S. 2658

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2658, a bill to establish a Department of Energy National Laboratories water technology research and development program, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 127

At the request of Mr. GREGG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 127, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should designate September 11 as a national day of voluntary service, charity, and compassion.

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 127, supra.

S. RES. 387

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 387, a resolution commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 3578

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3578 proposed to H.R. 4567, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3579

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3579 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4567, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 2787. A bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I join with Senator BIDEN today to introduce legislation reauthorizing the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (TFCA) through fiscal year 2007. Since its creation, the TFCA has helped conserve 40 million acres of tropical forests in the world.

The current TFCA authorization, P.L. 107–26, expires at the end of fiscal year 2004. The House of Representatives has already voted in favor of H.R. 4654, which is identical to the legislation we introduce today. We hope the Senate will be able to take speedy action on this important program.

Senator BIDEN and I proposed TFCA in 1998 based on the 1991 Enterprise for Americas Initiative (EAI) that allows the President to restructure debt in exchange for conservation efforts in Latin America. The TFCA expanded on the EAI and allows protection of threatened tropical forests worldwide through ''debt-for-nature'' mechanisms.

With TFCA, the State Department has reached agreements generating $70.4 million in long-term commitments for tropical forest conservation. In addition, private donors, including the Nature Conservancy, the World Wildlife Fund, the Wildlife Conservation Society and Conservation International, have contributed more than $5 million to TFCA swaps, leveraging U.S. Government funds.

Seven TFCA agreements have been concluded to date in Bangladesh, El Salvador, Belize, Peru, the Philippines, Panama and Colombia. With the reauthorization of TFCA, the State Department will be able to complete negotiations with Jamaica and Sri Lanka, and pursue agreement with Guatemala, Ecuador, Paraguay, St. Vincent, Botswana, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, India, Indonesia, Brazil and Kenya.

This legislation authorizes appropriations for debt reduction for eligible countries through fiscal year 2007 at $20,000,000 in fiscal year 2005 (as the President requested); $25,000,000 in fiscal year 2006; and $30,000,000 in fiscal year 2007.

A new section authorizes that funds can be used for audits and evaluations of the program. In addition, an amendment allows for TFCA debt reduction agreements to redirect reduced principal payments for forest conservation activities. Current law allows only the redirection of reduced interest payments into forest conservation funds.

The debt-for-nature mechanisms in the TFCA have proven to be an effective, market-oriented tool to leverage scarce funds available to international conservation. The host country places an amount in its tropical forest fund that typically exceeds the cost to the U.S. Government of the debt reduction agreement.

In addition to forest conservation and debt relief, TFCA strengthens civil society in participating countries by creating local foundations to support small grants to nongovernmental organizations and local communities.

I ask 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. 2787

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

SECTION 1. REDUCTION OF DEBT UNDER THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961 AND TITLE I OF THE AGRICULTURAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1954.

Section 806(d) of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(4) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

''(5) $25,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

''(6) $30,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.''.

SEC. 2. USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AUDITS AND EVALUATIONS.

Section 806 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AUDITS AND EVALUATIONS.—Of the amounts made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year, $200,000 is authorized to be made available to carry out audits and evaluations of programs under this part, including personnel costs associated with such audits and evaluations.''.

SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO ALLOW FOR PAYMENTS OF INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL IN LOCAL CURRENCIES.

(a) AUTHORITY UNDER THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—Section 806(c) of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d(c)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''The following'' and inserting ''(1) The following'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) In addition to the application of the provisions relating to repayment of principal under section 705 of this Act to the reduction of debt under subsection (a)(1) (in accordance with paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection), repayment of principal on a new obligation established under subsection (b) may be made in the local currency of the beneficiary country and deposited in the Tropical Forest Fund of the country in the same manner as the provisions relating to payment of interest on new obligations under section 706 of this Act.''.

(b) AUTHORITY UNDER TITLE I OF THE AGRICULTURAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1954.—Section 807(c) of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431e(c)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''The following'' and inserting ''(1) The following'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) In addition to the application of the provisions relating to repayment of principal under section 605 of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 to the reduction of debt under subsection (a)(1) (in accordance with paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection), repayment of principal on a new obligation established under subsection (b) may be made in the local currency of the beneficiary country and deposited in the Tropical Forest Fund of the country in the same manner as the provisions relating to payment of interest on new obligations under section 606 of such Act.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 810(a) of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431h(a)) is amended by inserting ''and principal'' after ''interest''.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. 2789. A bill to reauthorize the grant program of the Department of Justice for reentry of offenders into the community, to establish a task force on Federal programs and activities relating to the reentry of offenders into the community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with Senator SANTORUM today and introduce a bill that will have a dramatic and positive effect in the lives of individuals re-entering society after incarceration. The Second Chance Act: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention is a bill that will not only protect our Nation's citizens but will more importantly help to reduce recidivism in our Nation.

A hallmark of any just society lies in its ability to protect the interest of all its citizens, and I am proud that the United States is a leader in this regard. Yet, while we continue to strive toward this lofty goal, we must realize that there are areas in which we, as a society and as government, must do more to improve. Nowhere is that more apparent than in our Nation's prison system.

Today, we have challenges within the prison system that range from high recidivism rates to budgetary and safety concerns. With this bill, we will be able to address this pressing problem within our society. Already we have seen innovative and model programs within the States and the faith community, and I am proud to say that Kansas is a leader in this regard. However, we must stimulate innovation in this area on a national level, and that is what this bill will accomplish. It is paramount that we ensure the safety of our communities and ensure that those incarcerated have the tools necessary to succeed after they rejoin society.

With this bill, we will be able to combat the extremely high recidivism rates plaguing the prison system, currently as high as 70 percent, as well as address the financial burdens that hinder many of our State penitentiaries. We will also be able to help those incarcerated make positive changes within their lives so that when they do rejoin society, they will be able to do so with the confidence of knowing that they can contribute to society in a positive manner.

Specifically, this bill facilitates change within our current correctional system, and promotes coordination with the Federal government to better assist those returning to our communities after incarceration and their children. The bill reauthorizes the Re-Entry Demonstration Project with an enhanced focus on jobs, housing, substance-abuse treatment, mental health, and the children and families of those incarcerated. The bill authorizes $160 million over a period of two years to fund these demonstration program and creates performance outcome standards and deliverables. It will also encourage States to enhance their re-entry services and systems with grants to fund the creation or enhancement of State re-entry councils for strategic planning and review the State barriers and resources that exist.

Additionally, the bill creates a Federal interagency taskforce to facilitate collaboration and identify innovative programs and initiatives. The taskforce will review and report to Congress on the Federal barriers that exist to successful re-entry.

Finally, the bill will create a $45 million two-year mentoring program geared toward reducing recidivism and the societal costs of recidivism. This mentoring program will help ex-offenders re-integrate into their communities. This initiative will specifically harness the resources and experience of community-based organizations in helping returning ex-offenders.

We have an incredible opportunity to re-shape the way in which this Nation's prison systems operate. Much like welfare reform in the mid 1990s, we have a chance to make real and effective change in an area where change is sorely needed. I look forward to pushing this legislation forward.

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 2790. A bill to provide the conveyance of certain public land in northwestern New Mexico by resolving a dispute associated with coal preference right lease interests on the land; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am pleased today to be introducing the Bisti PRLA Dispute Resolution Act, which will resolve a conflict regarding coal mining leases in New Mexico and which will confirm the completion of all Navajo Nation land selections in New Mexico under the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act. Arch Coal Company and the Navajo Nation have been deadlocked within the Department of Interior appeals process regarding certain preference right lease applications (PRLAs) in the Bisti region of northwestern New Mexico. When enacted, this legislation will resolve a complex set of issues arising from legal rights the Arch Coal Company acquired in Federal lands, which are now situated among lands which constitute tribal property and the allotments of members of the Navajo Nation. Both Arch Coal and the Navajo Nation support this legislation to resolve the situation in a manner that is mutually beneficial. In addition, this legislation will serve to mandate the completion of a long-standing set of land selections the Navajo Nation made under the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act. In 1984 Amendments to that Act, Congress provided the Navajo Nation with its final opportunity, within 18 months of passage of the Amendments, to select lands in New Mexico as provided in Section 11 of the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act. The Navajo Nation exercised its rights under the 1984 Amendments, but since has sought to review, revise, and seek to select other lands to the potential detriment of mineral lessees holding leases on Federal public lands near the Navajo Reservation. This legislation would clarify Congress' intent that the Nation no longer has land selection rights available to it in New Mexico under the Navajo-Hope Settlement Act.

There are many reasons the solution embodied in this bill achieves broad benefits to the interested parties and the public. It will resolve a long-standing conflict between the Navajo Nation and Arch Coal and allow the Navajo Nation to complete the land selections in New Mexico that were made in the 1980s to promote tribal member resettlement following the partition of lands in Arizona to the Hopi Tribe. Specifically, Section 4(a)(1) will clarify and confirm that the Navajo Nation already has selected the lands to which it is entitled under the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act and has no further rights under that Act to select lands in New Mexico other than those already selected by the Navajo Nation in the 1980s.

The bill also guarantees that Arch Coal, Inc. will be compensated for the economic value of its coal reserves. An independent panel will make recommendations to the Secretary of Interior regarding the fair market value of the coal reserves, gives the company bidding rights, protects a State's financial interest in its share of federal Mineral Leasing Act payments, and allows the Navajo Nation beneficial ownership in their lands.

The Secretary of Interior will issue a certificate of bidding rights to Arch Coal upon relinquishment of its interests in the PRLAs. The amount of that certificate will equal the fair market value of the coal reserves as defined by the Department of Interior's regulations. A panel consisting of representatives of the Department of Interior, Arch Coal, and the Governors of Wyoming and New Mexico will help determine fair market value. While the Interior Department is authorized to exchange PRLAs for bidding rights, the Department has not done so, largely because of the difficulty it perceives in determining the fair market value of the coal reserves. The panel method in this legislation will promote the objectivity of that process.

Upon the relinquishment of the PRLAs and the issuance of a certificate of bidding rights, the Department of Interior will execute patents to the Navajo Nation of the lands encompassed by the PRLAs. This is a win-win situation for all parties involved; is endorsed by the affected parties, and is a fair resolution to this on-going problem.

I ask 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. 2790

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Bisti PRLA Dispute Resolution Act''.

SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL OF COAL PREFERENCE RIGHT LEASE APPLICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any of the coal preference right lease applications captioned NMNM 3752, NMNM 3753, NMNM 3754, NMNM

3755, NMNM 3835, NMNM 3837, NMNM 3918, NMNM 3919, NMNM 6802, NMNM 7235 and NMNM 8745 are withdrawn by the holder or holders of the applications, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this Act as the ''Secretary''), shall issue under section 4(a)(2) to each such holder or holders a certificate of bidding rights (in such form and manner as provided for under regulations promulgated by the Secretary under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.)) that constitutes the combined fair market value, as determined under section 3, of the coal reserves for each coal preference right lease application withdrawn by the holder.

(b) RELINQUISHMENT.—The relinquishment of all rights associated with the coal preference lease applications withdrawn shall be effective on the date of the issuance of the certificate of bidding rights under section 4(a)(2).

(c) NO ADJUDICATION.—The withdrawals and issuances required under subsection (a) shall occur without any further adjudication of coal preference right lease applications by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. METHOD FOR DETERMINING FAIR MARKET VALUE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this section shall apply to the issuance of a certificate of bidding rights under section 4(a)(2).

(b) VALUE OF COAL RESERVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The fair market value of the coal reserves of any coal preference right lease application withdrawn under section 2(a) shall be determined by the panel established under paragraph (2).

(2) PANEL.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a panel to determine the fair market value of the coal reserves of any coal preference right lease applications withdrawn under section 2(a).

(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The panel shall be composed of 3 representatives, of whom—

(i) 1 representative shall be appointed by the Secretary;

(ii) 1 representative shall be appointed by the holder of the preference right lease application; and

(iii) 1 representative shall be appointed by the Governor of the State of New Mexico.

(3) MINERAL APPRAISER.—The Secretary shall contract with a qualified coal reserve appraiser to assist the panel established under paragraph (2)(A) in determining the fair market value of a coal reserve.

(4) SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.—In determining the fair market value of a coal reserve, the panel may supplement any information provided to the panel, as the panel determines to be appropriate.

(5) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 75 days after the date on which the panel is established under paragraph (2)(A), the panel shall submit to the Secretary the determination of the panel with respect to the fair market value of a coal reserve of any coal preference right lease application withdrawn by the holder.

SEC. 4. ISSUANCE OF PATENTS TO RELINQUISHED PREFERENCE RIGHT LEASE APPLICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 120 days after the withdrawal of a coal preference right lease application, the Secretary shall—

(1) issue to the Navajo Nation patents to the land, including the mineral estate, subject to the coal preference right lease application withdrawn—

(A) in full and final satisfaction of the right of the Navajo Nation to select land in New Mexico under section 11 of the Navajo–Hopi Land Settlement Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 640d–10); and

(B) to facilitate land consolidation and facilitate mineral development in northwest New Mexico; and

(2) issue a certificate of bidding rights in the amount of the fair market value determined under section 3.

