

global peacekeeping activities by sending a contingent of 250 soldiers to protect the Special Court for Sierra Leone, a platoon to participate in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) mission in Kosovo, and personnel to serve as United Nations observers in Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea;

Whereas the United States and Mongolia share an interest in promoting peaceful cooperation in south central Asia; and

Whereas Mongolia was named eligible for Millennium Challenge Compact assistance on May 6, 2004, submitted its official proposal on October 13, 2005, and had its proposal approved by the Millennium Challenge Corporation on September 12, 2007: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) the strength and endurance of the partnership between the United States and Mongolia should be acknowledged and celebrated;

(2) the United States should encourage continued economic cooperation with Mongolia, including in areas such as mining, construction, information technology, tourism, and meat processing, to the betterment of both our economies;

(3) the United States should continue to work with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank to improve Mongolia's economic system;

(4) the United States should provide Mongolia assistance under the Millennium Challenge Compact and work to finalize the compact in a timely fashion; and

(5) the United States should encourage greater academic and cultural exchanges with Mongolia.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, Mongolia has made incredible strides to improve its relationship with the United States since 1987. Following the downfall of communism in that nation, our ties have grown exponentially.

Mongolia has worked hard in the past two decades to create a robust and strong democracy and the United States has been a partner in that effort from its inception.

Although it lies on the other side of the globe and sits between Russia and China, Mongolia has long sought close ties with the United States, with some even referring to the United States as its “Third Neighbor.”

On the economic front, the United States-Mongolian relationship is dynamic and growing with over one hundred U.S. and U.S.-Mongolian joint ventures registered in areas ranging from oil exploration, textiles, animal husbandry, tourism, mining, and banking. The United States is also one of Mongolia's largest sources of foreign investment.

While a large recipient of foreign aid, Mongolia still commits itself to giving back to the global community through its significant peacekeeping efforts in Africa and Eastern Europe, with personnel in Sierra Leone and Kosovo.

Mongolia is also a strong partner in the War on Terror. Mongolia has contributed engineers, troops, and medical personnel to Operation Iraqi Freedom and has participated in training National Army artillery units in Afghanistan. Prior to 2000, Mongolia did not have a national policy of deploying forces beyond its borders. Yet they

were the first coalition country to contribute an infantry battalion to Iraq.

Mongolia's contributions mean a bit more to the State of Alaska. Since 2003, we have partnered with Mongolia through the Alaska-Mongolia National Guard Partnership. Our National Guard has established broad working relationships and increased exchanges with their Mongolian partners. They stand side by side with the Mongolian Armed Forces in Iraq—in fact, the Mongolian Ministry of Defense specifically requested Alaska National Guard support based on Alaska's relationship with their nation.

The success that the partnership has enjoyed is a direct reflection of the willingness and eagerness on both sides to further our relations. The Alaska National Guard tells me that Mongolia is enthusiastic about their democratic reforms and is aggressively working to meet its goals.

So with 2007 being the 20th Anniversary of U.S.-Mongolia relations, I am proud to introduce this resolution marking our ties and the significant progress that has been achieved between our two countries in that short time frame. I look forward to what the next 20 years will bring.

SENATE RESOLUTION 353—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF A SOVEREIGN, DEMOCRATIC, AND PROSPEROUS LEBANON AND THE NEED FOR FREE AND FAIR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN LEBANON WITHOUT INTIMIDATION OR FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

Mr. SUNUNU (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SMITH, Mr. BOND, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COBURN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 353

Whereas, in 2004, the term of the current President of Lebanon, Emile Lahoud, was extended through the interference of the Government of Syria in the internal affairs of the Government of Lebanon;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 1559, adopted on September 2, 2004, called for free and fair presidential elections in Lebanon conducted in accordance with the constitution of Lebanon and without foreign interference and influence;

Whereas such a presidential election has not yet occurred;

Whereas the Parliament of Lebanon is preparing to elect a new president of Lebanon before the November 24, 2007, conclusion of the mandate of the current President;

Whereas the Governments of Syria and Iran, through their proxies in Lebanon, have sought undue influence over the election of the next president of Lebanon;

Whereas the preparation for these elections has thus far been characterized by violence and intimidation tactics, and on September 19, 2007, Member of the Parliament of Lebanon Antoine Ghanem became the 8th Lebanese leader to be assassinated since 2005;

Whereas the democratically-elected Government of Lebanon has been under steady attack by domestic and foreign elements and forces that have been instigating civil unrest, disrupting the operation of the cabinet and Parliament, and perpetrating acts of terror against the people of Lebanon;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701, adopted on August 11, 2006, reiterated “strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders”, and called on states to “take the necessary measures to prevent . . . the sale or supply to any entity or individual in Lebanon of arms and related materiel of all types”;

Whereas President Lahoud has threatened to create an unconstitutional rival cabinet and hand over power to it if the opposition is not satisfied with the results of the constitutional electoral process;

Whereas the Governments of Syria and Iran, in clear contravention of numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions, have violated Lebanon's sovereignty by providing arms to illegitimate militias in Lebanon and to other terrorist organizations;

Whereas the armed forces of Lebanon are protecting Lebanon and its people from terrorist organizations like Fatah al Islam;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 1757 established a Special Tribunal for Lebanon, to be convened outside of Lebanon, to try those accused of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafiq Hariri and others; and

Whereas a sovereign, democratic, and prosperous Lebanon is in the national security interest of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls for free and fair presidential elections in Lebanon, conducted according to the constitution of Lebanon and free from foreign interference and influence or the use of intimidation tactics;

(2) supports ongoing efforts by leaders in Lebanon to reach agreement on a presidential candidate committed to upholding Lebanon's sovereignty and independence;

(3) condemns the Governments of Syria and Iran for their undue material interference in the internal political affairs of Lebanon, including in the election of a new president, and for their repeated violations of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon, and calls on the Governments of Syria and Iran to comply with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701, particularly with respect to preventing unauthorized shipment of arms into Lebanon;

(4) affirms its strong support for the armed forces of Lebanon as they work to secure Lebanon against terrorists and illegal armed militias, and conveys its readiness to provide support to assist in these ends;

(5) urges the Secretary of State to continue efforts in support of a Special Tribunal for Lebanon to end impunity for political assassinations, including assisting in efforts to convene the Special Tribunal as soon as possible, affirms its readiness to continue to provide material support to this cause, and calls on all countries to make timely and generous contributions to this end; and

(6) urges the President to use all peaceful means at the disposal of the United States to help promote an independent, democratic, and prosperous Lebanon, including increased diplomatic coordination with key partners in Europe and the Middle East, and supports efforts by the United States to provide ongoing and substantial assistance for reconstruction efforts in Lebanon.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50—COMMENDING NASA LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER IN VIRGINIA ON THE CELEBRATION OF ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 26 AND 27, 2007

Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. CON. RES. 50

Whereas, in 1917, the Nation's first civilian aeronautical research laboratory was established by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics in Virginia, and named Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory;

Whereas such laboratory, now called the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center, is one of the Nation's most prolific and most honored aerospace laboratories with a rich history of pioneering aviation breakthroughs, exploring the universe, and conducting ground breaking climate research;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center helped give birth to the space age by, among other accomplishments, conceiving and managing Project Mercury, the first United States manned space program, training the original 7 astronauts, proving the feasibility of the lunar orbiter rendezvous, developing the lunar excursion module concept and research facilities for simulating landing on the Moon, and successfully sending the first Viking landers and orbiters to Mars;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center is one of the leading aerospace research laboratories in the world and has consistently been a source of technology that has made aerospace a major factor in commerce and national defense;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center aeronautics research has benefitted the United States military tremendously through the application of new technologies to the Nation's military, commercial, and experimental aircraft;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center continues to make significant innovative contributions to aviation safety, efficient performance, and revolutionary vehicle designs for flight in all atmospheres, including developing key technologies for the next generation of air transportation systems;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center has contributed through its research over the past several decades critical technologies to the United States aviation industry, which is a vital sector of the economy that employs over 2,000,000 Americans and comprises roughly 9 percent of the country's gross national product;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center continues to provide critical research and development that advances the Nation's future in space exploration, scientific discovery, systems analysis, and aeronautics research while generating \$2,300,000,000 in revenue and 21,000 high-tech jobs for the United States economy;

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center is known for unparalleled technology transfer to both aerospace and non-aerospace businesses, and for its commitment to inspiring the next generation of explorers, both of which have enormous benefit to the public and the national economy; and

Whereas NASA Langley Research Center celebrates its 90th anniversary on October 26 and 27, 2007, and continues pioneering the next frontier in aeronautics and space: Now, therefore, be it

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

gratulates and commends the men and women of NASA Langley Research Center for their accomplishments and role in inspiring the American people.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 51—SUPPORTING “LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL!”, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. INOUYE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 51

Whereas high quality after school programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high quality after school programs support working families by ensuring that the children in such families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high quality after school programs build stronger communities by involving the Nation's students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of the Nation's youth, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high quality after school programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of the Nation's children;

Whereas “Lights On Afterschool!”, a national celebration of after school programs held on October 18, 2007, promotes the critical importance of high quality after school programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and 14,300,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas many after school programs across the United States are struggling to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress supports the goals and ideals of “Lights On Afterschool!” a national celebration of after school programs.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3350. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

SA 3351. Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3352. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3353. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3354. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3355. Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CASEY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. BAYH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3356. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3357. Mr. ROBERTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3358. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3359. Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3360. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3361. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. WEBB) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3362. Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. WEBB, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3363. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3364. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3365. Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra.

SA 3366. Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. GREGG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3367. Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3325 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) to the bill H.R. 3043, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3368. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr.