

technical change to the ORBIT Act's IPO provision.

As you may recall, I sponsored the ORBIT Act in 1999 with strong bipartisan support. Since that time, I have worked with Senators MCCAIN, HOLLINGS and others to pass technical amendments to the Act by unanimous consent when needed. And it is my hope and expectation that we can pass this small technical change as quickly as before.

Congress passed the ORBIT Act to enhance competition in the global satellite communications market. I am proud to say that ORBIT has achieved all of its objectives. Since its enactment, the FCC has found that positive change has occurred in the satellite services market as a result of the ORBIT Act. The FCC has declared that the pro-competitive objectives of the ORBIT Act have been achieved—including the complete transformation of Intelsat from what used to be a highly bureaucratic, intergovernmental organization into a fully privatized, U.S. licensed company that is headquartered and operates in the U.S., and is now subject to U.S. laws and U.S. regulations.

Another important benefit produced by the ORBIT Act has been the infusion of U.S. capital and other private investment into the former intergovernmental organizations. American and other private investors have made significant investments in Intelsat and Inmarsat following enactment of the ORBIT Act. The only piece of unfinished business from the ORBIT Act that remains is the requirement that an IPO occur by a date certain.

I have always had serious reservations with the very idea that Congress would impose a date certain for an IPO, rather than letting market forces determine the appropriate time for such an event. If I had my preference, we would get rid of the mandatory IPO requirement altogether. But since the Intelsat IPO deadline is June 30, 2004, we don't have a lot of time to get back into the substance of that issue.

The pressing matter at hand is that Intelsat's IPO deadline is fast approaching, and the market is simply not conducive for a successful IPO. This is the same situation we encountered in 2002 when my good friend Senator HOLLINGS and I worked together to provide a time extension for conducting the IPO. I would say to my colleagues that the telecom market isn't much better now than it was in 2002. So we again need to provide Intelsat with an extension on its IPO deadline because market conditions are not favorable at this time.

If Congress does not quickly pass legislation extending the June 30, 2004 IPO deadline, several U.S. entities who are major investors in Intelsat stand to lose hundreds of millions of dollars because the telecom market for IPOs is far from ideal. This will be extremely harmful to U.S. interests and it will damage Intelsat, an important communications asset for the U.S.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues and the leadership to quickly move the passage of this legislation. The bill would simply extend Intelsat's IPO deadline for 12 months and give the FCC discretionary authority to further extend this deadline another 6 months if market conditions warrant.

I urge my colleagues to support quick passage of this legislation so that it can be enacted into law well before June 30, 2004.

I ask by unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2315

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF IPO DEADLINE.

Section 621(5)(A)(i) of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 763(5)(A)(i)) is amended—

(1) by striking “December 31, 2003,” and inserting “June 30, 2005,”; and

(2) by striking “June 30, 2004,” and inserting “December 31, 2005.”

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2316. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow penalty-free withdrawals from individual retirement plans for adoption expenses; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce legislation along with Senator LANDRIEU to help bring adoption within reach for more Americans. Today in the United States there are literally thousands of children waiting to be adopted. The average child has been waiting in foster care for about four years.

One of the major barriers to adoption for many Americans is cost. I'm not sure that people understand that adopting a child can sometimes cost more than \$50,000. That's just the adoption process itself!

The \$10,000 per child adoption tax credit does help some, but it helps after the fact when you have the receipts. The problem is that many times the money for adoption has to be given beforehand—it requires up-front money. The tax credit doesn't help out there.

The legislation we are introducing today is one way the Federal Government can help with the initial costs of adoption. Many Americans place money for their retirement in IRA accounts, but you generally can't touch this money until you're 59½ years old, and if you do, you'll pay not only your marginal tax rate on the withdrawal, you'll also be forced to pay an additional 10 percent penalty to the IRS.

There are exceptions to this, however. Under current law, you can make penalty-free early withdrawals from your IRA to help you buy your first home, pay for excessive medical costs, or for qualifying education expenses. The idea is certainly to encourage savings for retirement, but also to allow

you to use your own money—penalty free—if there's a compelling need.

I would make the case on behalf of the thousands of children who desperately want a loving family, and on behalf of the thousands of parents who dream of becoming parents, that adoption is a compelling need. And, the majority of Americans agree. Fully 78 percent of Americans said in a poll that they believe the government should be doing more to promote adoption.

