

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are the leading cause of cognitive disability in western civilization, including the United States, and are 100 percent preventable;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a major cause of numerous social disorders, including learning disabilities, school failure, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness, and crime;

Whereas the incidence rate of fetal alcohol syndrome is estimated at 1 out of 500 live births and the incidence rate of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders is estimated at 1 out of every 100 live births;

Whereas, although the economic costs of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are difficult to estimate, the cost of fetal alcohol syndrome alone in the United States was \$5,400,000,000 in 2003 and it is estimated that each individual with fetal alcohol syndrome will cost taxpayers of the United States between \$1,500,000 and \$3,000,000 in his or her lifetime;

Whereas, in February 1999, a small group of parents of children who suffer from fetal alcohol spectrum disorders came together with the hope that in 1 magic moment the world could be made aware of the devastating consequences of alcohol consumption during pregnancy;

Whereas the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day was observed on September 9, 1999;

Whereas Bonnie Buxton of Toronto, Canada, the co-founder of the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day, asked "What if . . . a world full of FAS/E [Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Effect] parents all got together on the ninth hour of the ninth day of the ninth month of the year and asked the world to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol . . . would the rest of the world listen?"; and

Whereas on the ninth day of the ninth month of each year since 1999, communities around the world have observed International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 9, 2007, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States—

(A) to observe National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day with appropriate ceremonies—

(i) to promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(ii) to increase compassion for individuals affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(iii) to minimize further effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol; and

(iv) to ensure healthier communities across the United States; and

(B) to observe a moment of reflection on the ninth hour of September 9, 2007, to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF FIREFIGHTERS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 286, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 286) recognizing the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain numerous wildfires throughout the Western United States.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor of the thousands of firefighters who, in recent weeks, have literally put themselves in the line of fire to protect our communities and rural economies from countless wildfires throughout the western United States.

For the second year in a row, western States have been plagued by continuous wildfires that far exceed those of average years. While July and August are typically considered the peak months for western wildfires, this year's fire season has been exacerbated by continued drought, record-high temperatures, widespread dry lightning storms, and high winds. As of July 23, more than 55,000 wildfires had been reported this year, burning over 4 million acres. That represents an increase of more than 8,000 fires and 1 million acres over the 10-year average.

My home State of Utah alone has reported nearly 700 separate wildfires that have burned nearly 700,000 acres. This includes the fire at the Milford Flats Complex, which burned more than 360,000 acres, easily making it Utah's largest wildfire on record and one of the largest of this year's fire season. Idaho is the only State that has been hit harder than Utah this fire season, reporting more than 700 fires that have burned more than 800,000 acres.

Utah and Idaho have not been alone in this recent spike of wildfire activity. The Milford Flats fire was ignited during a 3-day period that lasted from July 6th through July 8th, at time period in which more than 1,200 wildfires were ignited in the West as dry lightning storms swept across California, Nevada, Utah, and Southern Idaho. Despite these drastic conditions, Federal, State and local fire crews have been relentless in their efforts to control these wildfires, literally putting themselves between these infernos and our homes, our communities, and our resources.

I also want to express my heartfelt sympathies towards the hundreds of communities and thousands of families affected by this year's fires. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they begin the difficult task of cleaning up and returning their lives to normal.

At any given time, as many as 15,000 fire personnel are assigned to large, uncontained wildfires throughout the West. This year, and every year, these brave men and women overcome extremely volatile weather conditions and terrain to contain nearly 98 percent of all wildfires during their initial attack. That is why I am introducing a Senate Resolution recognizing the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain these dangerous fires in the West. Senators BENNETT, ENSIGN, WYDEN, DOMENICI, KYL, BARASSO, SALAZAR, CRAIG, and CANTWELL have joined me in cosponsoring this resolution. Clearly, this Senate Resolution already has strong bipartisan support, and I urge my remaining colleagues to lend their support.

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 286) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 286

Whereas the annual peak of the Western wildfire season occurs during July and August;

Whereas the 2007 Western wildfire season has been characterized by continued drought, record-setting temperatures, extreme fuel conditions, and widespread dry lightning storms;

Whereas firefighters have had to contend with extreme fire behavior and rapid rates of fire spread;

Whereas, as of July 23, 2007, more than 55,000 wildfires have burned more than 4,000,000 acres of land, which is more than 8,000 fires and 1,000,000 acres higher than the average reported fire rate over the last 10 years;

Whereas, from July 6 through July 8, 2007, more than 1,200 fires were ignited in the Western United States, most of which were caused by dry lightning storms that swept across California, Nevada, Idaho, and Utah;

Whereas, as of July 23, 2007—

(1) the State of Idaho has reported more than 760 fires that have burned more than 800,000 acres;

(2) the State of Utah has reported more than 670 fires that have burned more than 660,000 acres;

(3) the State of Nevada has reported more than 560 fires that have burned more than 510,000 acres;

(4) the State of Oregon has reported more than 1,200 fires that have burned nearly 212,000 acres;

(5) the State of California has reported more than 4,600 fires that have burned more than 117,000 acres;

(6) the State of Arizona has reported more than 1,600 fires that have burned more than 88,000 acres;

(7) the State of Washington has reported more than 680 fires that have burned more than 64,000 acres;

(8) the State of New Mexico has reported more than 870 fires that have burned nearly 35,000 acres;

(9) the State of Montana has reported more than 960 fires that have burned more than 19,000 acres;

(10) the State of Wyoming has reported more than 200 fires that have burned more than 18,000 acres; and

(11) the State of Colorado has reported more than 740 fires that have burned more than 7,400 acres;

Whereas, at any given time during the Western wildfire season, as many as 14,000 firefighters are assigned to large, uncontained fires throughout the Western United States; and

Whereas, despite tremendously volatile weather and terrain conditions, Federal, State, and local firefighting units have contained between 95 and 98 percent of all wildfires during initial attack: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain wildfires and protect lives, homes, and rural economies throughout the Western United States; and

(2) encourages the people and government officials of the United States to express their

appreciation to the brave men and women serving in the firefighting services.

HONORING THE 1ST BATTALION OF THE 133RD INFANTRY

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 287, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 287) honoring and expressing gratitude to the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry ("Ironman Battalion") of the Iowa National Guard.

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

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 287) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 287

Whereas 476 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard were mobilized for active duty in September and October of 2005;

Whereas 80 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have been providing essential support to the Battalion from Iowa National Guard installations in Waterloo, Iowa, and Dubuque, Iowa, and at least 490 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry were deployed to Iraq in April and May of 2006;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have been serving bravely and honorably since April and May of 2006 in the al-Anbar Province of Iraq, one of the most dangerous parts of Iraq;

Whereas the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry deployed as part of the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 34th Infantry Division, which has completed the longest continuous deployment of any National Guard unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry is the longest-serving Iowa Army National Guard unit since World War II;

Whereas the CBS program "60 Minutes" devoted an entire hour to telling the story of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry on May 27, 2007;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have completed over 500 missions, providing security for convoys operating in al-Anbar Province;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have logged over 4,000,000 mission miles, and have delivered over 1/3 of the fuel needed to sustain coalition forces in Iraq;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have detained over 60 insurgents;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry were scheduled to return home in April 2007, but had their tours of duty extended until July 2007;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry left behind civilian jobs,

friends, and families in order to serve the United States;

Whereas 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry members Sergeant 1st Class Scott E. Nisely and Sergeant Kampha B. Sourivong gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country when they were tragically killed during combat operations near Al Asad, Iraq, on September 30, 2006; and

Whereas the United States will be forever indebted to the soldiers and families of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry for their sacrifices and their contributions to the mission of the United States in Iraq: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors and expresses gratitude for the service and sacrifices of the members and families of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard upon the return home of the Battalion from its deployment in Iraq.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM PROJECT

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 276, S. Res. 236.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 236) supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem.

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

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 236) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 236

Whereas a Harris Interactive Survey discovered that of men and women 18 years of age and older, 61 percent of those surveyed did not know all the lyrics of the first stanza of the national anthem, and of those who answered the question affirmatively, 58 percent had received at least 5 years of music education while growing up;

Whereas an ABC News poll revealed that more than 1 in 3 Americans (38 percent) do not know that the official name of the national anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner", less than 35 percent of American teenagers can name Francis Scott Key as the author of the national anthem, and as few as 15 percent of American youth can sing the words to the anthem from memory;

Whereas the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner", holds a special place in the hearts and minds of the American people as a symbol of national unity, resolve, and willingness to sacrifice in order to preserve the Nation's sacred heritage of freedom;

Whereas the National Anthem Project has inspired the American people to have a greater appreciation of their patriotic musical heritage while learning American history;

Whereas music educators are the among the leading caretakers of this important piece of our Nation's heritage, in that many students learn the national anthem in music class;

Whereas our Nation's future is enhanced by the quality of the historic knowledge and awareness provided to children of all ages through learning about the national anthem, and that high-quality music education represents a worthy commitment to our children and our Nation's future; and

Whereas, the national anthem is the symbol of American ideals and freedom around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project;

(2) commends the American citizens who have participated in this project; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to learn the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner", and its proud history.

RECOGNIZING THE LONG DISTANCE RUNS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 255 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate 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. 255), recognizing and supporting the long distance runs that will take place in the People's Republic of China in 2007 and the U.S. in 2007 to promote friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

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

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 255) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 255

Whereas, in 1984, American long distance runner Stan Cottrell of Tucker, Georgia, was welcomed into the People's Republic of China where he completed the 2,125-mile Great Friendship Run along the Great Wall of China in 53 days, an event which was chronicled in the international press and serves as a sign of international friendship;

Whereas those involved in the Great Friendship Run over 2 decades ago are committed to running again to revisit the experience and to promote friendship between the peoples of China and the United States;

Whereas in China, a 2,200-mile run from the Great Wall of China to Hong Kong will take place October 15 to December 15, 2007;

Whereas in the United States, a 4,000-mile relay style run from San Francisco, California, to the United States Capitol Building