the visit of Prime Minister Erdoğan to the United States is a significant step toward broadening and deepening the strategic partnership, friendship and cooperation between the United States and Turkey;

(4) acknowledges Prime Minister Erdoğan's support for renewed negotiations in Cyprus; and

(5) thanks Prime Minister Erdoğan and the people and government of Turkey for—

(A) assuming command of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan from June 2002 to February 2003;

(B) providing humanitarian and medical assistance in Afghanistan and in Iraq; and

(C) their willingness to contribute to international peace, stability, and prosperity, especially in the greater Middle East region.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution welcoming the Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to the United States. Prime Minister Erdoğan is visiting this week for important meetings with President Bush and other senior Administration officials to discuss significant issues that affect both of our countries. I am pleased that my colleagues Senator BIDEN and Senator ALLEN have joined me in offering this resolution at this time.

Prime Minister Erdoğan represents a country of great importance to the United States, one with whom we have a shared history of fighting Soviet aggression as partners in NATO, and one with whom we are joined in fighting terrorism today. Turkey has shown its willingness to support American objectives in Afghanistan—where it commanded the International Security Assistance Force for seven months, and where its soldiers continue to serve side-by-side with American troops—and in post-war Iraq, where it has authorized sending peacekeeping troops and has contributed humanitarian supplies for the Iraqi people.

Furthermore, Turkey shares our democratic values and love of freedom. These ideals have brought enormous benefits to its people and serve as an excellent example for its neighbors that secular Islam and democracy can coexist peacefully and constructively.

I am confident that the visit of Prime Minister Erdoğan will further cement the strategic partnership between Turkey and the United States. I welcome him to the United States.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 4, at 2:30 p.m. in room SAD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: S. 1354, to resolve certain conveyances and provide for alternative land selections under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act related to Cape Fox Corporation and Sealaska Corporation, and for other purposes; S. 1575 and H.R. 1092, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to sell certain parcels of Federal land in Carson City and Douglas County, Nevada; S. 1778, to authorize a land conveyance between the United States and the City of Craig, Alaska, and for other purposes; and S. 1819 and H.R. 272, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land to Lander County, Nevada, and the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Eureka County, Nevada, for continued use as cemeteries.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee of Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Frank Gladics at 202-224-2878.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2004, at 11:00 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on efforts to determine the status of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and related programs.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2004, at 4:00 p.m., in open session to consider the following Nominations: Francis J. Harvey to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration; Lawrence, T. Diritto to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs; and William A. Chatfield to be Director of Selective Service.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President: I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, January 28, 2004, at 9:30 am on NASA'S Future Space Mission, in SR. 253.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 28, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Pakistan & India: Steps Toward Rapprochement.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on What's Driving Health Care Costs and the Uninsured? during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 at 10:30 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, January 28, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. on "Judicial Nominations," in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness List

Panel I: Senators.

Panel II: Franklin S. Van Antwerpen to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar: Calendar Nos. 536 through 543, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk.

For the information of Members, these are military promotions reported today by the Armed Services Committee.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brigadier General Roger P Lempke, 0000

Brigadier General Albert P Richards, Jr, 0000
Brigadier General Albert H Wilkening, 0000

To be brigadier general

Colonel Terry L Butler, 0000
Colonel John A Caputo, 0000
Colonel Richard H Clevenger, 0000
Colonel Michael D Dubie, 0000
Colonel Jerald L Engelman, 0000
Colonel William H Etter, 0000
Colonel Edward R Flora, 0000
Colonel Rufus L Forrest, Jr, 0000
Colonel Richard M Green, 0000
Colonel Terry P Heggemeier, 0000
Colonel Vergel L Lattimore, 0000
Colonel Duane J Lodrige, 0000
Colonel Maria A Morgan, 0000
Colonel James K Robinson, 0000
Colonel Michael J Shira, 0000
Colonel James P Toscano, 0000

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. James E. Hearon, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Baptiste, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, 0000

NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Naval Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Ann D. Gilbride, 0000

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Naval Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Jon W. Bayless, Jr., 0000

Capt. Jay A. Deloach, 0000

Capt. Edward NMN Masso, 0000

Capt. William H. Payne, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Naval Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Fenton F. Priest, III, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Paul E. Sullivan, 0000

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AIR FORCE

PN460 Air Force nominations (13) beginning Paul V. Bennett, and ending Victoria G. Zamarripa, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 26, 2003.

PN906 Air Force nominations (17) beginning Nelson * Arroyo, and ending Paul D. * Sutter, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 4, 2003.

PN907 Air Force nominations (38) beginning James J. * Baldock, IV, and ending Brian K. * Wyrick, which nominations were