Our bill would prohibit the IRS from penalizing Americans who want to use a portion of their retirement savings to adopt a child. It would allow Americans to withdraw up to \$10,000 penalty-free from their IRA to help with adoption expenses. This is money that can be used up-front to pay for travel, court costs, attorney fees and all of the little surprises that add up to make adoption unaffordable for many.

We need to continue to promote adoption in America to the extent that we can. We owe it to these children and to families across our country to break down the barriers that keep kids from becoming a part of a permanent loving family. I urge my colleagues' support.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 334—DESIGNATING MAY 2004 AS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 334

Whereas hundreds of individuals die and thousands are injured each year in electrical accidents;

Whereas there are on average 870 civilian deaths annually related to home fires caused by electrical distribution, appliances and equipment, and heating and air conditioning systems;

Whereas more than 2 people are electrocuted in the home, and 4 more in the workplace, each week;

Whereas property damage due to home fires caused by electrical distribution, appliances and equipment, and heating and air conditioning systems amounts to nearly \$1,600,000,000 annually;

Whereas following basic electrical safety precautions can help prevent injury or death to thousands of individuals each year;

Whereas citizens are encouraged to check their home and workplace for possible electrical hazards to help protect lives and property;

Whereas citizens are encouraged to test their smoke detectors and ground fault circuit interrupters monthly and after every major electrical storm; and

Whereas the efforts of the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) and the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) promote and educate the public about the importance of respecting electricity and practicing electrical safety in the home, school, and workplace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2004 as “National Electrical Safety Month”; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the

United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 335—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL CLUBS AND THEIR PLAYERS SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ADOPT A DRUG-TESTING POLICY THAT EFFECTIVELY DETERS MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS FROM USING ANABOLIC STEROIDS AND ANY OTHER PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING SUBSTANCES THAT CREATE A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE FOR, AND POSE A SERIOUS HEALTH RISK TO, SUCH PLAYERS AND THE CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS WHO EMULATE THEM

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. DORGAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 335

Whereas, the sport of baseball is widely considered America's pastime and an institution inextricably interwoven into the fabric of our culture;

Whereas, anabolic steroids are substances that are chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone and promote muscle growth;

Whereas, anabolic steroids are Schedule III controlled substances under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.);

Whereas, certain products are sold legally in the United States that promote muscle growth in a manner similar to anabolic steroids;

Whereas, medical experts warn that the health consequences associated with the human use of anabolic steroids or other similar performance-enhancing substances can be dire;

Whereas, medical experts warn that anabolic steroids and other similar performance-enhancing substances can have particularly serious adverse health effects on children and teenagers;

Whereas, these adverse health effects include stunted growth, scarring acne, hair loss, dramatic mood swings, hormonal imbalances, liver and kidney damage, a higher risk of heart disease and stroke later in life, as well as an increased propensity to demonstrate aggressive behavior, commit suicide, and commit crimes;

Whereas, the dangerous and anti-competitive effects of anabolic steroids when used by Major League Baseball players were acknowledged but not adequately addressed by the 30 Major League Baseball clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association in their September 30, 2002, Collective Bargaining Agreement;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not allow for the imposition of a suspension or fine for a first-time violation of the League steroids policy;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not allow Major League Baseball players to be subjected to more than one unannounced drug test per season;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not prohibit the use of certain performance-enhancing substances that, although legal, promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk to users;

Whereas, notwithstanding the 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement, the prevalence of the use by Major League Baseball players of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances that promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk, at the very least, appears to be significant; and

Whereas, the use of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances that promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk to children and teenagers continues to rise: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the use of performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids poses a health risk, especially to children and teenagers;

(2) the use of athletic performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids to gain a competitive advantage is tantamount to cheating;

(3) there is sufficient evidence that children and teenagers tend to emulate professional athletes;

(4) the effectiveness of the 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement to deter Major League Baseball players from using performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids has been called into question;

(5) Major League Baseball and its players should exercise their collective bargaining authority to negotiate and adopt a more stringent drug-testing policy that is sufficient to effectively deter Major League Baseball players from using anabolic steroids or other similar performance-enhancing substances to gain a competitive advantage; and

(6) taking such a step would help—

(A) to preserve the integrity of the game of professional baseball;

