

What can be done is to make funds available to carry out programs to assist them. The legislation authorizes \$10 million to be allocated to individual medical facilities within VA, especially to those in rural areas without a long-term care facility, based upon the proposals submitted by the facilities. In efforts to evaluate the improvements made in caregiver assistance services, a report shall be submitted to Congress by the Secretary no later than a year after enactment of this bill. The report should include information on the allocation of funds to facilities and a description of the improvements made with the funds.

Let us meet these caregivers halfway by giving them the assistance they need to care for the veterans that depend on them. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this effort.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2753

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. IMPROVEMENT OF SERVICES FOR CAREGIVERS OF VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a program to expand and improve the services that assist caregivers of veterans, including veterans of the Global War on Terrorism.

(b) CAREGIVER ASSISTANCE SERVICES.—For purposes of this section, the term “caregiver assistance services” includes the following:

- (1) Adult-day health care services.
- (2) Coordination of services needed by veterans, including services for readjustment and rehabilitation.
- (3) Transportation services.
- (4) Caregiver support services, including education, training, and certification of family members in caregiver activities.
- (5) Home care services.
- (6) Respite care.
- (7) Hospice services.
- (8) Any modalities of non-institutional long-term care.

(c) FUNDING.—

(1) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—In carrying out the program required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall identify, from funds available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for medical care, an amount not less than \$10,000,000 to be available to carry out the program and to be allocated to facilities of the Department pursuant to subsection (d).

(2) MINIMUM ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—In identifying available amounts pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that, after the allocation of funds under subsection (d), the total expenditure for programs in support of caregiver assistance services for veterans is not less than \$10,000,000 in excess of the baseline amount.

(3) BASELINE AMOUNT.—For purposes of paragraph (2), the baseline amount is the amount of the total expenditures on programs in support of caregiver assistance services for veterans for the most recent fiscal year for which final expenditure amounts are known, adjusted to reflect any subsequent increase in applicable costs to support such services through the Veterans Health Administration.

(d) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall allocate funds identified

pursuant to subsection (c)(1) to individual medical facilities of the Department in such amounts as the Secretary determines appropriate based upon proposals submitted by such facilities for the use of such funds for improvements to the support of the provision of caregiver assistance services for veterans. Special consideration should be given to rural facilities, including those without a long-term care facility of the Department.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of this section. The report shall include information on the allocation of funds to facilities of the Department under subsection (d) and a description of the improvements made with funds so allocated to the support of the provision of caregiver assistance services for veterans.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 465—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO CHILDHOOD STROKE AND DESIGNATING MAY 6, 2006, AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD STROKE AWARENESS DAY”

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

S. RES. 465

Whereas a stroke, also known as a “cerebrovascular accident”, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by—

- (1) a clot in the artery; or
- (2) a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas 26 out of every 100,000 newborns and almost 3 out of every 100,000 children have a stroke each year;

Whereas an individual can have a stroke before birth;

Whereas stroke is among the top 10 causes of death for children in the United States;

Whereas 12 percent of all children who experience a stroke die as a result;

Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all age groups;

Whereas many children who experience a stroke will suffer serious, long-term neurological disabilities, including—

- (1) hemiplegia, which is paralysis of 1 side of the body;
- (2) seizures;
- (3) speech and vision problems; and
- (4) learning difficulties;

Whereas those disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries;

Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact on children, families, and society;

Whereas very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of childhood stroke;

Whereas medical research is the only means by which the citizens of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for childhood stroke; and

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of childhood stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 6, 2006, as “National Childhood Stroke Awareness Day”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to support the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy of organizations that work to enhance public awareness of childhood stroke, including—

(A) the Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association;

(B) the American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association; and

(C) the National Stroke Association.

SENATE RESOLUTION 466—DESIGNATING MAY 20, 2006, AS “NEGRO LEAGUERS RECOGNITION DAY”

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. TALENT, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. REID, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 466

Whereas even though African Americans were excluded from playing in the major leagues of their time with their white counterparts, the desire of many African Americans to play baseball could not be repressed;

Whereas Major League Baseball did not fully integrate its league until July 1959;

Whereas African Americans began organizing their own professional baseball teams in 1885;

Whereas the skills and abilities of Negro League players eventually made Major League Baseball realize the need to integrate the sport;

Whereas six separate baseball leagues, known collectively as the “Negro Baseball Leagues”, were organized by African Americans between 1920 and 1960;

Whereas the Negro Baseball Leagues included exceptionally talented players who played the game at its highest level;

Whereas on May 20, 1920, the Negro National League, the first successful Negro League, played its first game;

Whereas Andrew “Rube” Foster, on February 13, 1920, at the Paseo YMCA in Kansas City, Missouri, founded the Negro National League and also managed and played for the Chicago American Giants, and later was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas Leroy “Satchel” Paige, who began his long career in the Negro Leagues and did not make his Major League debut until the age of 42, is considered one of the greatest pitchers the game has ever seen, and during his long career thrilled millions of baseball fans with his skill and legendary showboating, and was later inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas Josh Gibson, who was the greatest slugger of the Negro Leagues, tragically died months before the integration of baseball, and was later inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas Jackie Robinson, whose career began with the Negro League Kansas City Monarchs, became the first African American to play in the Major Leagues in April 1947, was named Major League Baseball Rookie of the Year in 1947, subsequently led the Brooklyn Dodgers to 6 National League pennants and a World Series championship, and was later inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas Larry Doby, whose career began with the Negro League Newark Eagles, became the first African American to play in

the American League in July 1947, was an All-Star 9 times in Negro League and Major League Baseball, and was later inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil was a player and manager of the Negro League Kansas City Monarchs, became the first African American coach in the Major Leagues with the Chicago Cubs in 1962, served on the Veterans Committee of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, chairs the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum Board of Directors, and has worked tirelessly to promote the history of the Negro Leagues; and

Whereas by achieving success on the baseball field, African American baseball players helped break down color barriers and integrate African Americans into all aspects of society in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 20, 2006, as "Negro Leaguers Recognition Day"; and

(2) recognizes the teams and players of the Negro Baseball Leagues for their achievements, dedication, sacrifices, and contributions to both baseball and our Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 467—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD USE ALL DIPLOMATIC MEANS NECESSARY AND REASONABLE TO INFLUENCE OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS TO IMMEDIATELY INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION AND THAT THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY SHOULD SUBMIT TO CONGRESS A REPORT DETAILING THE ESTIMATED PRODUCTION LEVELS AND ESTIMATED PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF ALL MAJOR OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. FRIST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES 467

Resolved by the Senate, That is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President should use all diplomatic means necessary and reasonable to influence oil producing nations to immediately increase oil production levels to—

(A) increase the supply on the world market; and

(B) reduce the price of oil;

(2) a major oil-producing country is a country that—

(A) had an average level of production of crude oil, oil sands, or natural gas to liquids that exceeded 1,000,000 barrels per day during the previous calendar year; and

(B) has crude oil, shale oil, or oil sands reserves of at least 6,000,000,000 barrels, as recognized by the Department of Energy; and

(3) not later than June 30, 2006, the Secretary of Energy should submit to Congress a report detailing the estimated production levels and estimated production capacity of all major oil-producing countries.

SENATE RESOLUTION 468—SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED ADMINISTRATION OF CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK, INCLUDING SANTA ROSA ISLAND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS (INCLUDING REGULATIONS) AND POLICIES OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES 468

Whereas Channel Islands National Monument was designated in 1938 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt under the authority of the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 note);

Whereas the Monument was expanded to include additional islands and redesignated as Channel Islands National Park in 1980 to protect the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archaeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in California;

Whereas Santa Rosa Island was acquired by the United States in 1986 for approximately \$29,500,000 for the purpose of restoring the native ecology of the Island and making the Island available to the public for recreational uses;

Whereas Santa Rosa Island contains numerous prehistoric and historic artifacts and provides important habitat for several threatened and endangered species;

Whereas under a court-approved settlement, the nonnative elk and deer populations are scheduled to be removed from the Park by 2011 and the Island is to be restored to management consistent with other National Parks; and

Whereas there have been recent proposals to remove Santa Rosa Island from the administration of the National Park Service or to direct the management of the Island in a manner inconsistent with existing legal requirements and the sound management of Park resources: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) Channel Islands National Park, including Santa Rosa Island, should continue to be administered by the National Park Service in accordance with the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) and other applicable laws;

(2) the National Park Service should manage Santa Rosa Island in a manner that ensures that—

(A) the natural, scenic, and cultural resources of the Island are properly protected, restored, and interpreted for the public; and

(B) visitors to the Park are provided with a safe and enjoyable Park experience; and

(3) the National Park Service should not be directed to manage Santa Rosa Island in a manner—

(A) that would result in the public being denied access to significant portions of the Island; or

(B) that is inconsistent with the responsibility of the National Park Service to protect native resources within the Park, including threatened and endangered species.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a Senate resolution concerning Channel Islands National Park, with Senator BOXER as an original cosponsor.

We firmly believe that Channel Islands National Park, including Santa Rosa Island, should continue to be administered by the National Park Service in accordance with the laws, regula-

tions, and policies of the National Park Service, including the National Park Service Organic Act.

Channel Islands National Monument was designated in 1938 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt under the authority of the Antiquities Act.

The monument was expanded to include additional islands and redesignated as Channel Islands National Park in 1980 in order to protect the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archaeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in California.

Santa Rosa Island was acquired by the United States in 1986 for approximately \$30 million for the purpose of restoring its native ecology and making the island available to the public for recreational uses. The previous owners of the Island retained only an agreement for the non-commercial use and occupancy of a 7.6-acre parcel of land through 2011.

The non-native elk and deer population are to be removed from the park by 2011 under a court-approved settlement and the Island restored to management consistent with other national parks.

We introduce this resolution to express our concern with a provision that the House Armed Services Committee has included in the House version of the Defense authorization bill.

The provision would prohibit the Park Service from carrying out the court-approved settlement's direction to remove the population of non-native deer and elk.

To the contrary, we believe that Congress should not direct the National Park Service to manage Santa Rosa Island in a manner that would result in the public being denied access to significant portions of the Island for any substantial period of time.

If the Park Service is unable to manage the non-native deer and elk population, the population will likely be managed through the present practice of privately organized hunting editions that currently require the closure of about 90 percent of the Island to the general public for 4–5 months out of the year. The national parks belong to the American people, and the parks should remain freely open to the people.

We also believe that Congressional direction for Santa Rosa Island should not be inconsistent with the requirement to protect and enhance native park resources, including threatened and endangered species.

There are 11 endangered or threatened plant and animal species on the Island, many of which would be harmed by the proposal.

In particular, the bald eagle is at risk from eating carcasses containing lead bullets used by the hunters; the Santa Rosa Island fox is preyed upon by golden eagles attracted by fawns and other deer; and the Island's endangered plants are threatened by the deer and elk.

In addition, there are substantial archaeological resources on the Island