

(E) provide opportunities for families within a community to get acquainted; and

(F) provide children with the support they need to develop skills and confidence, and to find the inner strength—the will and fire of the human spirit—to make their dreams come true.

S. RES. 129

Whereas 2005 will mark the 100th anniversary of the Virginia Retail Merchants Association (referred to in this resolution as the "Association");

Whereas on May 12 1905, the Association was formed to encourage, stimulate, extend, and promote the business of retail merchants in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to promote the social, moral, and financial welfare of those engaged in the business of retail merchandising;

Whereas the Association has endeavored to curtail trade abuses in the retail industry and other injurious practices and to secure the cooperation of consumers, retail merchants, and retail suppliers in producing healthy retail trade;

Whereas the Association has worked to secure the enactment of reasonable and proper laws to protect consumers and the retail and services trade;

Whereas it is the goal of the Association to encourage proper and business-like methods in the conduct of business affairs and to advance, by legitimate and fair means, the interests of retail merchants and the free enterprise system;

Whereas, in 1905, the Association chartered the Lynchburg Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in 1906, the Association chartered the Retail Merchants Association of Greater Richmond;

Whereas, in 1907, the Association chartered the Petersburg Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in 1913, the Association chartered the Hampton Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in 1919, the Association chartered the Danville Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in the 1950s, the Association chartered the Franklin County Retail Merchants Association and the Williamsburg Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in subsequent years, the Association chartered the South Boston Retail Merchants Association and Charlottesville Retail Merchants Association;

Whereas, in 1978, the Association formed the Virginia Retail Political Action Committee or VARPAC;

Whereas the Association and its retail member associations represent more than 5,400 retailers and other associated businesses throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

Whereas the Association has been an active proponent of the free enterprise system for 100 years: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Virginia Retail Merchants Association on its 100th anniversary; and

(2) recognizes its years of service to the retail community.

S. RES. 130

Whereas every year more than 5,500 people die from job-related injuries and millions more suffer occupational injuries and illnesses;

Whereas every day millions of people go to and return home from work safely due, in part, to the efforts of many unsung heroes, such as occupational safety, health, and environmental practitioners, who work day in and day out identifying hazards and implementing safety and health advances, in all industries and at all workplaces, aimed at

eliminating workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses;

Whereas these occupational safety, health, and environmental professionals work to prevent accidents, injuries, and occupational diseases, create safer work and leisure environments, develop safer products, and are committed to protecting people, property, and the environment;

Whereas the work of these professionals in the areas of health promotion, disease prevention, and wellness programs contributes greatly to the improvement of overall employee health, increased productivity, and reduction in health care costs, and yields significant returns on investments in occupational safety and health for the employer;

Whereas our society has long recognized that a safe and healthy workplace positively impacts employee morale, health, and productivity;

Whereas the more than 150,000 combined members of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (ACHMM), the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. (AAOHN), the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) are occupational safety, health, and environmental practitioners committed to protecting people, property, and the environment;

Whereas the purpose of "North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH)" is to increase the understanding of the benefits of investing in occupational safety and health, to demonstrate the positive impact that integrating effective safety and health programs in the workplace and the community has on the economy and business, to raise awareness of the role and contribution of safety, health, and environmental professionals in all areas, and to reduce workplace injuries and illnesses by increasing awareness and implementation of safety and health programs; and

Whereas during the week of May 1 through May 7, 2005, and throughout the year, the ASSE, ACHMM, AAOHN, AIHA, and ANSI, and their respective memberships, will work to raise employers', employees', and the public's understanding of the importance of occupational safety, health, and the environment in everyone's lives, and to provide valuable information and resources aimed at decreasing further workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 1 through May 7, 2005, as "North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH)";

(2) commends occupational safety, health, and environmental professionals for their ongoing commitment to protecting people, property, and the environment;

(3) encourages all industries, organizations, community leaders, employers, and employees to support educational activities aimed at increasing awareness of the importance of preventing illness, injury, and death in the workplace during the week of May 1 through May 7, 2005, and throughout the year; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe "North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH)" with appropriate programs and activities.

S. RES. 131

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 850,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 154 peace officers across the United States were killed in the line of duty during 2004, which is below the decade-long average of 169 deaths annually;

Whereas a number of factors contributed to this reduction in deaths, including better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care;

Whereas every other day, 1 out of every 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 25 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 6,000 peace officers is killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States; and

Whereas on May 15, 2005, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2005, as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

NATIONAL BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the HELP committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 121 and the Senate now proceed to its consideration.

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. 121) supporting May 2005 as National Better Hearing and Speech Month and commending those states that have implemented routine hearing screening for every newborn before the newborn leaves the hospital.

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

Mr. FRIST. 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. 121) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 121

Whereas the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders reports that approximately 28,000,000 people in the United States experience hearing loss or have a hearing impairment;

Whereas 1 out of every 3 people in the United States over the age of 65 have hearing loss;

Whereas the overwhelming majority of people in the United States with hearing loss would benefit from the use of a hearing aid and fewer than 7,000,000 people in the United States use a hearing aid;

Whereas 30 percent of people in the United States suffering from hearing loss cite financial constraints as an impediment to hearing aid use;

Whereas hearing loss is among the most common congenital birth defects;

Whereas a delay in diagnosing the hearing loss of a newborn can affect the social, emotional, and academic development of the child;

Whereas the average age at which newborns with hearing loss are diagnosed is between the ages of 12 to 25 months; and

Whereas May 2005 is "National Better Hearing and Speech Month", providing Federal, State, and local governments, members of the private and nonprofit sectors, hearing and speech professionals, and all people in the United States an opportunity to focus on preventing, mitigating, and treating hearing impairments: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) supports the goals and ideals of May 2005 as "National Better Hearing and Speech Month";

(2) commends those States that have implemented routine hearing screenings for every newborn before the newborn leaves the hospital; and

(3) encourages all people in the United States to have their hearing checked regularly.

**NATIONAL HEPATITIS B AWARENESS MONTH**

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 117 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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. 117) designating the week of May 9, 2005, as National Hepatitis B Awareness Week.

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

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I express my support today for an important resolution, S. Res. 117, submitted by Senators FEINSTEIN and SANTORUM along with Senator SANTORUM to designate the week of May 9th as National Hepatitis B Awareness Week.

Hepatitis B is an extremely infectious virus that affects more than 12 million Americans, with 100,000 new cases expected this year. Unfortunately, many people don't even know they have this disease. And by the time they do learn about the disease it with Hepatitis B will develop cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer.

The good news is that we can beat this disease. Scientists have been working for years and have made great strides in the study and treatment of Hepatitis B. As kindergarteners through college students know, there are very effective vaccines available to slow the generational relay of the virus. And just last month the FDA approved a new treatment drug called Baraclade that seeks to alleviate symptoms for those already chronically infected with the virus.

What I surprisingly discovered is that less than 10 percent of people suffering from chronic Hepatitis B infection are receiving treatment. During this week, I strongly urge people to talk to their doctors about Hepatitis B

vaccination, testing, and treatment; to become educated about Hepatitis B, the symptoms, treatments and testing available; and to take steps to educate those around about Hepatitis B. I urge people to take part in the discussions about Hepatitis B during this week. I also wish to applaud those working to make sure that communities and families and individuals are aware of this disease, testing and treatments available. Thank you for all of your dedication and caring.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 117) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

**S. RES. 117**

Whereas hepatitis B is the most common serious liver infection in the world;

Whereas chronic hepatitis B infections cause 80 percent of all primary liver cancer cases worldwide;

Whereas 10,000,000 to 30,000,000 people will be infected with the hepatitis B virus worldwide in 2005;

Whereas approximately 100,000 people in the United States will become infected with hepatitis B virus this year alone;

Whereas fewer than 10 percent of diagnosed chronic hepatitis B patients in the United States are currently receiving treatment for their disease;

Whereas healthcare and work loss costs from liver disease and liver cancer-caused hepatitis B infections total more than \$700,000,000 annually;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 1,250,000 Americans are already infected with hepatitis B and nearly 6,000 will die of liver complications each year;

Whereas a person who has become infected with hepatitis B may not have symptoms for up to 40 years after the initial infection has occurred, and there is currently no routine screening in place for early detection;

Whereas the CDC has identified African-Americans, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders, as well as Native Americans and Alaskan Natives, as having higher rates of hepatitis B infection in the United States;

Whereas Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders account for more than half of the chronic hepatitis B cases and half of the deaths resulting from chronic hepatitis B infection in the United States; and

Whereas there is a need for a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign designed to help infected patients and their physicians identify and manage the secondary prevention of the disease and to help increase the length and quality of life for those diagnosed with chronic hepatitis B: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) designates the week of May 9, 2005, as "National Hepatitis B Awareness Week";

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs and activities; and

(3) supports raising awareness of the consequences of untreated chronic hepatitis B and the urgency to seek appropriate care as a serious public health issue.

**ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2005**

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 382 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 382) to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The bill (S. 382) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

**S. 382**

*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 "Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2005".

**SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**"§ 49. Animal fighting prohibition**

**"(a) SPONSORING OR EXHIBITING AN ANIMAL IN AN ANIMAL FIGHTING VENTURE.—**

**"(1) IN GENERAL.—**Except as provided in paragraph (2), it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sponsor or exhibit an animal in an animal fighting venture, if any animal in the venture was moved in interstate or foreign commerce.

**"(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN STATES.—**With respect to fighting ventures involving live birds in a State where it would not be in violation of the law, it shall be unlawful under this subsection for a person to sponsor or exhibit a bird in the fighting venture only if the person knew that any bird in the fighting venture was knowingly bought, sold, delivered, transported, or received in interstate or foreign commerce for the purpose of participation in the fighting venture.

**"(b) BUYING, SELLING, DELIVERING, OR TRANSPORTING ANIMALS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ANIMAL FIGHTING VENTURE.—**It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sell, buy, transport, or deliver, or receive for purposes of transportation, in interstate or foreign commerce, any dog or other animal for purposes of having the dog or other animal participate in an animal fighting venture.

**"(c) USE OF POSTAL SERVICE OR OTHER INTERSTATE INSTRUMENTALITY FOR PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING VENTURE.—**It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly use the mail service of the United States Postal Service or any instrumentality of interstate commerce for commercial speech promoting an animal fighting venture except as performed outside the limits of the States of the United States.

**"(d) VIOLATION OF STATE LAW.—**Notwithstanding subsection (c), the activities prohibited by such subsection shall be unlawful with respect to fighting ventures involving