(b) ENFORCEMENT.—The duties of the Secretary under this section shall be considered nondiscretionary and enforceable in a mandamus proceeding brought under section 1361 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 5. USE OF EXCHANGE BIDDING RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) a certificate of bidding rights issued under section 4(a)(2) shall—

(A) be subject to such procedures as the Secretary may establish pertaining to notice of transfer and accountings of holders and their balances;

(B) be transferable by the holder or holders of the certificate of bidding rights in whole or in part; and

(C) constitute a monetary credit that, subject to paragraph (2), may be applied, at the election of the holder or holders of the certificate of bidding rights, against—

(i) rentals, advance royalties, or production royalties payable to the Secretary under Federal coal leases; and

(ii) bonus payments payable to the Secretary in the issuance of a Federal coal lease or Federal coal lease modification under the coal leasing provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.); and

(2) in a case in which a certificate of bidding rights issued under section 4(a)(2) is applied by the holder or holders of the certificate of bidding rights as a monetary credit against a payment obligation under a Federal coal lease, the holder or holders—

(A) may apply the bidding rights only against 50 percent of the amount payable under the lease; and

(B) shall pay the remaining 50 percent as provided for under the lease in cash or cash equivalent.

(b) PAYMENT UNDER LEASE OBLIGATIONS.—Any payment of a Federal coal lease obligation by the holder or holders of a certificate of bidding rights issued under section 4(a)(2)—

(1) shall be treated as money received under section 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191); but

(2) shall be credited and redistributed by the Secretary only as follows:

(A) 50 percent of the amount paid in cash or its equivalent shall be—

(i) distributed to the State in which the lease is located; and

(ii) treated as a redistribution under section 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191).

(B) 50 percent of the amount paid through a crediting of the bidding rights involved shall be treated as a payment that is subject to redistribution under that section to the Reclamation and Miscellaneous Receipts accounts in the Treasury.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. REID):

S. 2791. A bill to enhance the benefits and protections for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are called or ordered to extend active duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask 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. 2791

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Guard and Reserve Bill of Rights Act of 2004''.

SEC. 2. PERIODS OF DEPLOYMENTS OF RESERVES OVERSEAS.

(a) UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND DEPLOYMENTS.—

(1) LIMITATION.—During a period when there is in effect a policy of assigning units or members of one or more of the active components of the Armed Forces to duty in the area of responsibility of the United States Central Command for a specified period of time of not less than one year, the Secretary of Defense shall provide that the length of such an assignment in the case of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces may not exceed the length of such period for the corresponding active component reduced by the period of time between the date of entry of the reserve component members onto active duty and the date of the deployment of such members for such assignment.

(2) TRANSITION.—Paragraph (1) applies to members of reserve components assigned to duty in the area of responsibility of the United States Central Command on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and to such members assigned to such duty before such date who as of the date of the enactment of this Act have more than 90 days remaining in such assignment.

(b) COMMUNICATION OF LENGTHS OF DEPLOYMENT PERIODS TO RESERVES IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(A) Members of all components of the Armed Forces, active and reserve, exhibit a remarkable commitment and willingness to serve their country in Iraq and Afghanistan, and other United States military efforts around the world and, in doing so, frequently face grave risks and difficulties.

(B) While the members of the Armed Forces have clearly and consistently demonstrated their dedication to duty, much uncertainty has arisen among them about the lengths of their deployments and when they will be returned to their loved ones. This confusion impairs our troops' morale and places undue strain on their families and their civilian employers.

(C) Fairness to the men and women of the Armed Forces deployed overseas requires that the Department of Defense—

(i) have clear policies regarding lengths of deployment periods; and

(ii) communicate these policies and other deployment-related information to them and their families.

(D) While many military units were deployed months before Operation Iraqi Freedom was launched on March 19, 2003, the Department of Defense did not announce a policy about the length of deployments until August 2003.

(E) Even after the Department of Defense issued its so-called ''one year boots-on-the-ground'' policy regarding lengths of deployment periods, many of the members of units deployed overseas in Operation Iraqi Freedom learned shortly before their scheduled return dates that their deployments would

be extended for months beyond the one-year period provided under that policy.

(2) REPORT.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than March 1, 2005, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on Department of Defense policies governing the length of deployment periods applicable to members of reserve components of the Armed Forces in connection with Operation Iraqi Freedom, and on the communication between the Department of Defense and reserve component personnel and their families regarding the length of the deployment periods.

(B) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In preparing the report under this section the Secretary shall consult with the Chairman and other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and with such other officials as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(C) CONTENT.—The report under this paragraph shall contain a discussion of the matters described in subparagraph (A), including the following matters:

(i) The process by which the Department of Defense determined its policy regarding the length of deployment periods.

(ii) The reason that no such policy was in place before Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

(iii) A comparison of the policy during Operation Iraqi Freedom with Department of Defense deployment policies that applied to previous contingency operations.

(iv) The timeliness of the process for notifying reserve component units for activation.

(v) The process for communicating with activated reserve component members and their families about demobilization schedules.

(vi) The family support programs provided by the National Guard and other reserve components for families of activated Reserves.

(vii) An assessment of lessons learned about how the increased operations tempo of the National Guard and other reserve components can be expected to affect readiness, recruitment and retention, civilian employers of Reserves, and equipment and supply resources of the National Guard and the other reserve components.

(D) MATTERS FOR PARTICULAR EMPHASIS.—In the discussion of the matters included in the report under this subsection, the Secretary of Defense shall place particular emphasis on—

(i) lessons learned, including deficiencies identified; and

(ii) near-term and long-term corrective actions to address the identified deficiencies.

(E) FORM OF REPORT.—The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 3. MILITARY PAY.

(a) CORRECTION OF PAY PROBLEMS FOR ACTIVATED RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR SENIOR LEVEL ACTION.—The Secretary of the Army shall designate a senior level official of the Department of the Army to implement—

(A) the recommendations for executive action set forth in the report of the Comptroller General of the United States entitled ''Military Pay, Army National Guard Personnel Mobilized to Active Duty Experienced Significant Pay Problems'', dated November 2003; and

(B) the recommendations for executive action set forth in the report of the Comptroller General of the United States entitled ''Military Pay, Army Reserve Soldiers Mobilized to Active Duty Experienced Significant Pay Problems'', dated August 2004.

(2) SUPERVISION BY COMPTROLLER OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—The official designated under paragraph (1) shall report directly to, and be subject to the direction of, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) regarding performance of the duties that the official is designated to carry out under such paragraph.

(3) TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENT.—The designation under paragraph (1) shall terminate upon the certification of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to Congress that all recommendations referred to in such paragraph have been implemented.

(b) REENLISTMENT BONUS FOR SELECTED RESERVE.—

(1) EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY.—Subsection (a)(1) of section 308b of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking ''14 years'' and inserting ''17 years''.

(2) INCREASED MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended by striking ''(b) BONUS AMOUNT; PAYMENT.—(1) The amount of a bonus under this section may not exceed—'' and all that follows through the end of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(b) BONUS AMOUNT.—The amount of a bonus under this section may not exceed $10,000.''.

(3) OPTION TO RECEIVE LUMP-SUM PAYMENT.—Section 308b of title 37, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (c); and

(B) in paragraph (2) of subsection (b)—

(i) by striking ''(2) Any bonus payable under this section'' and inserting the following:

''(c) PAYMENT IN LUMP SUM OR INSTALLMENTS.—(1) A bonus payable to a member under this section shall be paid, upon the election of the member, in one lump sum or in partial payments under paragraph (2).

''(2) Any bonus payable in partial payments under this section''.

(4) REDESIGNATION OF PROVISIONS.—Such section is further amended—

(A) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f), as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively; and

(B) in subsection (c)(3)—

(i) by striking ''(3) In the case of'' and inserting ''(d) PERSONNEL IN CERTAIN CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—In the case of''; and

(ii) by striking ''paragraph (1)(B) or''.

SEC. 4. TRICARE FOR RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL.

(a) EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY OF READY RESERVE MEMBERS UNDER TRICARE PROGRAM.—

(1) UNCONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY.—Subsection (a) of section 1076b of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''is eligible, subject to subsection (h), to enroll in TRICARE'' and all that follows through ''an employer-sponsored health benefits plan'' and inserting '', except for a member who is enrolled or is eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89 of title 5, is eligible to enroll in TRICARE, subject to subsection (h)''.

(2) PERMANENT AUTHORITY.—Subsection (l) of such section is repealed.

(3) CONFORMING REPEAL OF OBSOLETE PROVISIONS.—Such section is further amended—

(A) by striking subsections (i) and (j); and

(B) by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (i).

(b) CONTINUATION OF NON-TRICARE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN RESERVES CALLED OR ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.—

(1) REQUIRED CONTINUATION.—

(A) REQUIREMENT.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1078a the following new section:

''§ 1078b. Continuation of non-TRICARE health benefits plan coverage for dependents of certain Reserves called or ordered to active duty

''(a) PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS.—The Secretary concerned shall pay the applicable premium to continue in force any qualified health benefits plan coverage for the members of the family of an eligible reserve component member for the benefits coverage continuation period if timely elected by the member in accordance with regulations prescribed under subsection (j).

''(b) ELIGIBLE MEMBER; FAMILY MEMBERS.—(1) A member of a reserve component is eligible for payment of the applicable premium for continuation of qualified health benefits plan coverage under subsection (a) while serving on active duty pursuant to a call or order issued under a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of this title during a war or national emergency declared by the President or Congress.