(B) to protect the health of Major League Baseball players; and

(C) to discourage the use of performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids by children and teenagers who seek to emulate professional athletes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 336—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE NATION DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, MAY 3 THROUGH 9, 2004

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 336

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to honor and celebrate the commitment of men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas over 18,000,000 individuals work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials perform essential services the Nation relies upon every day;

Whereas the United States of America is a great and prosperous nation, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

(1) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to our military and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fire;

(4) deliver the United States mail;

(5) deliver social security and medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;

(8) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(9) teach and work in our schools and libraries;

(10) improve and secure our transportation systems;

(11) keep the Nation's economy stable; and

(12) defend our freedom and advance United States interests around the world;

Whereas public servants at every level of government are hard-working men and women, committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas Federal, State, and local government employees have risen to the occasion and demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and courage while fighting the war against terrorism;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 3 through 9, 2004, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees;

Whereas the theme for Public Service Recognition Week 2004 is Celebrating Government Workers Nationwide to highlight the important work civil servants perform throughout the Nation; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 20th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation;

(2) salutes their unyielding dedication and spirit for public service;

(3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;

(4) calls upon a new generation of workers to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

SENATE RESOLUTION 337—EXPRESSING THE APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE FOR THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. BOND, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. STEVENS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 337

Whereas for 58 years Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), a veterans service organization chartered by Congress, has served the needs of its members, veterans of the Armed Forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America, with 34 chapters and 6 subchapters, has a stated mission to be a leading advocate for quality health care for its members through the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department network of Spinal Cord Injury Centers, and other private and public health care providers;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America, with 57 service offices and a network of service officers, has helped its members and hundreds of thousands of other veterans receive the benefits and health care they have earned through service in the Armed Forces;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America is a leader in medical and prosthetic research, funding two research foundations that investigate a broad spectrum of neurological science to seek a cure for spinal cord injury as well as breakthroughs in rehabilitation to improve the quality of life of all Americans with spinal cord injury or dysfunction;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America is a leading advocate within the veterans community in the Nation's capital, making certain the needs of its members are recognized by Congress and the Executive Branch of the Federal Government;

Whereas the Advocacy Program of Paralyzed Veterans of America joins the disability community in seeking to ensure civil rights and access to transportation, housing, and the physical environment for individuals with disabilities in order to maximize the independence of all Americans with disabilities;

Whereas through its architecture programs, Paralyzed Veterans of America is a leading force in barrier-free design, serving as consultant in the public and private sector to ensure a barrier-free physical environment for all Americans with disabilities;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America has one of the Nation's largest wheelchair sports programs, fostering a wide range of sporting, indoor, and outdoor recreational events to encourage physical activity and comradeship so vital to the ongoing rehabilitation of its members;

Whereas Paralyzed Veterans of America is designating the week of April 11 through 17, 2004, as Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Week in order to support a wide variety of programs designated to highlight the services it provides nationwide and promote recognition of the sacrifice its members have made on behalf of a grateful Nation: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) salutes Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) during Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Week, the week of April 11 through 17, 2004; and

(2) encourages all Americans to acknowledge and express their appreciation for the

past and on-going contributions of Paralyzed Veterans of America to disabled veterans and to all other Americans with disabilities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 338—CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO DESIGNATE APRIL 16, 2004, AS NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. MIKULSI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 338

Whereas National Youth Service Day is an annual public awareness and education campaign that highlights the amazing contributions that young people make to their communities throughout the year;

Whereas the goals of National Youth Service Day are to mobilize youths as leaders to identify and address the needs of their communities through service and service-learning, to support youth on a lifelong path of service and civic engagement, and to educate the public, the media, and policymakers about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders;

Whereas young people in the United States are volunteering more than has any generation in American history;

Whereas the ongoing contributions young people make to their communities throughout the year should be recognized and encouraged;

Whereas young people should be viewed as the hope not only of tomorrow, but of today, and should be valued for the inherent idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment that they employ in addressing the needs of their communities;

Whereas there is a fundamental and absolute correlation between youth service and lifelong adult volunteering and philanthropy;

Whereas a sustained investment by the Federal Government and commitment by corporate partners fuels the positive, long-term cultural change that will make service and service-learning the common expectation and common experience of all youth;

