

EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2484, introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2484) to rename the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

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

NAME CHANGE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am hopeful we will approve tonight a bill I have authored with Senators MIKULSKI, ENZI and HARKIN, The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Development Act. This act will change the name of the National Institute of Child Health and Development to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Development.

Our bill honors a truly great American who has played a unique role in advancing children's health, and particularly in shaping how we treat individuals with intellectual disabilities. Few Americans have ever played such a profound role as Ms. Shriver has played in her life and it is entirely fitting that we rename NICHD on her behalf.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank Mr. HATCH for introducing this legislation, which I have joined as an original cosponsor. Ms. Shriver's contribution stands alone, both in terms of what she has done in terms of individuals with intellectual disabilities and their meaningful contribution in society as well as in advancing basic research at the National Institutes of Health. The National Institute of Child Health and Development was launched in the beginning of the Kennedy Administration and Ms. Shriver and her husband Sargent advocated for the institute when many knowledgeable scientists were willing to write off these individuals and advocated that the money spent at the NICHD would be better spent studying adult diseases. Ms. Shriver advocated for this research and I think it is fair to say without her advocacy the Institute would not be what it is today.

Mr. KENNEDY. I thank my colleagues for their support of this legislation. I also thank Senators MIKULSKI and HARKIN, who were other original cosponsors of this legislation. I will speak at a later time on the extraordinary difference that my sister, Eunice, has made in the lives of millions of Americans, but for now, I wish to comment on an aspect of the legislation before us. As we enact this legislation, I did want to make clear, that it is my understanding that nothing in this bill changes any authorities that

we provided NIH and its director in the NIH Reform Act that we passed last Congress. Specifically, this does not change any of the authorities of the Scientific Management Review Board or any other provisions provided in section 401 of that act.

Is that the intent and understanding of my colleagues as well?

Mr. HATCH. Yes, this legislation is only meant to change the name of the single institute within NIH and to have no other effect on the NIH or its organization.

Mr. ENZI. I agree. We do not intend this to change or signal any other change at NIH.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the legislation before us, S. 2484. This bill renames the National Institute of Child Health and Development at the NIH as the "Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Development".

This renaming bill was added during the HELP Committee markup to S. 1011, given that S. 1011 renamed two other Institutes at the National Institutes of Health. Senator HATCH, Senator MIKULSKI, and I sponsored this amendment, and it was unanimously accepted by the HELP Committee. Then, S. 1011 was unanimously voted out of Committee. We would like to have moved the entire bill, but unfortunately, we are not able to do that today due to some objections. Therefore, we are trying to get done what we can get done at the end of this session and simply moving the amendment that does not raise concerns with other members of this body.

I understand that it is unusual to rename an institute at NIH after an individual, but this is an unusual case. Ms. Shriver has long been associated with the National Institute of Child Health and Development, NICHD, and was an early champion of it.

NICHD was established in the 1960s by President Kennedy when he ushered in a "New Frontier" focusing on science and its potential for improving everyone's life. During the 1960s, we also learned of the biological causes of intellectual disabilities. At the same time, Ms. Shriver was an advocate for people with intellectual disabilities. With the help of her husband, Sargent, Ms. Shriver took on the challenge of improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and pursued that goal as a senior adviser to the President.

I suspect other Members will note her work with the Special Olympics. That is only a small portion of what she has done for individuals with intellectual disabilities. At the time of NICHD's creation, many leaders in the scientific community felt that money spent to research topics related to human development and intellectual disability would be better spent elsewhere. Ms. Shriver played a seminal role helping the scientific community, policymakers, and the general public recognize the importance of such research. She recognized that it was not just important for those with intellectual disabilities, but the research was a bridge to understanding broader, more general aspects of

human development. Therefore, it would not be an overstatement to say that, without Ms. Shriver's contribution, this institute would not exist.

Therefore, Mr. President, I rise today and ask for the support of my colleagues in recognizing the contributions of Ms. Shriver through quick enactment of this legislation, S. 2484.

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

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

The bill (S. 2484) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:
S. 2484

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

SECTION 1. EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since it was established by Congress in 1962 at the request of President John F. Kennedy, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has achieved an outstanding record of achievement in catalyzing a concentrated attack on the unsolved health problems of children and of mother-infant relationships by fulfilling its mission to—

(A) ensure that every individual is born healthy and wanted, that women suffer no harmful effects from reproductive processes, and that all children have the chance to achieve their full potential for healthy and productive lives, free from disease or disability; and

(B) ensure the health, productivity, independence, and well-being of all individuals through optimal rehabilitation.

(2) The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has made unparalleled contributions to the advancement of child health and human development, including significant efforts to—

(A) reduce dramatically the rates of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, infant mortality, and maternal HIV transmission;

(B) develop the Haemophilus Influenza B (Hib) vaccine, credited with nearly eliminating the incidence of mental retardation; and

(C) conduct intramural research, support extramural research, and train thousands of child health and human development researchers who have contributed greatly to dramatic gains in child health throughout the world.

(3) The vision, drive, and tenacity of one woman, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, was instrumental in proposing, passing, and enacting legislation to establish the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (Public Law 87-838) on October 17, 1962.

(4) It is befitting and appropriate to recognize the substantial achievements of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, a tireless advocate for children with special needs, whose foresight in creating the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development gave life to the words of President Kennedy, who wished to "encourage imaginative research into the complex processes of human development from conception to old age."

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.—The Public Health Service Act is amended—

(1) in section 401(b)(7) (42 U.S.C. 281(b)(7)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(2) in section 404B (42 U.S.C. 283d), by striking “National Institute for Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(3) in section 404E(a) (42 U.S.C. 283g(a)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(4) in section 409D(c)(1) (42 U.S.C. 284h(c)(1)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(5) in section 424(c)(3)(B)(vi) (42 U.S.C. 285b-7(c)(3)(B)(vi)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(6) in section 430(b)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 285c-4(b)(2)(B)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(7) in the heading of subpart 7 of part C of title IV (42 U.S.C. 285g et seq.), by striking the term “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” each place such term appears and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(8) in section 487B(a) (42 U.S.C. 288-2(a)), by striking “National Institute on Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(9) in section 519C(g)(2) (42 U.S.C. 290bb-25c(g)(2)), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”;

(10) in section 1122 (42 U.S.C. 300c-12), by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”.

(C) AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS.—

(1) COMPREHENSIVE SMOKING EDUCATION ACT.—Section 3(b)(1)(A) of the Comprehensive Smoking Education Act (15 U.S.C. 1341(b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”.

(2) ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY ACT.—Sections 242 and 243 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9252 and 9253) are amended by striking the term “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” each place such term appears and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”.

(3) ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.—The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by striking the terms “National Institute of Child Health and Human Development” and “National Institute for Child Health and Human Development” each place either term appears and inserting “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”.

(d) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, order, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the “National

Institute of Child Health and Human Development” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development”.

CALLING FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 391, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 391) calling on the President of the United States to engage in an open discussion with the leaders of the Republic of Georgia to express support for the planned presidential elections and the expectation that such elections will be held in a manner consistent with democratic principles.

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

Mr. HARKIN. 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, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 391) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 391

Whereas the Republic of Georgia, which is an emerging democracy strategically located between Turkey and Russia, is an important political and geopolitical ally of the United States;

Whereas Georgia has made significant economic progress since 2000, with an economic growth rate that now exceeds 9 percent on an annual basis, and was named the top economic reformer in the world by the World Bank in 2006;

Whereas the Government of Georgia has been a leader in addressing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction under the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program;

Whereas the Government of Georgia is working to become a candidate for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Union;

Whereas the United States Government strongly supports the territorial integrity of Georgia and works actively toward a peaceful settlement of the Abkhazia and South Ossetia conflicts that might lead those regions toward greater autonomy within a unified Georgia;

Whereas the popular uprising in Georgia in 2003, the Rose Revolution, led to the establishment of democracy in that country;

Whereas opposition parties in Georgia engaged in demonstrations lasting several days beginning on November 2, 2007;

Whereas the President of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili, declared a state of emergency on November 7, 2007, after which the coun-

try's main opposition television station, Imedi, was closed;

Whereas Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Matthew Bryza visited Georgia on November 10-11, 2007, and urged the Government of Georgia to reopen its private television stations, stating on Georgian state television: “A cornerstone of democracy is that all TV stations should remain open.”;

Whereas President Saakashvili ended emergency rule on November 17, 2007, and announced presidential elections to be held on January 5, 2008;

Whereas the Government of Georgia has announced the reopening of the major opposition television station, Imedi;

Whereas the Government of Georgia has invited international election monitors to oversee the elections and thereby contribute to greater international recognition of the Georgian political process; and

Whereas freedom of the press, freedom of political expression, and a fair and impartial judiciary are among the most fundamental tenets of democracy: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) the President should publicly state strong support for free and fair elections to be held in Georgia on January 5, 2008, in accordance with democratic principles; and

(2) the Government of Georgia, in order to restore faith in the democratic evolution of the country—

(A) must conduct free and fair elections, without government interference; and

(B) must permit all independent media to remain open and report on the elections.

MILO C. HUENPFNER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OUTPATIENT CLINIC

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Veterans' Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2408 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2408) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the “Milo C. Huempfer Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic”.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 2408) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

TO MODERNIZE VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 1396 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.