

Whereas the team battled from behind in the final innings of the championship game to beat the Cincinnati Flames and complete the series with a perfect 9-0 record; and

Whereas all of the teams' players showed tremendous dedication throughout their tournaments toward the goal of winning World Series Championships and displayed great class and sportsmanship in victory: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Oahu All-Stars for winning the 2005 Cal Ripken World Series title game and the Hawaii Warriors for winning the 2005 Continental Amateur Baseball Association World Series (ages 9-under);

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the teams' players, coaches, and support staff, and invites them to the United States Capitol to be honored;

(3) urges the President to—

(A) recognize the achievements of the Oahu All-Star team and the Hawaii Warriors team; and

(B) invite the teams to the White House for an appropriate ceremony honoring these world championship teams; and

(4) directs the Secretary of the Senate to—

(A) make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the Oahu All-Star team and the Hawaii Warriors team for appropriate display.

GOALS AND IDEALS OF GOLD STAR MOTHERS' DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 250, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 250) supporting the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers' Day.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 250) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 250

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers have suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood by losing sons and daughters who served in the Armed Forces, and thus perpetuate the memory of all whose lives were sacrificed in our wars;

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers assist veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents in the presentation of claims to the Veterans' Administration, and aid the men and women who served and died or were wounded or incapacitated during hostilities;

Whereas the services rendered to the United States by the mothers of America have strengthened and inspired our Nation throughout our history;

Whereas we honor ourselves and the mothers of America when we revere and emphasize the role of the home and the family as the true foundations of our Nation;

Whereas by doing so much for the home, the American mother is a source of moral and spiritual guidance for the people of the United States and thus acts as a positive force to promote good government and peace among all mankind; and

Whereas September 25, 2005, is being recognized as Gold Star Mothers Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS

AMENDMENTS NOS. 1870 AND 1871

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, notwithstanding passage of H.R. 2528, I ask unanimous consent that the two amendments at the desk be agreed to.

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

The amendments (Nos. 1870 and 1871) were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1870

On page 55, line 4, strike "\$191,393,000" and insert "\$179,343,000".

On page 55, line 10, following "therefor", strike "." and insert ": Provided further, That of the amount provided for Military Construction, Army, \$8,900,000 shall be available for Phase 1a of a Permanent Party Barracks at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and \$3,150,000 shall be available for an Airfield Fire Station at Fort Sill, Oklahoma."

AMENDMENT NO. 8171

On page 56, line 11, strike "\$103,347,000" and insert "\$83,626,000".

On page 56, line 17, following "therefor", strike "." and insert ": Provided further, That of the amount provided for Military Construction, Air Force, \$5,721,000 shall be available for a B-2 Conventional Munitions Storage Facility at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, and \$14,000,000 for Phase 1 of Force Protection Enhancement at Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma."

GOALS AND IDEALS OF INFANT MORTALITY AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 239.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 239) supporting the goals and ideals of Infant Mortality Awareness Month.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 239) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 239

Whereas infant mortality refers to the death of a baby before it reaches its first birthday;

Whereas the United States ranks 28th among industrialized nations in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas in the United States, infant mortality increased in 2002, for the first time in more than 4 decades;

Whereas in 2002 the rate reached 7 deaths per 1,000 live births, which was the first increase since 1958;

Whereas the recent increase is a significant and troubling public health issue, especially for African American families, Native American families, and Hispanic families;

Whereas the infant mortality rate among African American women is more than double that of Caucasian women, according to a report produced by the National Healthy Start Association and by a related group supported by the health department of Allegheny County, in the State of Pennsylvania;

Whereas the Secretary of Health and Human Services has designated 2010, as the year by which certain objectives should be met with respect to the health status of the people of the United States;

Whereas such objectives, known as Healthy People 2010, include an objective regarding a decrease in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas September 1, 2005, is the beginning of a period of several months during which there will be several national observances that relate to the issue of infant mortality, including the observance of October as Sudden Infant Death Awareness Month and November as Prematurity Awareness Month; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to observe September 2005, as Infant Mortality Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of Infant Mortality Awareness Month in order to—

(1) increase national awareness of infant mortality and its contributing factors; and

(2) facilitate activities that will assist local communities in their efforts to meet the objective, as established by the Secretary of Health and Human Service in Healthy People 2010, that the rate of infant mortality in the United States be reduced to a rate of not more than 4.5 infant deaths per 1,000 births.

MEASURE STAR PRINTED—S. 1692

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1692, the Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act of 2005, be star-printed with the changes at the desk.