Whereas, through volunteer service and related learning opportunities, young people build character and learn valuable skills, including time management, teamwork, needs-assessment, and leadership, that are sought by employers;

Whereas service-learning, an innovative teaching method combining service to the community with a classroom curriculum, is a proven strategy to increase academic achievement;

Whereas private foundations and corporations support youth service and service-learning because they believe that strong communities begin with strong schools and a community investment in the lives and futures of youth;

Whereas National Youth Service Day is a program of Youth Service America, and is being observed in 2004 for the 16th consecutive year;

Whereas Youth Service America continues to expand National Youth Service Day, now engaging millions of young people nation-

wide with 50 Lead Agencies in nearly every State to organize activities across the United States;

Whereas Youth Service America has expanded National Youth Service Day to involve over 90 national partners;

Whereas National Youth Service Day has inspired Global Youth Service Day, which occurs concurrently in 127 countries and is now in its fifth year; and

Whereas young people will benefit greatly from expanded opportunities to engage in meaningful volunteer service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. RECOGNITION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE.

The Senate recognizes and commends the significant contributions of American youth and encourages the cultivation of a common civic bond among young people dedicated to serving their neighbors, their communities, and the Nation.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should designate April 16, 2004, as "National Youth Service Day".

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests that the President issue a proclamation—

(1) designating April 16, 2004, as "National Youth Service Day"; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States to—

(A) observe the day by encouraging and engaging youth to participate in civic and community service projects;

(B) recognize the volunteer efforts of our Nation's young people throughout the year; and

(C) support these efforts as an investment in the future of our Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 339—URGING THE PRESIDENT TO IMMEDIATELY INSTRUCT THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO RESPECTIVELY BEGIN INITIATING CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL CONCERNING A UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION FOR IRAQ, AND WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) CONCERNING A MANDATE FOR A NATO COMMITMENT FOR SECURITY IN IRAQ, WITH THE GOAL OF SECURING BOTH NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 2004

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 339

Whereas there are currently as many as 150,000 military personnel stationed in Iraq, including more than 100,000 from the United States and approximately 24,000 from coalition member nations;

Whereas United States military personnel in Iraq continue to perform their duties with the highest degree of professionalism, patriotism, and heroism;

Whereas more than 600 United States military service members have lost their lives and more than 2,988 have been wounded in action in Iraq since the beginning of military action in March 2003;

Whereas since March 2003, the United States has allocated at least \$110,000,000,000 for military action, relief, reconstruction, and security operations in Iraq;

Whereas on June 30, 2004, the United States is scheduled to turn over control of Iraq to a Transitional Iraqi Government;

Whereas the creation of a stable, secure, and democratic Iraq will strengthen regional, international, and United States national security;

Whereas following recent violent unrest in Baghdad and Fallujah, the United States Central Command Chief, General John Abizaid, asked United States military staff to examine options for sending more troops to Iraq;

Whereas a significant North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) security presence in Iraq would greatly reduce the threat to United States service members currently stationed in that country;

Whereas a United Nations and a NATO presence in Iraq would lessen the financial burden on the United States;

Whereas NATO has played an integral role in efforts to restore and maintain order in Bosnia, Kosovo, and Afghanistan;

Whereas a comprehensive NATO mandate for peacekeeping operations and a comprehensive United Nations mandate for nation-building in Iraq would greatly increase the legitimacy of the presence of the United States and other members of the international community in that country, as well as the chances of success in establishing a democratic and stable nation for the Iraqi people; and

Whereas such a United Nations mandate will not be achievable without the adoption of a United Nations Security Council Resolution establishing such mandate: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the dedication, professionalism, and patriotism of United States military service members serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world, and remains committed to providing them with all the resources that they need to return home safely when their missions are complete;

(2) reaffirms its commitment to the creation of a stable, secure, and democratic Iraq;

(3) recognizes the important role that a United Nations mandate to assist the new Iraqi Government and a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) mandate for peacekeeping in Iraq could play in achieving these goals;

(4) urges the President to immediately instruct the Secretary of State to begin initiating consultations with other members of the United Nations Security Council concerning the United Nations mandate for Iraq, with the goal of securing a United Nations Security Council Resolution authorizing such mandate not later than May 15, 2004; and

(5) urges the President to immediately instruct the Secretary of Defense to initiate consultations with the Secretary General of NATO and other NATO members with the goal of securing a decision by NATO not later than May 15, 2004, to deploy forces in Iraq beginning June 30, 2004, in order to assist Iraqi military and security forces and to establish and maintain a security umbrella to facilitate the work of the United Nations and the interim Iraqi government in building democratic institutions and preparing for nationwide elections in 2005.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I know that all of my colleagues have been reading the recent reports of increasing violence in Iraq. What once seemed to be a small insurgency could possibly be

developing into a larger revolt. And this rapidly growing and violent opposition to the United States presence in that country is placing American service members at great risk. It is also threatening our goal of securing a stable and democratic Iraq. Taken together, I believe that this situation makes it all the more clear what many of us have been urging all along—that we need to internationalize our efforts in Iraq now. Today, I am submitting a Sense of the Senate resolution urging the President to do just that.

As my colleagues know, there are well over 100,000 United States servicemen and -women currently stationed in Iraq. And while our troops are going through rotations that are scheduled to leave this number somewhere around 100,000, I would point out that the recent upsurge in violence in that country has prompted U.S. Central Command Chief General John Abizaid to ask his military staff to examine options for sending more U.S. troops to Iraq.

Despite claims by some in the Bush administration that this is not a necessity, it is certain that with this increasing instability, the demands on our troops will continue to grow. That could very well mean that at some point we will need to send more troops to Iraq.

This is all coming at a time when arguably, the dangers to our troops have never been greater. Twelve Marines were killed in a single day of hostile action last weekend. Four American contractors were brutally slain and mutilated last week. And the situation appears to be getting worse.

Let me be clear. This is not a statement on the abilities of the United States military. Our troops—and I know there is complete consensus about this—have and continue to perform with the utmost professionalism, patriotism, and heroism. Nobody can dispute that. And this Senator, for one, remains committed to ensuring that they have every tool at their disposal, every resource that they need, to come home safely and as expeditiously as possible. My resolution, first and foremost, reaffirms these facts.

But with more than 600 U.S. service members killed and more than 2,988 wounded since March 2003, the time has come for us to be honest about our needs in Iraq. We need an international security presence in that country. NATO would be the ideal body to provide such an international presence. It has played an important role in efforts to restore and maintain order in Bosnia, Kosovo, and Afghanistan. And plain and simple, the presence of international troops would reduce the risk to U.S. military personnel. My resolution would urge the President to instruct the Secretary of Defense to begin consultations with NATO with this goal in mind.

My resolution would also urge the President to instruct the Secretary of State to begin consultations with the

United Nations Security Council concerning a UN Security Council Resolution for Iraq. While NATO can help handle the security concerns in Iraq, we need a UN presence in that country with respect to efforts to build stable and democratic institutions.

After all, let's be honest, we have a serious lack of international credibility for being in Iraq right now. This lack of credibility is impeding our abilities to secure our political goals in that country. It is preventing the international community from rallying behind us in our attempt to build a stable and democratic Iraq—a goal that we all share. And it is preventing us from gaining the legitimacy we need among average Iraqis which is so vital to the success of our efforts.

Some might even argue that with the June 30th deadline approximately 12 weeks away, we are moving backwards in terms of our readiness to hand over control to an interim Transitional Iraqi Government.

This fear was illustrated perfectly by an official from the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) in an article in today's New York Times. Let me quote from that article, which occurs in the context of allied and Iraqi security forces' loss of control in the southern Iraqi cities of Najaf and Kufa: "An official in the occupation authority said Wednesday that . . . months of efforts to win over the population with civil projects and promises of jobs have failed with segments of the population."

That same official was quoted in the article as saying that "Six months of work is completely gone . . . there is nothing to show for it." According to the same article, "government buildings, police stations, civil defense garisons, and other police installations built up by Americans had been overrun and stripped bare" in those cities. I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD.

This all highlights an important fact—that without getting the legitimacy we need to function in Iraq, we will be lacking the most basic foundations for ensuring the success of our efforts—efforts for which we have already allocated more than \$110 billion American taxpayer dollars.

The answer for all of this is simple, and I believe that it has been from the beginning. We must engage NATO and the UN with the goal of their playing significant roles in Iraq. And we must do it now. NATO can help immensely with sharing the security burden. And a UN mandate will grant us the legitimacy we need to function in Iraq. It will also grant our long time allies, with whom we have been at odds over this war, the domestic legitimacy they need to play a part in building Iraq's future.

