

the future disposal of the United States, and shall not be entered, located, or appropriated, for any other purpose whatever";

Whereas the Hot Springs Reservation was the first protected area in the United States;

Whereas the Act that authorized the establishment of the Hot Springs Reservation was enacted before the establishment of the Department of the Interior in 1849, and before the establishment of Yellowstone National Park as the first national park of the United States in 1872;

Whereas, in 1921, the Hot Springs Reservation was renamed "Hot Springs National Park" and became the 18th national park of the United States; and

Whereas the tradition of preservation and conservation that inspired the development of the National Park System, which now includes 390 units, began with the Act that authorized the establishment of the Hot Springs Reservation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That on 175th anniversary of the Act of Congress that authorized the establishment of the Hot Springs Reservation, the Senate recognizes the important contributions of the Hot Springs Reservation and the Hot Springs National Park to the history of conservation in the United States.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 138—HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEGACY OF CÉSAR ESTRADA CHÁVEZ

Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REID, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Judiciary:

S. RES. 138

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was born on March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona, where he spent his early years on his family's farm,

Whereas, at the age of 10, César Estrada Chávez joined the thousands of migrant farm workers laboring in fields and vineyards throughout the Southwest, when his family lost their farm due to a bank foreclosure;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez, after attending more than 30 elementary and middle schools and achieving an eighth-grade education, left to work full-time as a farm worker to help support his family;

Whereas, at the age of 17, César Estrada Chávez entered the United States Navy and served the Nation with distinction for 2 years;

Whereas, in 1948, César Estrada Chávez returned from military service to marry Helen Fabela, whom he met working in the vineyards of central California, and had 8 children;

Whereas, as early as 1949, César Estrada Chávez committed himself to organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing, and the outlawing of child labor;

Whereas, in 1952, César Estrada Chávez joined the Community Service Organization, a prominent Latino civil rights group, and worked to coordinate voter registration drives and conduct campaigns against discrimination in East Los Angeles, and later served as the national director of the organization;

Whereas, in 1962, César Estrada Chávez left the Community Service Organization to found the National Farm Workers Association, which eventually became the United Farm Workers of America;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was a strong believer in the principles of non-

violence practiced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez effectively utilized peaceful tactics, such as fasting in 1968 for 25 days, in 1972 for 25 days, and in 1988 for 38 days, to call attention to the terrible working and living conditions of farm workers in the United States;

Whereas, under the leadership of César Estrada Chávez, the United Farm Workers of America organized thousands of migrant farm workers to fight for fair wages, health care coverage, pension benefits, livable housing, and respect;

Whereas, through his commitment to non-violence, César Estrada Chávez brought dignity and respect to the farm workers who organized themselves, and became an inspiration and a resource to other people in the United States and people engaged in human rights struggles throughout the world;

Whereas the influence of César Estrada Chávez extends far beyond agriculture and provides inspiration for those working to better human rights, to empower workers, and to advance an American Dream that includes all its inhabitants of the United States;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez died on April 23, 1993, in San Luis, Arizona, only miles from his birthplace of 66 years earlier;

Whereas more than 50,000 people attended the funeral services of César Estrada Chávez in Delano, California, and he was laid to rest at the headquarters of the United Farm Workers of America, known as Nuestra Señora de La Paz, located in the Tehachapi Mountains at Keene, California;

Whereas, since his death, schools, parks, streets, libraries, and other public facilities, and awards and scholarships have been named in honor of César Estrada Chávez;

Whereas, since his death, 8 States and dozens of communities across the Nation honor the life and legacy of César Estrada Chávez on March 31 of each year, the day of his birth;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was a recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Prize during his lifetime, and after his death was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on August 8, 1994; and

Whereas the United States should not cease its efforts to ensure equality, justice, and dignity for all people in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the accomplishments and example of a great American hero, César Estrada Chávez;

(2) pledges to promote the legacy of César Estrada Chávez; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to commemorate the legacy of César Estrada Chávez, and to always remember his great rallying cry, "Sí, se puede!"

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, this week, our Nation comes together to honor one of our Nation's foremost civil rights and labor leader, César Estrada Chávez. I rise today, along with my colleague Senator KEN SALAZAR, to submit a resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of César Chávez.

César Estrada Chávez was born 80 years ago, on March 31, 1927, in Arizona to poor migrant farm workers. He and his family struggled to survive at a time when "Whites only" signs were still on display and when it was necessary to trade in his school books to support his family working full-time in the fields.

"But rather than just survive those times, César Chávez turned his experi-

ences into ammunition to help fight for a better life for all Americans, becoming one of our Nation's most inspirational leaders.

Following the principles of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., in 1962 César Chávez co-founded the first successful farm workers union in the United States—the United Farm Workers (UFW). Through the UFW, Chávez brought many farm workers together, including Mexican- and Filipino-Americans, to fight for common goals. He also inspired hope in these workers through his great rallying catchphrase, "Sí Se Puede."

In one of their major victories, after 5 years of boycotting table grapes, the United Farm Workers gained the first-ever collective bargaining agreement between farm workers and growers in the history of our country.

As the son of poor, working-class parents who were not afforded the benefits of a union, I am moved by César Chávez's selfless work on behalf of others. Remembering his legacy reinforces my belief that all hard-working individuals deserve the right to bargain collectively to achieve better wages, better health benefits and suitable working conditions.

I am happy that New Jersey has a proud labor tradition, which would not have been possible without people committed to fairness, social justice and equality. The legacy of César Chávez still resonates today, from the rural agricultural fields to the urban centers all across this Nation, and his achievements are an inspiration to all hard-working Americans who want to achieve a better quality of life.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy rightly said that César Chávez was "one of the heroic figures of our time," and I believe our resolution reinforces that statement. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and by doing so, acknowledge that César Chávez is truly an American hero.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 139—COMMENDING GENERAL PETER J. SCHOOMAKER FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY DEDICATION TO DUTY AND SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 139

Whereas General Peter J. Schoomaker, the 35th Chief of Staff of the United States Army, will be released from active duty in April 2007, after over 35 distinguished years of active Federal service;

Whereas General Schoomaker, a native of Wyoming, graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1969, served in a variety of command and staff assignments with both conventional and special operations forces, including participation in numerous combat operations, such as Desert One in Iran, Urgent Fury in Grenada, Just Cause in Panama, Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Southwest Asia, and Uphold Democracy in Haiti,

and supported various worldwide joint contingency operations, including those in the Balkans;

Whereas General Schoomaker has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, 2 Army Distinguished Service Medals, 4 Defense Superior Service Medals, 3 Legions of Merit, 2 Bronze Star Medals, 2 Defense Meritorious Service Medals, 3 Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge and HALO Wings, the Special Forces Tab, and the Ranger Tab;

Whereas General Schoomaker was recalled from retirement, spent the last 4 years of his career in the highest position attainable in the Army, and has proven himself a tremendous wartime leader who has demonstrated unselfish devotion to the Nation and the soldiers he leads;

Whereas General Schoomaker's efforts to prepare the Army to fight a long war today while transforming it for an uncertain and complex future have been unprecedented;

Whereas General Schoomaker has demonstrated strategic leadership and vision and has had a remarkably positive and lasting impact on the Army by leveraging the momentum of the Global War on Terror to accelerate the transformation of the Army;

Whereas General Schoomaker, through modularization, rebalancing the total Army, development of a force generation model, re-stationing, and restructuring the Future Combat Systems, kept the Army focused on developing capabilities to meet traditional, irregular, catastrophic, and disruptive challenges threatening the interests of the United States;

Whereas General Schoomaker recognized that technological and organizational change requires intellectual and emotional transformation and tirelessly cultivated a learning and adaptive Army culture, while reaffirming the predominance of the human dimension of war;

Whereas General Schoomaker reflected the spirit of the warrior ethos he sought to instill in the United States Army—always placing the mission first, never accepting defeat, never quitting, and never leaving a fallen comrade;

Whereas General Schoomaker exemplifies the nonnegotiable characteristics exhibited by all great leaders—a strong sense of duty, honor, courage, and a love of country;

Whereas General Schoomaker has been selfless in his service to the Nation through peace and war;

Whereas one of General Schoomaker's predecessors, George C. Marshall, once remarked that "it is not enough to fight, it is the spirit we bring to the fight that decides the issue"; and

Whereas when history looks back at the Army's 35th Chief of Staff, it will be clear that he had the spirit at a critical time in the Nation's history: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends General Peter J. Schoomaker for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States throughout his distinguished career in the U.S. Army; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to General Peter J. Schoomaker.

