

Chief Judge Wagner has also demonstrated a commitment to improving access to justice. To this end, she served as chairperson of the Court's Advisory Committee on Probate and Fiduciary Rules and was largely responsible for the implementation of new rules intended to streamline and clarify procedures regarding the affairs of missing, protected, and incapacitated individuals. She also served as chairperson of the Task Force on Gender Bias in the Courts, which conducted a comprehensive study of bias in the courts and, under her leadership, the District of Columbia courts established the Standing Committee on Fairness and Access to the Courts to ensure racial, gender, and ethnic fairness.

More recently, under her leadership, the Court of Appeals, along with the District of Columbia Bar, the District of Columbia Bar Foundation, and the District of Columbia Consortium of Legal Service Providers, established the D.C. Access to Justice Commission, a commission that will propose ways to make lawyers and access to justice more available for poor individuals in the District of Columbia.

Chief Judge Wagner's work at the D.C. courts also extends beyond legal issues. As the space needs of the District of Columbia courts continued to grow beyond their current building, Chief Judge Wagner led the effort to examine solutions to resolve the courts continued space problems. Her efforts led the D.C. courts to plan and initiate the renovation of the Old Courthouse/City Hall in Judiciary Square, a National Historic Landmark, for the future use by the D.C. Court of Appeals. In addition, as Congress enacted new legislative mandates on the courts which further increased their space needs, under her leadership, the District of Columbia courts initiated the master planning process for the renovation and use of all court properties in Judiciary Square. This effort will result not only in the improvement of court operations, but is expected to lead to the revitalization of the Judiciary Square area in the Nation's Capital.

Chief Judge Wagner's service also extends beyond the boundaries of the District. She has served as President of the Conference of Chief Justices, an organization of chief justices and chief judges of the highest court of each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the territories, as chairperson of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts, and as one of eleven members of the American Bar Association's Section on Dispute Resolution's Drafting Committee on the Uniform Mediation Act which collaborated with the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in promulgating the Uniform Mediation Act, which, in 2001, was approved and recommended for enactment in all the States, to foster prompt, economical, and amicable res-

olution of disputes through mediation processes which promote public confidence and uniformity across state lines.

Chief Judge Wagner's dedication and service to the District of Columbia and to the judicial system are highly commendable and warrant our recognition.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 108—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE NATION DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, MAY 2 THROUGH 8, 2005

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

S. RES. 108

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

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

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

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

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

Whereas public servants—

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

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

(3) fight crime and fire;

(4) deliver the United States mail;

(5) deliver social security and medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

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

(8) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

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

(10) improve and secure our transportation systems;

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

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

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

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

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with

other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

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

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

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

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

Whereas May 2 through 8, 2005, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees;

Whereas the theme for Public Service Recognition Week 2005 is Celebrating Government Workers Nationwide to highlight the important work civil servants perform throughout the Nation; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 21st anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to America's public servants. Whether it is at the Federal, State, or local level, the men and women who choose public service provide essential services that we rely on every day. As the ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, I am pleased to submit a resolution honoring these employees and celebrating Public Service Recognition Week. I am delighted to be joined by the leadership of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Senators VOINOVICH, COLLINS, LIEBERMAN, COLEMAN, LEVIN, COBURN, and CARPER.

The 21st anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week, which takes place the week of May 2, 2005, showcases the talented individuals who serve their country as Federal, State and local government employees, both civilian and military. From Hawaii to Maine, throughout the Nation, and around the world, public employees use the week to educate their fellow citizens on Government services make life better for all of us and the exciting challenges of a career in public service.

Public servants are teachers, members of the Armed Forces, civilian defense workers, postal employees, food

inspectors, law enforcement officers, firemen, social workers, crossing guards, and road engineers. They deliver essential Government services; defend our freedom; go above and beyond the call of duty to notify the public of Government waste, fraud, abuse; and respond with professionalism and honor during emergencies. They deserve our respect and gratitude for their dedication and service to this country.

As the conflict in Iraq continues, as well as the global war on terrorism, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the brave men and women who have given their lives for their country. Over 1,500 Americans have lost their lives in defense of freedom since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Members of the Federal civilian workforce work side-by-side with members of the Armed Services and are crucial to our Nation's defense, security, and general welfare. Like those who came before them and those who are yet to come, our military and civilian support staff show courage in the face of adversity and deserve our admiration and respect.

Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to honor and celebrate the commitment of individuals who serve the needs of the Nation as Government and municipal employees. It is also a time to call on a new generation of Americans to consider public service. Through job fairs, special exhibits, and agency sponsored education programs, Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity for individuals to gain a deeper understanding of the exciting and challenging work in the Federal Government.

