

Congress to task the Government Accountability Office with a complete audit of expenditures, and the appropriateness and reasonableness thereof, and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency on Katrina and Rita recovery efforts in Louisiana; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-252. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to enjoining the United States Army Corps of Engineers from engaging any contractor in the reconstruction of the levees in the New Orleans area if investigations of levee failures during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita indicate that such contractor performed substandard design or construction work on a portion of a levee that failed; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 18

Whereas, the catastrophic flooding of the city of New Orleans and the surrounding area has had a staggering human and economic impact on not only that region, but the entire state of Louisiana; and

Whereas, the areas which flooded were within a system of levees which ostensibly served to protect the citizens and property within them from flooding; and

Whereas, the American Society of Civil Engineers reported to the United States Congress with respect to poor design and construction of the levee systems in the New Orleans area; and

Whereas, the United States Army Corps of Engineers will be entering into many contracts to rebuild substantial portions of the levee system that protect the New Orleans area; and

Whereas, given the noted inadequacies in design and construction of those parts of the levees that failed, caution should be exercised so that those contractors who performed the work to build the deficient portions are not engaged again in the rebuilding efforts; Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to enjoin the United States Army Corps of Engineers from engaging any contractor in the reconstruction of the levees in the New Orleans area if investigations of levee failures during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita indicate that such contractor performed substandard design or construction work on a portion of a levee that failed; and be it further

*Resolved*, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-253. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to adopting S520 and HR 1070, the Constitution Restoration Act of 2005, which will limit the jurisdiction of the federal courts and preserve the right to acknowledge God to the states and to the people and resolve the issue of improper judicial intervention in matters relating to the acknowledgment of God; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

Whereas, on Monday, June 27, 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court in two razor thin majorities of 5-4 in *Van Orden v. Perry* (Texas) and *ACLU v. McCreary County* (Kentucky),

concluded that it is consistent with the First Amendment to display the Ten Commandments in an outdoor public square in Texas, but not on the courthouse walls of two counties in Kentucky; and

Whereas, American citizens are concerned that the court has produced two opposite results involving the same Ten Commandments leading to the conclusion that, based on the Kentucky decision, the Ten Commandments may be displayed in a county courthouse provided it is not backed by a belief in God; and

Whereas, Supreme Justice Scalia emphasized the importance of the Ten Commandments when he stated in the Kentucky case "The three most popular religions in the United States, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam which combined account for 97.7% of all believers are monotheistic. All of them, moreover, believe that the Ten Commandments were given by God to Moses, and are divine prescriptions for a virtuous life"; and

Whereas, Chief Justice Rehnquist in the Texas case referred to the duplicity of the United States Supreme Court in telling local governments in America that they may not display the Ten Commandments in public buildings in their communities while at the same time allowing these same Ten Commandments to be presented on these specific places on the building housing the U.S. Supreme Court stating "Since 1935, Moses has stood, holding two tablets that reveal portions of the Ten Commandments written in Hebrew, among other lawgivers in the south frieze. Representations of the Ten Commandments adorn the metal gates lining the north and south sides of the courtroom as well as the doors leading into the courtroom. Moses also sits on the exterior east facade of the building holding the Ten Commandments tablets"; and

Whereas, a recent poll by the First Amendment Center revealed that seventy percent of Americans would have no objection to posting the Ten Commandments in government buildings and eighty-five percent would approve if the Ten Commandments were included as one document among many historical documents when displayed in public buildings; and

Whereas, the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, which provides in part that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion" is a specific and unequivocal instruction to only the United States Congress and the United States Constitution makes no restriction on the ability of states to acknowledge God, the Supreme Ruler of the Universe; and

Whereas, the federal judiciary has overstepped its constitutional boundaries and ruled against the acknowledgment of God as the sovereign source of law, liberty, and government by local and state officers and other state institutions, including state schools; and

Whereas, there is concern that recent decisions of the court will be used by litigants in an effort to remove God from the public square in America, including public buildings and public parks; and

Whereas, there is pending before the 1st Session of the 109th Congress the Constitution Restoration Act of 2005, which will limit the jurisdiction of the federal courts and preserve the right to acknowledge God to the states and to the people and resolve the issue of improper judicial intervention in matters relating to the acknowledgment of God; Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to adopt S520 and HR 1070, the Constitution Restoration Act of 2005 and in doing so protecting the ability of the people of Louisiana to display the Ten Command-

ments in public places, to express their faith in public, to retain God in the Pledge of Allegiance, to retain "In God We Trust" as our national motto, and to use Article III, Section 2.2 of the United States Constitution to except these areas from the jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the administrator of the General Services, Washington, D.C., to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 967. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that prepackaged news stories contain announcements that inform viewers that the information within was provided by the United States Government, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-210).

S. 1063. A bill to promote and enhance public safety and to encourage the rapid deployment of IP-enabled voice services (Rept. No. 109-211).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2146. A bill to extend relocation expenses test programs for Federal employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 2147. A bill to extend the period of time which a veteran's multiple sclerosis is to be considered to have been incurred in, or aggravated by, military service during a period of war; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 2148. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor in Alabama and Georgia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 2149. A bill to authorize resources to provide students with opportunities for summer learning through summer learning grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 2150. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Bureau of Land Management Land to the City of Eugene, Oregon; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 2151. A bill to authorize full funding of payments for eligible federally connected children under title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 by fiscal year 2011, to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ENZI:

S. 2152. A bill to promote simplification and fairness in the administration and collection of sales and use taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 2153. A bill to promote simplification and fairness in the administration and collection of sales and use taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2154. A bill to provide for the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of Rosa Parks; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 2155. A bill to provide meaningful civil remedies for victims of the sexual exploitation of children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. Res. 340. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that lenders holding mortgages on homes in communities of Louisiana devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita should extend current mortgage payment forbearance periods and not foreclose on properties in those communities until such time that Congress can consider legislation to provide relief to those homeowners; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. REID, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. Res. 341. A resolution commanding Dr. Douglas Holtz-Eakin for his dedicated, faithful, and outstanding service to his country and to the Senate; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services, volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

S. 512

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 512, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify automatic fire sprinkler systems as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation.

S. 566

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 566, a bill to continue State coverage of medicare prescription drug coverage to medicare dual eligible beneficiaries for 6 months while still allowing the medicare part D benefit to be implemented as scheduled.

S. 769

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, a bill to enhance compliance assistance for small businesses.

S. 1139

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1139, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the pet industry.

S. 1376

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 1440

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1440, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for cardiac rehabilitation and pulmonary rehabilitation services.

S. 1780

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, to improve the public disclosure of activities of exempt organizations, and to enhance the ability of low-income Americans to gain financial security by building assets, and for other purposes.

S. 1800

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1800, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the new markets tax credit.

S. 1840

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to amend section 340B of the Public Health Service Act to increase the affordability of inpatient drugs for Medicaid and safety net hospitals.

S. 1948

At the request of Mr. SUNUNU, the name of the Senator from New Hamp-

shire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1948, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury and death occurring inside or outside of passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1956

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1956, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to create a new three-tiered approval system for drugs, biological products, and devices that is responsive to the needs of seriously ill patients, and for other purposes.

S. 1964

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1964, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the determination and deduction of interest on qualified education loans.

S. 2075

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2075, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 2, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to require a balanced budget and protect Social Security surpluses.

S. RES. 253

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 253, a resolution designating October 7, 2005, as “National ‘It’s Academic’ Television Quiz Show Day”.

S. RES. 320

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 320, a resolution calling the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide.