

the finest young women anyone will ever meet: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) takes great pride in congratulating Carrie Underwood of Checotah, Oklahoma, for winning the television program “American Idol”; and

(2) thanks Carrie Underwood for being a positive public role model and representing Oklahoma so superbly before an audience of millions of television viewers in this nation and around the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 158—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DESIGNATE THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 11, 2005, AS “NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LOTT, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. OBAMA, and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 158

Whereas there are 105 historically Black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities provide the quality education essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in the history of the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have allowed many underprivileged students to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically Black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning September 11, 2005, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”.

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests the President to issue a proclamation—

(1) designating the week beginning September 11, 2005, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically Black colleges and universities in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 159—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OKLAHOMA INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION AND ITS MEMBERS VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 159

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association was founded and incorporated in the State of Oklahoma on January 13, 1955;

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association was founded by independent oil and natural gas producers, and its membership is still comprised of independent producers, both large and small;

Whereas the founders of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association possessed the leadership and vision to establish a unified voice for independent crude oil and natural gas producers;

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association is the largest oil and gas advocacy group in the State, representing over 1,500 member companies in the crude oil and natural gas exploration and production industry and affiliated businesses;

Whereas the mission of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association is to enhance and protect the ability of independent oil and natural gas producers in Oklahoma to conduct their business and to ensure energy supply;

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association is a rarity in State oil and gas associations, with a full-time governmental affairs specialist and a full-time regulatory affairs specialist working with agencies that regulate the oil and gas industry;

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association is a proactive and diverse organization striving to provide a broad range of services to its members and the industry it supports;

Whereas the leaders of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association have worked successfully on behalf of Oklahoma independent producers on State and national issues, advocating for State and national governmental policies that protect and enhance the ability of Oklahoma independent producers to do business; and

Whereas the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association will continue to look toward the future by forging alliances within the oil and gas industry and with other organizations devoted to a more prosperous Oklahoma: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association;

(2) congratulates the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association for its 50-year history of contributions to the oil and gas industry of Oklahoma and the United States;

(3) recognizes that the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association has been and will continue to be an invaluable asset in developing and promoting the oil and gas industry in the United States; and

(4) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association as an expression of appreciation and for public display at the 50th annual meeting of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 39—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE PURPLE HEART

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. HAGEL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 39

Whereas the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use;

Whereas the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in conflict with an enemy force or are wounded while held by an enemy force as prisoners of war, and posthumously to the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in conflict with an enemy force or who die of a wound received in conflict with an enemy force;

Whereas the Purple Heart was established on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, when General George Washington issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit;

Whereas the award of the Purple Heart ceased with the end of the Revolutionary War, but was revived in 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington’s birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements; and

Whereas National Purple Heart Recognition Day is a fitting tribute to George Washington and to the more than 1,535,000 recipients of the Purple Heart, approximately 550,000 of whom are still living: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Purple Heart Recognition Day;

(2) encourages all people of the United States to learn about the history of the Purple Heart and to honor its recipients; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for people who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 40—RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE PRESIDENT AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES THAT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE FOR THE HISTORIC EFFORTS AND SUCCESSSES OF THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE IN REDUCING THE THREAT POSED BY ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING IN WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, THEIR MEANS OF DELIVERY, AND RELATED MATERIALS, ON THE OCCASION OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE

Mr. LUGAR submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 40

Whereas, on May 31, 2003, at Wawel Royal Castle, Krakow, Poland, President George W. Bush declared that “today I announce a new

effort to fight proliferation called the Proliferation Security Initiative. The United States and a number of our close allies, including Poland, have begun working on new agreements to search planes and ships carrying suspect cargo and to seize illegal weapons or missile technologies. Over time, we will extend this partnership as broadly as possible to keep the world's most destructive weapons away from our shores and out of the hands of our common enemies";

Whereas, since May 2003, more than 60 countries have indicated their support for the Proliferation Security Initiative;

Whereas, in September 2003, 11 countries agreed to and published the Proliferation Security Initiative Statement of Interdiction Principles, which, among other things, identifies specific steps for effectively interdicting shipments of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials and for preventing proliferation facilitators, brokers, and middlemen from engaging in this deadly trade;

Whereas the Proliferation Security Initiative has led to the negotiation of bilateral ship boarding agreements designed to facilitate the interdiction of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials, including agreements with the Governments of Panama, Liberia, and the Marshall Islands;

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, proposed by President Bush and adopted unanimously by the Security Council on April 28, 2004, calls on all countries to take cooperative action to prevent trafficking in weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials;

Whereas the actions of the United States and its Proliferation Security Initiative partners Germany and Italy contributed to the interdiction of the ship "BBC China", a commercial ship carrying centrifuge components for Libya's illicit nuclear program, en route to Tripoli, and also contributed to the constructive decision made by the Government of Libya on December 19, 2003, to acknowledge its illegal weapons of mass destruction programs and its agreement to eliminate its weapons of mass destruction and long-range missile programs and rejoin the international community by eliminating all elements of its chemical and nuclear weapons programs, declaring all nuclear materials and activities to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), eliminating ballistic missiles with a range greater than 300 kilometers with payloads of 500 or more kilograms, accepting international inspections to ensure Libya's complete adherence to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, signing the Additional Protocol, eliminating all chemical weapons stocks and munitions and acceding to the Chemical Weapons Convention, and allowing immediate inspections and monitoring to verify all of these actions;

Whereas the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Changes finds that "[r]ecent experience of the activities of the A.Q. Khan network has demonstrated the need for and the value of measures taken to interdict the illicit and clandestine trade in components for nuclear programs";

Whereas the same Report also welcomes "the voluntary Proliferation Security Initiative, under which more and more states are cooperating to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological and chemical weapons";

Whereas, acknowledging that existing non-proliferation agreements and export control regimes are necessary but no longer sufficient, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has stated: "I applaud the efforts of the Proliferation Security Initiative to fill a gap in our defenses";

Whereas the United States and many of its Proliferation Security Initiative partners

have conducted 14 ground, air, maritime, and tabletop interdiction exercises over the last 2 years, beginning with the Australian-led exercise Pacific Protector in September 2003; and

Whereas multiple countries have now participated in and observed air, land, and sea interdiction training exercises, in particular the October 2004 Team Samurai exercise, in which Japan, the United States, Australia, and France contributed operational assets and Canada, Cambodia, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom participated as observers, and most recently in Exercise Ninfa '05, a joint maritime and ground interdiction exercise led by Portugal: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President is to be commended on the occasion of the second anniversary of the creation of the Proliferation Security Initiative for its broadening membership, increasing international support, and successful operational training and exercises;

(2) all the governments of countries coordinating and cooperating in intelligence sharing, training exercises, and legal agreements with the United States under the Proliferation Security Initiative, in particular the meetings of the PSI Operational Experts Group, are to be commended for their support in the global effort to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials;

(3) the Proliferation Security Initiative constitutes an important tool for coordinating diplomatic, law enforcement, customs, intelligence, and military capabilities against the illicit trade in weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials;

(4) all countries must work together, particularly under the auspices of the committee established pursuant to operative paragraph 4 of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, popularly called the "1540 Committee", to further the implementation of the provisions of Resolution 1540 relating to the international legal bases for continued, aggressive enforcement of all agreements, treaties, and regimes that aim through interdiction activities to end the illicit trade in weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials;

(5) the governments of all responsible countries should endorse the PSI Statement of Interdiction Principles and cooperate actively to interdict and disrupt illicit trade in weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials; and

(6) as evidenced in the historic December 19, 2003, decision of Libya to acknowledge and convert or dismantle its illegal weapons of mass destruction programs, the Proliferation Security Initiative can provide significantly enhanced enforcement of and adherence to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (commonly known as the "Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty"), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, with Annexes, done at Paris January 13, 1993, and entered into force April 29, 1997 (commonly known as the "Chemical Weapons Convention"), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, done at Washington, London, and Moscow April 10, 1972, and entered into force March 26, 1975 (commonly known as the "Bi-

ological Weapons Convention"), the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the commitments and control lists of the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, and the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 26, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "The Report to the Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies."

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 26, at 9:30 a.m., to consider comprehensive energy legislation.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 10:30 a.m., to hold a hearing on nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing on nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 26, 2005 at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

Agenda

I. Nominations Terrence W. Boyle, II, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit; Brett M. Kavanaugh, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia; Richard Griffin, to be U.S. Circuit Court Judge for the Sixth Circuit; David McKeague, to be U.S. Circuit Court Judge for the Sixth Circuit; Paul Clement, to be Solicitor General of the United States; Anthony Jerome Jenkins, to be U.S. Attorney for the