

(2391) honors the memory of Sergeant Kenneth Casica, 32, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2392) honors the memory of Sergeant Clarence L. Floyd, Jr., 28, of Manhattan, New York, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2393) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Travis L. Nelson, 41, of Anniston, Alabama, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2394) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Keith A. Bennett, 32, of Holtwood, Pennsylvania, who died on December 11, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2395) honors the memory of Sergeant 1st Class James S. "Shawn" Moudy, 37, of Newark, Delaware, who died on December 11, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2396) honors the memory of Specialist Jared William Kubasak, 25, of Rocky Mount, Virginia, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2397) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Curtis A. Mitchell, 28, of Evansville, Indiana, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2398) honors the memory of Specialist Lex S. Nelson, 21, of Salt Lake City, Utah, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

(2399) will continue to honor the memory of all members of the Armed Forces of the United States who may fall in future service in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 339—URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO WITHDRAW THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AS PASSED IN ITS FIRST READING IN THE STATE DUMA THAT WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF SEVERELY RESTRICTING THE ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES OF DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL, AND FOREIGN NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, OR TO MODIFY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO ENTIRELY REMOVE THESE RESTRICTIONS**

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 339

Whereas Russian Federation President Putin has stated that "modern Russia's greatest achievement is the democratic process (and) the achievements of our civil society";

Whereas the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of nongovernmental organizations and a robust civil society free from excessive government control are central and indispensable elements of a democratic society;

Whereas the free and autonomous operations of nongovernmental organizations in any society necessarily encompass activi-

ties, including political activities, that may be contrary to government policies;

Whereas domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations are crucial in assisting the Russian Federation and the Russian people in tackling the many challenges they face, including in such areas as education, infectious diseases, and the establishment of a flourishing democracy;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, including erecting unprecedented barriers to foreign assistance;

Whereas the State Duma of the Russian Federation is considering the first draft of such legislation;

Whereas the restrictions in the first draft of this legislation would impose disabling restraints on the establishment, operations, and activities of nongovernmental organizations and on civil society throughout the Russian Federation, regardless of the stated intent of the Government of the Russian Federation;

Whereas the stated concerns of the Government of the Russian Federation regarding the use of nongovernmental organizations by foreign interests and intelligence agencies to undermine the Government of the Russian Federation and the security of the Russian Federation as a whole can be fully addressed without imposing disabling restraints on nongovernmental organizations and on civil society;

Whereas there is active debate underway in the Russian Federation over concerns regarding such restrictions on nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly play a central role in the system of checks and balances that are prerequisites for a democracy;

Whereas the first draft of the proposed legislation has already passed its first reading in the State Duma;

Whereas President Putin has indicated his desire for changes in the first draft that would "correspond more closely to the principles according to which civil society functions"; and

Whereas Russia's destiny and the interests of her people lie in her assumption of her rightful place as a full and equal member of the international community of democracies: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate, That the Senate—*

(1) urges the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw the first draft of the proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, or to modify the proposed legislation to entirely remove these restrictions; and

(2) in the event that the first draft of the proposed legislation is not withdrawn, urges the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly to modify the legislation to ensure the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of such nongovernmental organizations in accordance with the practices universally adopted by democracies, including the provisions regarding foreign assistance.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 72—REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION ANNUALLY CALLING UPON THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO OBSERVE GLOBAL FAMILY DAY, ONE DAY OF PEACE AND SHARING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 72

Whereas, in the year 2005, the people of the world suffered many calamitous events, including devastation from tsunami, terror attacks, war, famine, genocide, hurricanes, earthquakes, political and religious conflict, disease, poverty, and rioting, all necessitating global cooperation, compassion, and unity previously unprecedented among diverse cultures, faiths, and economic classes;

Whereas grave global challenges in the year 2006 may require cooperation and innovative problem solving among citizens and nations on an even greater scale;

Whereas, on December 15, 2000, Congress adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 138, expressing the sense of Congress that the President of the United States should issue a proclamation each year calling upon the people of the United States and interested organizations to observe an international day of peace and sharing at the beginning of each year;

Whereas, in 2001, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 56/2, which invited "Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2002, and every year thereafter";

Whereas many foreign heads of state have recognized the importance of establishing Global Family Day, a special day of international unity, peace, and sharing, on the first day of each year;

Whereas Congress desires to express and demonstrate its appreciation to the citizens of the more than 100 countries who offered aid to United States hurricane victims, to make tangible efforts to reverse the growing mistrust of the United States, and to improve relations with others; and

Whereas family is the basic structure of humanity, and we must all look to the stability and love within our individual families to create stability in the global community: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress urgently requests the following:*

(1) That the President issue a proclamation annually calling upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, a day which is dedicated—

(A) to eradicating violence, hunger, poverty, and suffering; and

(B) to establishing greater trust and fellowship among peace-loving nations and families everywhere.

(2) That the President invite former Presidents of the United States, Nobel laureates, and other notables, including business, labor, faith, and civic leaders of the United States, to join the President in promoting appropriate activities for the people of the United States and in extending appropriate greetings from the families of the United States to families in the rest of the world.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise to submit a Senate Concurrent Resolution

requesting the President to issue a proclamation annually calling upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, on the first of each January. This measure is co-sponsored by Mr. COLEMAN and Mr. KENNEDY.

The observance is dedicated to eradicating violence, hunger, poverty and suffering, and to establish greater trust and fellowship among nations and families everywhere. Global Family Day encourages families to reach out to each other on the first of January of each year. It is a day for sharing the idea and condition of peace, and the observance can take a concrete form such as sharing a meal or helping the needy.

The idea of Global Family Day originates from young supporters. In 1999, ninety nine children from Hine Middle School in the District of Columbia visited Capitol Hill, asking Congress to dedicate one day each year to a day of peace and sharing. In the following year, the footsteps of these intrepid young thinkers were followed by children from Brent Elementary School, also from the District of Columbia. Children from Stuart-Hobson Middle School also visited members of Congress on Capitol Hill.

The 106th Congress agreed with them, and in the year 2000, adopted a resolution similar to the one I am submitting today. However, with the onrush of events after the tragedy of September 11, 2001, a proclamation was not issued. Thus, there was little public knowledge that we have this important tool for peace, despite the international support from the United Nations General Assembly. We can remedy that today by showing our support for Global Family Day.

Many Americans are troubled by our deteriorating image in the world, by the dangers of terrorism and by the suffering of others, both at home and abroad. Yet they feel helpless to do anything about it. Global Family Day offers a potential solution. The observance of Global Family Day can lead to greater understanding among faith groups, people of different races and economic classes. Global Family Day provides a way in which every man, woman and child in the United States can help reduce suffering at home, repair our damaged image abroad, and help us remember that in the end, all peoples belong to the same family.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 73—URGING THE PRESIDENT TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF AN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY MONTH**

Mr. SPECTER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 73

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress urges the President to issue each year a proclama-*

*tion calling on State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe an American Jewish History Month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.*

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, this year marked the 350th anniversary of Jewish life in America. The occasion has been commemorated with festivities and celebrations across the entire country. As this special year draws to a close, I am submitting a resolution urging the President to establish permanent recognition of the contributions the Jewish culture has made to life in America by annually issuing a proclamation for the observance of an American Jewish History Month.

Each year, we remember the achievements and contributions made by African-Americans and women to our Nation's development by designating February as African American History Month and March as Women's History Month. Similarly, Jewish American History Month would celebrate the legacy of the American Jewish experience and observe the many contributions Jewish-Americans have made in the areas of medicine, the arts, science, and technology.

American society is comprised of many cultures. Americans are proud of our history of acceptance and understanding. By establishing a Jewish American History Month, we will present an additional opportunity to raise our Nation's cultural awareness and celebrate our diversity.

An identical resolution was introduced in the House by Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, where it was co-sponsored by 250 Members and passed unanimously.

I hope that the Senate will join our colleagues in the House by agreeing to this resolution, urging the President to annually issue a proclamation for the observance of an American Jewish History Month.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 2680. Mr. LOTT (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LOTT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SHELBY)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4440, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for the Gulf Opportunity Zone and certain areas affected by Hurricanes Rita and Wilma, and for other purposes.

SA 2681. Mr. SANTORUM (for Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEAHY)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3402, to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes.

SA 2682. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. DOMENICI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1096, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate portions of the Musconetcong River in the State of New Jersey as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

SA 2683. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. DOMENICI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1310, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation to increase the diameter of a nat-

ural gas pipeline located in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, to allow certain commercial vehicles to continue to use Route 209 within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and to extend the termination date of the National Park System Advisory Board to January 1, 2007.

SA 2684. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. DOMENICI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1310, supra.

SA 2685. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. SARBANES) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 959, to establish the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

SA 2686. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 863, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centenary of the bestowal of the Nobel Peace Prize on President Theodore Roosevelt and for other purposes.

SA 2687. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1312, to amend a provision relating to employees of the United States assigned to, or employed by, an Indian tribe, and for other purposes.

SA 2688. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. ENZI)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2520, to provide for the collection and maintenance of human cord blood stem cells for the treatment of patients and research, and to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program.

SA 2689. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 467, to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

SA 2690. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1892, to amend Public Law 107-153 to modify a certain date.

**TEXT OF AMENDMENTS**

**SA 2680.** Mr. LOTT (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LOTT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SHELBY)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4440, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for the Gulf Opportunity Zone and certain areas affected by Hurricanes Rita and Wilma, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ETC.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005".

(b) **AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.**—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; etc.

**TITLE I—ESTABLISHMENT OF GULF OPPORTUNITY ZONE**

Sec. 101. Tax benefits for Gulf Opportunity Zone.

Sec. 102. Expansion of Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credit for students in the Gulf Opportunity Zone.

Sec. 103. Housing relief for individuals affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Sec. 104. Extension of special rules for mortgage revenue bonds.