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 25—CONDEMNING THE RECENT VIOLENT ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE AGAINST PEACEFUL OPPOSITION PARTY ACTIVISTS AND MEMBERS OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. DODD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 25

Whereas in 2005 the Government of Zimbabwe launched Operation Murambatsvina ("Operation Throw Out the Trash") against citizens in major cities and suburbs throughout Zimbabwe, depriving over 700,000 people of their homes, businesses, and livelihoods;

Whereas on March 11, 2007, opposition party activists and members of civil society attempted to hold a peaceful prayer meeting to protest the economic and political crisis engulfing Zimbabwe, where inflation is running over 1,700 percent and unemployment stands at 80 percent and in response to President Robert Mugabe's announcement that he intends to seek reelection in 2008 if nominated;

Whereas opposition activist Gift Tandare died on March 11, 2007, as a result of being shot by police while attempting to attend the prayer meeting and Itai Manyeruke died on March 12, 2007, as a result of police beatings and was found in a morgue by his family on March 20, 2007;

Whereas under the direction of President Robert Mugabe and the ZANU-PF government, police officers, security forces, and youth militia brutally assaulted the peaceful demonstrators and arrested opposition leaders and hundreds of civilians;

Whereas Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) leader Morgan Tsvangirai was brutally assaulted and suffered a fractured skull, lacerations, and major bruising; MDC member Sekai Holland, a 64-year-old grandmother, suffered ruthless attacks at Highfield Police Station, which resulted in the breaking of her leg, knee, arm, and three ribs; fellow activist Grace Kwinje, age 33, also was brutally beaten, while part of one ear was ripped off; and Nelson Chamisa was badly injured by suspected state agents at Harare airport on March 18, 2007, when trying to board a plane for a meeting of European Union and Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States lawmakers in Brussels, Belgium;

Whereas Zimbabwe's foreign minister warned Western diplomats that the Government of Zimbabwe would expel them if they gave support to the opposition, and said Western diplomats had gone too far by offering food and water to jailed opposition activists;

Whereas victims of physical assault by the Government of Zimbabwe have been denied emergency medical transfer to hospitals in neighboring South Africa, where their wounds can be properly treated;

Whereas those incarcerated by the Government of Zimbabwe were denied access to legal representatives and lawyers appearing at the jails to meet with detained clients were themselves threatened and intimidated;

Whereas at the time of Zimbabwe's independence, President Robert Mugabe was hailed as a liberator and Zimbabwe showed bright prospects for democracy, economic development, domestic reconciliation, and prosperity;

Whereas President Robert Mugabe and his ZANU-PF government continue to turn

away from the promises of liberation and use state power to deny the people of Zimbabwe the freedom and prosperity they fought for and deserve;

Whereas the staggering suffering brought about by the misuse of Zimbabwe has created a large-scale humanitarian crisis in which 3,500 people die each week from a combination of disease, hunger, neglect, and despair;

Whereas the Chairman of the African Union, President Alpha Oumar Konare, expressed "great concern" about Zimbabwe's crisis and called for the need for the scrupulous respect for human rights and democratic principles in Zimbabwe;

Whereas the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Council of Non-governmental Organizations stated that "We believe that the crisis has reached a point where Zimbabweans need to be strongly persuaded and directly assisted to find an urgent solution to the crisis that affects the entire region.";

Whereas Zambian President, Levy Mwanawasa, has urged southern Africa to take a new approach to Zimbabwe instead of the failed "quiet diplomacy", which he likened to a "sinking Titanic," and stated that "quiet diplomacy has failed to help solve the political chaos and economic meltdown in Zimbabwe";

Whereas European Union and African, Caribbean, and Pacific lawmakers strongly condemned the latest attack on an opposition official in Zimbabwe and urged the government in Harare to cooperate with the political opposition to restore the rule of law; and

Whereas United States Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Christopher Dell, warned that opposition to President Robert Mugabe had reached a tipping point because the people no longer feared the regime and believed they had nothing left to lose: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) it is the sense of Congress that

(A) the state-sponsored violence taking place in Zimbabwe represents a serious violation of fundamental human rights and the rule of law and should be condemned by all responsible governments, civic organizations, religious leaders, and international bodies; and

(B) the Government of Zimbabwe has not lived up to its commitments as a signatory to the Constitutive Act of the African Union and African Charter of Human and Peoples Rights which enshrine commitment to human rights and good governance as foundational principles of African states; and

(2) Congress—

(A) condemns the Government of Zimbabwe's violent suppression of political and human rights through its police force, security forces, and youth militia that deliberately inflict gross physical harm, intimidation, and abuse on those legitimately protesting the failing policies of the government;

(B) holds those individual police, security force members, and militia involved in abuse and torture responsible for the acts that they have committed;

(C) condemns the harassment and intimidation of lawyers attempting to carry out their professional obligations to their clients and repeated failure by police to comply promptly with court decisions;

(D) condemns the harassment of foreign officials, journalists, human rights workers, and others, including threatening their expulsion from the country if they continue to provide food and water to victims detained in prison and in police custody while in the hospital;