We now have a choice. We can continue to argue whether these steps should have been taken before the war. Or, we can join together in urging these steps be taken now. Our men and

women in uniform deserve it. The American taxpayer deserves it. The Iraqi people deserve it. And our national security and the security of the world deserve it.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

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

[From the New York Times, Apr. 8, 2004]

U.S. VOWS TO RETAKE 2 SOUTHERN CITIES IN HANDS OF MILITANTS

(By Christine Hauser)

BAGHDAD, IRAQ, APR. 8.—The Sunni and Shiite uprisings against the American-led occupation forces in Iraq continued today throughout the country as the high command of the American military acknowledged that militant fighters had at least partial control of two southern cities.

Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, the American commander in Iraq, said at a news conference here that Shiite rebels had full control of Kut and partial control in Najaf, but he vowed that American forces would retake the cities.

"We are conducting offensives across the battle space to eliminate" the rebels, he said.

American troops are confronting resistance by Sunni militants in a volatile region west of Baghdad and by Shiite insurgents in Baghdad and southern Iraq. The two fronts do not appear to be formally linked but seem to be finding and exploiting common ground in their shared opposition to the foreign occupation.

General Sanchez said today that there may be links between the Shiite and Sunni insurgents at low levels of the resistance movements but offered no further analysis.

In Baghdad, thousands of Sunni and Shiite protesters held a rally outside the Um al-Qura mosque in solidarity with Sunni countrymen in Falluja, Karbala and other conflict zones, Reuters reported. Similar rallies took place in Mosul and Baquba, north of the capital.

Militant Shiites were seen delivering food aid to a Sunni mosque in Baghdad as part of a relief effort for the residents of Sunni-dominated Falluja.

"We will carry our swords and strike the Americans on their heads," a Sunni cleric yelled, Reuters reported.

The most likely explanation for the coincident eruptions of violence, many Iraqis believe, is that Sunnis and Shiites are each watching the other's assaults, first in Falluja last week and then in other places over the weekend—the Sadr City neighborhood of Baghdad, Kufa, Najaf and at least three other southern cities—sensing that the American forces were overstretched.

The eruption of violence across the country has also had a wide impact on American allies there, with forces from other nations coming under direct attack, forcing some countries to rethink their commitments to Iraq.

Among the latest challenges to foreign resolve was a mysterious militant group claiming responsibility for the kidnapping of three Japanese citizens. Al Jazeera television showed images today of the three wearing blindfolds and civilian clothes, a group of men armed with assault rifles surrounding them. The group, which called itself Saraya al-Mujahideen, said it would kill the hostages unless Japan withdrew its forces within three days.

Japan has about 530 ground troops in Iraq, part of a total planned deployment of 1,100 soldiers for a mission to purify water and carry out other reconstruction tasks.

Reuters, quoting the South Korean foreign ministry, reported that seven South Korean members of a church group had also been kidnapped by an armed group in Iraq. About 460 South Korean medical personnel and military engineers have been in Iraq for nearly a year but are scheduled to return to South Korea after Seoul's planned deployment of up to 3,600 troops to the Kurdish region of northern Iraq later this year.

And an official from the Foreign Office confirmed today that a 37-year-old Briton had been kidnapped, Reuters reported.

In fighting today, American-led coalition forces in Baghdad destroyed a building used as a base of operations for the militant followers of rebel Shiite cleric, Moktada al-Sadr, CNN reported, quoting an American military official. American troops suffered no casualties and insurgent casualties were "minimal," the official said.

In Falluja in the Sunni heartland west of Baghdad, where some of the most intense battles have occurred this week, fighting raged between American troops and Sunni rebels loyal to the fallen regime of Saddam Hussein. The director of the main hospital there told Reuters that as many as 300 Iraqis had been killed and at least 400 wounded since Sunday.

Hospital officials said on Wednesday that several dozen people were killed after Americans fired rockets at a mosque compound in Falluja. American officials said their troops were retaliating against militia members who were firing from the mosque. The mosque itself remained largely intact.

Mosque loudspeakers broadcast instructions to townspeople to take their dead to a sports stadium for burial, Reuters reported. Fighting has made the town's cemeteries inaccessible.