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1745 AND S. 1748

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The clerk will please read the titles of the bills for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1745) to expand the availability of resources under the Community Services

Block Grant Act for individuals affected by Hurricane Katrina.

A bill (S. 1748) to establish a congressional commission to examine the Federal, State, and local response to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Region of the United States especially in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and other areas impacted in the aftermath and make immediate corrective measures to improve such responses in the future.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceeding en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection being heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1761

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read the title of this bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1761) to clarify the liability of Government contractors assisting in rescue, recovery, repair, and reconstruction work in the Gulf Coast Region of the United States affected by Hurricane Katrina or other major disasters.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection being heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

AMENDING THE UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1752, introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1752) to amend the United States Grain Standards Act to reauthorize that Act.

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

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

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

The bill (S. 1752) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1752

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

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION OF ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 7(j)(4), 7A(1)(3), 7D, 19, and 21(e) of the United States Grains Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(j)(4), 79a(1)(3), 79d, 87h, 87j(e)) are amended by striking “2005” each place it appears and inserting “2015”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on September 30, 2005.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 1 p.m. on Monday, September 26. I further ask consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar No. 317, John Roberts to be Chief Justice of the United States. I further ask consent that the time from 1:30 to 2:30 be under the control of the majority leader or his designee, the time from 2:30 to 3:30 be under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee, 3:30 to 4:30 under majority control, and 4:30 to 5:30 under the control of the Democratic side.

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

SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the Senate does continue to make steady progress on the business of the American people. We are hard at work funding the basic obligations of Government.

Today, we passed the Military Construction Appropriations Act. The Military Construction appropriations bill funds the entire Department of Veterans Affairs along with the construction of all five branches.

It provides for cancer research and funding for our VA hospitals, along with covering the cost of our treasured national monuments. I congratulate Senators HUTCHISON and FEINSTEIN for accomplishing consideration and passage of that bill in a single day. It took the cooperation of a lot of Members and proves that we can go quickly through the appropriations process. Again, I thank both of them.

This morning we also passed with near unanimous support the Agriculture appropriations bill. I thank Senator BENNETT and Senator KOHL for their tremendous work and leadership on this important bill. The Agriculture bill targets spending on the needs of rural America, while also maintaining funding for essential food assistance programs. The bill is particularly important to farmers in States all across the country, but in particular I want to comment on my home State.

It provides \$2 million for Appalachian Horticultural Research, a collaborative project between the USDA and the University of Tennessee to help trees fight and resist disease; about \$955,000 for research into the best way to protect soil and water quality on farms which can suffer from heavy erosion; nearly \$40 billion for the very successful Boll

Weevil Eradication Program which will help cotton farmers continue to combat this destructive pest.

These programs, along with major funding for USDA's rural development programs and housing services, are helping farm areas around the country continue to feed America and, indeed, continue to help feed the world.

Last week we also passed a third appropriations bill, the Commerce-Justice-Science bill. In addition to funding basic Government business, it includes significant Katrina-related measures. More than 350,000 families have been made homeless by the Katrina disaster. The CJS bill provides Federal housing assistance of up to \$600 per family per month for up to 6 months to get these families back on their feet. I commend my colleagues for remaining focused on the appropriations process so that we can also meet our responsibilities to the victims of Katrina. We have extraordinary challenges before us, and we are working hard to deliver meaningful relief in the gulf region in a fiscally responsible way.

We moved quickly in the initial days to allocate appropriate funding. We also lifted the burden of student loans for those displaced from colleges and universities. We made sure that FEMA had funding to cover their national flood insurance obligations, and we passed legislation to get the Federal courts back on track in the regions affected. Since then, we passed aggressive tax relief to encourage charitable giving and to help hurricane victims rebuild their homes, restore their possessions, find housing, and find jobs. All of this is only the first step. There will be more. Helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina recover and rebuild is a monumental undertaking, an undertaking this body is focused on. We understand the absolutely critical importance of doing this in a fiscally responsible way, with full accountability and full transparency. This is America. America is up to the challenge. The Senate will continue to do its work moving forward in this regard.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, next week we will begin to debate the nomination of Judge John Roberts to be America's Chief Justice. I am confident it will be a continuation of a process that has been quite dignified and civil. We will continue that momentum as we go through next week. A final vote on his nomination will be held on Thursday, and I look forward to a full and robust debate that brings credit to this great institution. Our duty to advise and consent on the selection of Supreme Court Justices is perhaps one of our most solemn obligations. I thank my colleagues for their continuing hard work in this regard.

In summary, the order we have laid out provides that we will begin the Roberts nomination on Monday. We were prepared to have Senators deliver