I encourage my colleagues to recognize Federal employees in their States, as well as State and local government employees, and to let them know how much their work is appreciated. I invite my colleagues to join in the annual celebration.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 109—COM-  
MENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
OKLAHOMA SOONERS MEN'S  
GYMNASTICS TEAM FOR WIN-  
NING THE NATIONAL COLLE-  
GIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
DIVISION I MEN'S GYMNAS-  
TICS CHAMPIONSHIP**

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 109**

Whereas on April 8, 2005, the University of Oklahoma Sooners won their sixth National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Men's Gymnastics Championship, at West Point, New York;

Whereas the 2005 NCAA Championship is the Sooners' third championship in the past 4 years;

Whereas the championship title crowned a remarkable season for the Sooners in which the team achieved an impressive record of 21 wins and only 2 losses;

Whereas the Sooners clinched a spectacular, nail-biting victory over the Ohio State Buckeyes, which was made possible by a heroic final performance on the vault by freshman Jonathan Horton;

Whereas the Sooners' winning score of 225.675 set a school record and dramatically surpassed second-place Ohio State's score of 225.450;

Whereas 6 members of the University of Oklahoma men's gymnastics team, including Taqiy Abdullah-Simmons, Josh Gore, David Henderson, Jamie Henderson, Jonathan Horton, and Jacob Messina, also garnered a school-record 13 All-America honors in the individual event finals;

Whereas senior David Henderson's 2005 NCAA title on the still rings gave the University of Oklahoma its 18th all-time individual national champion and capped off an exceptional 4 years;

Whereas Head Coach Mark Williams was named the 2005 NCAA Coach of the Year, making it the third time in his distinguished career that Head Coach Williams has received that honor;

Whereas the tremendous success of the 2005 Sooners adds to the outstanding legacy of men's gymnastics at the University of Oklahoma and is a reflection of the heart and dedication of the entire school, from the president to the athletic directors, coaches, athletes, managers, and staff members;

Whereas the teamwork, grit, and sportsmanship demonstrated by the University of Oklahoma Sooners men's gymnastics team is a proud tribute to the university and the communities from which the team members hail: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Oklahoma Sooners for their sixth National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Gymnastics Championship;

(2) recognizes all who have contributed their hard work and support to making the 2005 season a historic success; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren and Head Coach Mark Williams for appropriate display.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 110—COM-  
MENDING OKLAHOMA STATE  
UNIVERSITY'S WRESTLING TEAM  
FOR WINNING THE 2005 NA-  
TIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC  
ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WRES-  
TLING CHAMPIONSHIP**

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 110**

Whereas on March 19, 2005, the Oklahoma State University Cowboys claimed their 33rd National Collegiate Athletic Association Wrestling Championship in St. Louis, Missouri;

Whereas the 33 wrestling championships won by the Cowboys is more than have been won by any other school in the history of National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I wrestling;

Whereas the Cowboys now have won 3 consecutive wrestling championships, a feat not accomplished since they won the national wrestling championship in 1954, 1955, and 1956;

Whereas the Cowboys' 2005 championship topped off an impressive season in which they were undefeated in the regular season and also had a perfect record in the finals;

Whereas the Cowboys outscored second place Michigan, 153 to 83, achieving a margin of victory that was the second-highest in National Collegiate Athletic Association wrestling history;

Whereas the Cowboys crowned a school-record 5 individual national champions, tying a national tournament record;

Whereas the Cowboys' outstanding 2005 season contributed to an already rich and proud tradition of wrestling excellence at Oklahoma State University;

Whereas the amazing accomplishments of the past year reflect the dedication, commitment, and tireless effort of the entire school, from the president to the athletic directors, coaches, athletes, managers, and staff members; and

Whereas the student athletes of the Oklahoma State University wrestling team, through their exceptional athletic achievements, have not only brought credit to themselves but to their fellow students, their university, and their community: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Oklahoma State Cowboys for their third straight National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Wrestling Championship;

(2) recognizes the players, coaches, staff, and all who have made the historic successes of the 2005 season possible; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to Oklahoma State University President Dr. David J. Schmidly and Coach John Smith for appropriate display.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLU-  
TION 27—HONORING MILITARY  
CHILDREN DURING "NATIONAL  
MONTH OF THE MILITARY  
CHILD"**

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BOND, Mr. BAYH, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. REID, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. CON. RES. 27**

Whereas more than a million Americans are demonstrating their courage and commitment to freedom by serving in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas nearly 40 percent of the members of the Armed Forces, when deployed away from their permanent duty stations, have left families with children behind;

Whereas no one feels the effect of those deployments more than the children of deployed service members;

Whereas as of March 31, 2005, approximately 1,000 of these children have lost a parent serving in the Armed Forces during the preceding 5 years;

Whereas the daily struggles and personal sacrifices of children of members of the Armed Forces too often go unnoticed;

Whereas the children of members of the Armed Forces are a source of pride and honor to all Americans and it is fitting that the Nation recognize their contributions and celebrate their spirit;

Whereas the "National Month of the Military Child", observed in April each year, recognizes military children for their sacrifices and contributes to demonstrating the Nation's unconditional support to members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas in addition to Department of Defense programs to support military families and military children, a variety of programs