''(2) For the purposes of this section, the members of the family of an eligible reserve component member include only the member's dependents described in subparagraphs (A), (D), and (I) of section 1072(2) of this title.

''(c) QUALIFIED HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN COVERAGE.—For the purposes of this section, health benefits plan coverage for the members of the family of a reserve component member called or ordered to active duty is qualified health benefits plan coverage if—

''(1) the coverage was in force on the date on which the Secretary notified the reserve component member that issuance of the call or order was pending or, if no such notification was provided, the date of the call or order;

''(2) on such date, the coverage applied to the reserve component member and members of the family of the reserve component member; and

''(3) the coverage has not lapsed.

''(d) APPLICABLE PREMIUM.—The applicable premium payable under this section for continuation of health benefits plan coverage for the family members of a reserve component member is the amount of the premium payable by the member for the coverage of the family members.

''(e) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The total amount that the Department of Defense may pay for the applicable premium of a health benefits plan for the family members of a reserve component member under this section in a fiscal year may not exceed the amount determined by multiplying—

''(1) the sum of one plus the number of the family members covered by the health benefits plan, by

''(2) the per capita cost of providing TRICARE coverage and benefits for dependents under this chapter for such fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

''(f) BENEFITS COVERAGE CONTINUATION PERIOD.—The benefits coverage continuation period under this section for qualified health benefits plan coverage for the family members of an eligible reserve component member called or ordered to active duty is the period that—

''(1) begins on the date of the call or order; and

''(2) ends on the earlier of—

''(A) the date on which the reserve component member's eligibility for transitional health care under section 1145(a) of this title terminates under paragraph (3) of such section; or

''(B) the date on which the reserve component member elects to terminate the continued qualified health benefits plan coverage of the member's family members.

''(g) EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF COBRA COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

''(1) any period of coverage under a COBRA continuation provision (as defined in section 9832(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for an eligible reserve component member under this section shall be deemed to be equal to the benefits coverage continuation period for such member under this section; and

''(2) with respect to the election of any period of coverage under a COBRA continuation provision (as so defined), rules similar to the rules under section 4980B(f)(5)(C) of such Code shall apply.

''(h) NONDUPLICATION OF BENEFITS.—A member of the family of a reserve component member who is eligible for benefits under qualified health benefits plan coverage paid on behalf of the reserve component member by the Secretary concerned under this section is not eligible for benefits under the TRICARE program during a period of the coverage for which so paid.

''(i) REVOCABILITY OF ELECTION.—A reserve component member who makes an election under subsection (a) may revoke the election. Upon such a revocation, the member's family members shall become eligible for benefits under the TRICARE program as provided for under this chapter.

''(j) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations for carrying out this section. The regulations shall include such requirements for making an election of payment of applicable premiums as the Secretary considers appropriate.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1078a the following new item:

''1078b. Continuation of non-TRICARE health benefits plan coverage for dependents of certain Reserves called or ordered to active duty.''.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—Section 1078b of title 10, United States Code (as added by paragraph (1)), shall apply with respect to calls or orders of members of reserve components of the Armed Forces to active duty as described in subsection (b) of such section, that are issued by the Secretary of a military department before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act, but only with respect to qualified health benefits plan coverage (as described in subsection (c) of such section) that is in effect on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. CHILD CARE FOR CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM OR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

(a) CHILD CARE FOR CHILDREN WITHOUT ACCESS TO MILITARY CHILD CARE.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—In any case where the children of a covered member of the Armed Forces are geographically dispersed and do not have practical access to a military child development center, the Secretary of Defense may, to the extent funds are available for such purpose, provide such funds as are necessary permit the member's family to secure access for such children to State licensed child care and development programs and activities in the private sector that are similar in scope and quality to the child care and development programs and activities the Secretary would otherwise provide access to under subchapter II of chapter 88 of title 10, United States Code, and other applicable provisions of law.

(2) PROCEDURES.—Funds may be provided under paragraph (1) in accordance with the provisions of section 1798 of title 10, United States Code, or by such other mechanism as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(3) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary shall prescribe in regulations priorities for the allocation of funds for the provision of access to child care under paragraph (1) in circumstances where funds are inadequate to provide all children described in that paragraph with access to child care as described in that paragraph.

(b) PRESERVATION OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall provide for the attendance and participation of children in military child development centers and child care and development programs and activities under subsection (a) in a manner that preserves the scope and quality of child care and development programs and activities otherwise provided by the Secretary.

(c) FUNDING.—Amounts otherwise available to the Department of Defense and the military departments under this Act may be available for purposes of providing access to child care under subsection (a).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—The term ''covered members of the Armed Forces'' means members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the Reserves who are called or ordered to active duty under a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

(2) MILITARY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.—The term ''military child development center'' has the meaning given such term in section 1800(1) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 6. RIGHTS AND DUTIES UNDER USERRA.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES UNDER USERRA.—

(1) NOTICE.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR NOTICE.—Chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 4334. Notice of rights and duties

''(a) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE NOTICE.—Each employer shall provide to persons entitled to rights and benefits under this chapter a notice of the rights, benefits, and obligations of such persons and such employers under this chapter. The requirement for the provision of notice under this section may be met by the posting of the notice where employers customarily place notices for employees.

''(b) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The Secretary shall provide to employers the text of the notice to be provided under this section.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''4334. Notice of rights and duties.''.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall make available to employers the notice required under section 4334 of title 38, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1).

(B) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to employers under chapter 43 of such title on and after the first date referred to in subparagraph (A).

(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR REFERRAL OF USERRA CLAIMS AGAINST FEDERAL AGENCIES TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT.—The Secretary of Labor and the Office of Special Counsel shall carry out a demonstration project under which certain claims against Federal executive agencies under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, are referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel for assistance, including investigation and resolution of the claim as well as enforcement of rights with respect to the claim.

(2) REFERRAL OF ALL PROHIBITED PERSONNEL ACTION CLAIMS TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL.—

(A) COVERED CLAIMS.—Under the demonstration project, the Office of Special Counsel shall receive and investigate all claims under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act with respect to Federal executive agencies in cases where the Office of Special Counsel has jurisdiction over related claims pursuant to section 1212 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) RELATED CLAIMS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a related claim is a claim involving the same Federal executive agency and the same or similar factual allegations or legal issues as those being pursued under a claim under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

(3) REFERRAL OF OTHER CLAIMS AGAINST FEDERAL EXECUTIVE.—

(A) OTHER CLAIMS.—Under the demonstration project, the Secretary—

(i) shall refer to the Office of Special Counsel all claims described in subparagraph (B) made during the period of the demonstration project; and

(ii) may refer any claim described in subparagraph (B) filed before the demonstration project that is pending before the Secretary at the beginning of the demonstration project.

(B) COVERED CLAIMS.—A claim referred to in subparagraph (A) is a claim under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, against a Federal executive agency by a claimant with a social security account number with an odd number as its terminal digit, or, in the case of a claim that does not contain a social security account number, a case number assigned to the claim with an odd number as its terminal digit.

(4) ADMINISTRATION OF DEMONSTRATION —

(A) OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.—The Office of Special Counsel shall administer the demonstration project. The Secretary shall cooperate with the Office of Special Counsel in carrying out the demonstration project.

(B) LAW ADMINISTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—In the case of any claim referred, or otherwise received by, to the Office of Special Counsel under the demonstration project, any reference to the ''Secretary'' in sections 4321, 4322, and 4326 of title 38, United States Code, is deemed a reference to the ''Office of Special Counsel''.

(C) RETENTION OF JURISDICTION OVER REFERRED CLAIMS.—In the case of any claim referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel under the demonstration project, the Office of Special Counsel shall retain administrative jurisdiction over the claim.

(5) PERIOD OF PROJECT.—The demonstration project shall be carried out during the period beginning on the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and ending on September 30, 2007.

(6) PERIODIC EVALUATIONS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct periodic evaluations of the demonstration project under this subsection.

(7) REPORT ON EVALUATIONS.—Not later than April 1, 2007, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the evaluations conducted under paragraph (6). The report shall include the following information and recommendations:

(A) A description of the operation and results of the demonstration program, including—

(i) the number of claims described in paragraph (3) referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel and the number of such claims referred to the Secretary of Labor; and

(ii) for each Federal executive agency, the number of claims resolved, the type of corrective action obtained, the period of time for final resolution of the claim, and the results obtained.

(B) An assessment of whether referral to the Office of Special Counsel of claims under the demonstration project—

(i) improved services to servicemembers and veterans; or

(ii) significantly reduced or eliminated duplication of effort and unintended delays in resolving meritorious claims of those servicemembers and veterans.

(C) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of referring all claims under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, against Federal executive agencies to the Office of Special Counsel for investigation and resolution.

(D) Such other recommendations for administrative action or legislation as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(8) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.—The term ''Office of Special Counsel'' means the Office of Special Counsel established by section 1211 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Labor.

(C) FEDERAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term ''Federal executive agency'' has the meaning given that term in section 4303(5) of title 38, United States Code.