Pentagon officials in Washington signaled on Wednesday that they would probably delay bringing home some 25,000 troops as scheduled and probably move reinforcements to the south.

"We're facing a test of will, and we will meet that test," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said, adding that the plan to postpone the troop return was part of a plan "to systematically address the situations we are facing."

The intensification of the combat is sapping efforts to lay the foundations for a largely ceremonial transfer of political sovereignty to the Iraqis on June 30.

An official in the occupation authority said Wednesday that allied and Iraqi security forces had lost control of the key southern cities of Najaf and Kufa to the Shiite militia, conceding that months of effort to win over the population with civil projects and promises of jobs have failed with segments of the population.

"Six months of work is completely gone," the official said. "There is nothing to show for it."

He cited reports that government buildings, police stations, civil defense garrisons and other installations built up by the Americans had been overrun and then stripped bare, of files, furnishings and even toilet fixtures.

For the first time since the fall of Saddam Hussein a year ago, the Americans found themselves fighting intensely against two main segments of the population, using warplanes, attack helicopters and armored units against the groups the United States had said it came to liberate when it invaded in March last year.

In a further indication of widening opposition to the allies' presence, Bulgaria has asked the United States to send troops to reinforce its 450-member battalion in Karbala.

In Falluja, the Marines said they had waged a six-hour battle around the Abdel-

Aziz al-Samarri mosque before calling in a Cobra helicopter, which fired a missile. An F-16 dropped a laser-guided bomb, Lt. Col. Brennan Byrne said.

Elsewhere in Falluja, American forces seized a second place of prayer, the Muadidi mosque, according to The Associated Press. A marine climbed the minaret and fired on guerrilla gunmen, witnesses told the agency. Insurgents fired back, hitting the minaret with rocket-propelled grenades and causing it to partly collapse, the A.P. added.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the chief military spokesman in Iraq, said the Marines did not attack the mosque until it became clear that enemy fighters were inside and using it to cover their attacks.

He told CNN that under the Geneva Convention, the mosque was protected but that once attacks originated from it, its protected status was moot.

Much of the Iraqi anger among the Shiites has been fanned by what many here see as a heavy-handed crackdown by American occupation forces on Mr. Sadr, with the closing of his mouthpiece newspaper last week and the announcement of an arrest warrant in connection with a cleric's murder last year.

"What is going on now is a huge popular uprising," Qais al-Khazali, a spokesman for Mr. Sadr, said in Najaf on Tuesday.

"This is a reaction from the Iraqi people, not just from the Shiites," he said. "It is for the Sunni people, too. This intifada unites us." Intifada, Arabic for shaking off, is the word used by Palestinians for their struggle against Israel.

American officials have to balance their security aims without appearing to interfere with a Shiite pilgrimage holiday called Arbaeen, which starts Friday, when millions of Shiites pray at shrines in Najaf and Karbala.

"We are weighing our options, thinking very carefully about the way to restore order to Najaf," General Kimmitt said. "But at the same time, doing it in such a manner that does not alienate the pilgrims who are celebrating one of the most important observances of the Muslim calendar."

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 99—CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN FOR ITS PARTICIPATION AND COMPLICITY IN THE ATTACKS AGAINST INNOCENT CIVILIANS IN THE IMPOVERISHED DARFUR REGION OF WESTERN SUDAN

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 99

Whereas, since early 2003, a conflict between forces of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan, including militia forces backed by the Government, and rebel forces in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan has resulted in attacks by ground and air forces of the Government of Sudan against innocent civilians and undefended villages in the region;

Whereas the militia forces backed by the Government of Sudan have also engaged in the use of rape as a weapon of war, the abduction of children, the destruction of food and water sources, and the deliberate and systematic manipulation and denial of humanitarian assistance for the people of the Darfur region;

Whereas United Nations officials and non-governmental organizations have indicated

that the humanitarian situation in the Darfur region is extremely urgent, particularly in light of restrictions by the Government of Sudan on the delivery of humanitarian assistance for the people of the region;

Whereas, on December 18, 2003, United Nations Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Egeland declared that the Darfur region was probably "the world's worst humanitarian catastrophe";

Whereas, on February 17, 2004, Amnesty International reported that it "continues to receive details of horrifying attacks against civilians in villages by government warplanes, soldiers, and pro-government militia";

Whereas, on February 18, 2004, United Nations Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs in Sudan Tom Eric Vraalsen declared, following a trip to the Darfur region, that "aid workers are unable to reach the vast majority [of the displaced]";

Whereas Doctors Without Borders, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning medical humanitarian relief organization and one of the few aid groups on the ground in the Darfur region, reported that the region is the scene of "catastrophic mortality rates"; and

Whereas nearly 3,000,000 people affected by the conflict in the Darfur region have remained beyond the reach of aid agencies trying to provide essential humanitarian assistance, and United Nations aid agencies estimate that they have been able to reach only 15 percent of people in need and that more than 700,000 people have been displaced within Sudan in the past year: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) strongly condemns the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for its attacks against innocent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan and for its failure to take effective actions to stop militia attacks on civilians in the region, and demands that the Government of Sudan immediately take actions to cease these attacks;

(2) calls on the international community to strongly condemn the Government of Sudan for its participation and complicity in these attacks and demand that such attacks cease;

(3) urges the Government of Sudan to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in the Darfur region; and

(4) urges the President to direct the United States Representative to the United Nations to seek an official investigation by the United Nations to determine if crimes against humanity have been committed by the Government of Sudan in the Darfur region.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3044. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. NELSON, of Florida) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 328, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the continued human rights violations committed by Fidel Castro and the Government of Cuba.

SA 3045. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. VOINOVICH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 129, to provide for reform relating to Federal employment, and for other purposes.

SA 3046. Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform

and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3044. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. NELSON of Florida) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 328, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the continued human rights violations committed by Fidel Castro and the Government of Cuba; as follows:

On page 7, line 20, strike "commission" and insert "committee".

SA 3045. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. VOINOVICH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 129, to provide for reform relating to Federal employment, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 48, line 19, insert "in the first sentence," after "paragraph (2)."

SA 3046. Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 179, after line 25, add the following:

SEC. ____ CREDIT FOR QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.

(a) ALLOWANCE OF QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT CREDIT.—Section 46 (relating to amount of credit) is amended by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting ", and", and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) the qualifying pollution control equipment credit."

(b) AMOUNT OF QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT CREDIT.—Subpart E of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to rules for computing investment credit) is amended by inserting after section 48 the following new section:

"SEC. 48A. QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT CREDIT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 46, the qualifying pollution control equipment credit for any taxable year is an amount equal to 15 percent of the basis of the qualifying pollution control equipment placed in service at a qualifying facility during such taxable year.

"(b) QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualifying pollution control equipment' means any technology installed in or on a qualifying facility to reduce air emissions of any pollutant regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act, including thermal oxidizers, regenerative thermal oxidizers, scrubber systems, evaporative control systems, vapor recovery systems, flar systems, bag houses, cyclones, continuous emissions monitoring systems, and low nitric oxide burners.

"(c) QUALIFYING FACILITY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualifying facility' means any facility which produces not less than 1,000,000 gallons of ethanol during the taxable year.

"(d) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN SUBSIDIZED PROPERTY.—Rules similar to section 48(a)(4) shall apply for purposes of this section.

"(e) CERTAIN QUALIFIED PROGRESS EXPENDITURES RULES MADE APPLICABLE.—Rules similar to the rules of subsections (c)(4) and (d) of section 46 (as in effect on the day before the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990) shall apply for purposes of this subsection."

(c) RECAPTURE OF CREDIT WHERE EMISSIONS REDUCTION OFFSET IS SOLD.—Paragraph (1) of section 50(a) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C) and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

"(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR QUALIFYING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), any investment property which is qualifying pollution control equipment (as defined in section 48A(b)) shall cease to be investment credit property with respect to a taxpayer if such taxpayer receives a payment in exchange for a credit for emission reductions attributable to such qualifying pollution control equipment for purposes of an offset requirement under part D of title I of the Clean Air Act."

(d) SPECIAL RULE FOR BASIS REDUCTION; RECAPTURE OF CREDIT.—Paragraph (3) of section 50(c) (relating to basis adjustment to investment credit property) is amended by inserting "or qualifying pollution control equipment credit" after "reforestation credit".

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2003, in taxable years ending after such date, under rules similar to the rules of section 48(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 8, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 8, 2004 at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the National Park Service Concessions Program, including implementation of the National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia, be authorized to meet on Thursday, April 8