(c) USERRA IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR REGULATIONS.—Subsections (a) and (b)(1) of section 4331 of title 38, United States Code, are amended by striking ''may prescribe'' and inserting ''shall prescribe''.

(2) CLARIFICATION OF RIGHT TO MERIT PAY INCREASES.—The regulations prescribed for the implementation of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, under section 4331 of such title shall include regulations that clarify that the entitlement of persons returning to employment under such chapter to receive pay increases under merit pay systems of employers may not be denied on the basis of lack of work performance evaluations for periods of absence for active duty in the uniformed services.

SEC. 7. IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SELECTED RESERVE.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 16131(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(b) Except as provided in subsections (d) through (f), each educational assistance program established under subsection (a) shall provide for payment by the Secretary concerned, through the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to each person entitled to educational assistance under this chapter who is pursuing a program of education of an educational assistance allowance at the following monthly rates:

''(1) For such a program of education pursued on a full-time basis, at the monthly rate equal to the applicable percentage (as defined in paragraph (3)) of the rate that applies for the month under section 3015(a)(1) of title 38.

''(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), for such a program of education pursued on a less than a full-time basis, at an appropriately reduced rate, as determined under regulations which the Secretaries concerned shall prescribe.

''(B) No payment may be made to a person for less than half-time pursuit of such a program of education if tuition assistance is otherwise available to the person for such pursuit from the military department concerned.

''(3) In this subsection, the term 'applicable percentage' means, with respect to months occurring during—

''(A) fiscal year 2005, 33 percent;

''(B) fiscal year 2006, 37 percent;

''(C) fiscal year 2007, 41 percent;

''(D) fiscal year 2008, 45 percent; and

''(E) fiscal year 2009, and each subsequent fiscal year, 50 percent.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1, 2004, and shall apply with respect to educational assistance allowances under section 16131(b) of such title paid for months after September 2004.

(b) EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SELECTED RESERVE HAVING SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR A PERIOD OF 24 NON-CONSECUTIVE MONTHS UNDER CHAPTER 30 OF TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(1) CREDIT FOR 24 MONTHS OF ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE OVER A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS.—Subsection 3012(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended in paragraphs (1)(A)(i), (1)(B)(i), and (1)(C)(iii)(I) by striking ''two years of continuous active duty'' each place it appears and inserting ''a cumulative period of 24 months during any 5-year period''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 3012 of such title is amended in paragraph (1) by striking ''during such two years'' and inserting ''at any time during such 5-year period''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply on or after October 1, 2005.

SEC. 8. REDUCTION IN AGE FOR RECEIPT OF MILITARY RETIRED PAY FOR NON-REGULAR SERVICE.

(a) REDUCTION IN AGE.—Section 12731(a)(1) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''at least 60 years of age'' and inserting ''at least 55 years of age''.

(b) APPLICATION TO EXISTING PROVISIONS OF LAW OR POLICY.—With respect to any provision of law, or of any policy, regulation, or directive of the executive branch, that refers to a member or former member of the uniformed services as being eligible for, or entitled to, retired pay under chapter 1223 of title 10, United States Code, but for the fact that the member or former member is under 60 years of age, such provision shall be carried out with respect to that member or former member by substituting for the reference to being 60 years of age a reference to the age in effect for qualification for such retired pay under section 12731(a) of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to retired pay payable for that month and subsequent months.

SEC. 9. DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (RESERVE AFFAIRS).

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION.—

(1) POSITION AND DUTIES.—Chapter 4 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 136a the following new section:

''§ 136b. Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs)

''(a) There is a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs), appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(b) The Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs) shall have as his principal duty the overall supervision of reserve component affairs of the Department of Defense.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 136a the following new item:

''136b. Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs).''.

(b) EXECUTIVE LEVEL IV.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after ''Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.'' the following:

''Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs).''.

(c) ELIMINATION OF POSITION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESERVE AFFAIRS.—

(1) REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR POSITION.—Subsection (b) of section 138 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (2); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

(2) REDUCTION IN TOTAL NUMBER OF ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE.—

(A) AUTHORIZED NUMBER.—Subsection (a) of such section is amended by striking ''nine'' and inserting ''eight''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''(9)'' after ''Assistant Secretaries of Defense'' and inserting ''(8)''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall take effect on the date on which a person is first appointed as Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Reserve Affairs).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 422—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DESIGNATE THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12, 2004, AS ''NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK''

Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. TALENT, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 422

Whereas there are 105 historically Black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities provide the quality education so essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in the history of the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have allowed many underprivileged students to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically Black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,