

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (S. 682) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 682

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Edward William Brooke III Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Edward William Brooke III was the first African American elected by popular vote to the United States Senate and served with distinction for 2 terms from January 3, 1967, to January 3, 1979.

(2) In 1960, Senator Brooke began his public career when Governor John Volpe appointed him chairman of the Boston Finance Commission, where the young lawyer established an outstanding record of confronting and eliminating graft and corruption and proposed groundbreaking legislation for consumer protection and against housing discrimination and air pollution.

(3) At a time when few African Americans held State or Federal office, Senator Brooke became an exceptional pioneer, beginning in 1962, when he made national and State history by being elected Attorney General of Massachusetts, the first African American in the Nation to serve as a State Attorney General, the second highest office in the State, and the only Republican to win statewide in the election that year, at a time when there were fewer than 1,000 African American officials in our nation.

(4) He won office as a Republican in a state that was strongly Democratic.

(5) As Massachusetts Attorney General, Senator Brooke became known for his fearless and honest execution of the laws of his State and for his vigorous prosecution of organized crime.

(6) The pioneering accomplishments of Edward William Brooke III in public service were achieved although he was raised in Washington, DC at a time when the Nation’s capital was a city where schools, public accommodations, and other institutions were segregated, and when the District of Columbia did not have its own self-governing institutions or elected officials.

(7) Senator Brooke graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School and went on to graduate from Howard University in 1941.

(8) Senator Brooke’s enduring advocacy for self-government and congressional voting rights for the citizens of Washington, DC has roots in his life and personal experience as a native Washingtonian.

(9) Senator Brooke served for 5 years in the United States Army in the segregated 366th Infantry Regiment during World War II in the European theater of operations, attaining the rank of captain and receiving a Bronze Star Medal for “heroic or meritorious achievement or service” and the Distinguished Service Award.

(10) After the war, Senator Brooke attended Boston University School of Law, where he served as editor of the school’s Law Review, graduating with an LL.B. in 1948 and an LL.M. in 1949, and made Massachusetts his home.

(11) During his career in Congress, Senator Brooke was a leader on some of the most critical issues of his time, including the war in Vietnam, the struggle for civil rights, the shameful system of apartheid in South Africa, the Cold War, and United States’ relations with the People’s Republic of China.

(12) President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Senator Brooke to the President’s Commission on Civil Disorders in 1967, where his work on discrimination in housing would serve as the basis for the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

(13) Senator Brooke continued to champion open housing when he left the Senate and became the head of the National Low-Income Housing Coalition.

(14) Senator Brooke has been recognized with many high honors, among them the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004, an honor that recognizes “an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors”; the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit from the Government of Italy; a State courthouse dedicated in his honor by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, making him the first African American to have a State courthouse named in his honor; the NAACP Spingarn Medal; and the Charles Evans Hughes award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

(15) Senator Brooke’s biography, *Bridging The Divide: My Life*, was published in 2006, and he is the author of *The Challenge of Change: Crisis in Our Two-Party System*, published in 1966.

(16) Senator Brooke became a racial pioneer, but race was never at the center of his political campaigns.

(17) He demonstrated to all that with commitment, determination, and strength of character, even the barriers once thought insurmountable can be overcome.

(18) He has devoted his life to the service of others, and made enormous contributions to our society today.

(19) The life and accomplishments of Senator Brooke is inspiring proof, as he says, that “people can be elected on the basis of their qualifications and not their race”.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Edward William Brooke III in recognition of his unprecedented and enduring service to our Nation.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund, such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant to this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—HONORING CESAR ESTRADA CHAVEZ

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of a resolution submitted earlier today honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez; that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, and I will have to object, we have been working on some modifications and have not been able to reach agreement yet, so therefore I must object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

REMEMBERING CESAR CHAVEZ

Mr. DURBIN. A great man once said, “We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community . . . Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.”

Those are the words of Cesar Chavez.

His friend, Robert Kennedy, once called Cesar Chavez “one of the heroic figures of our time.”

He was a man of uncommon moral courage, a disciple of nonviolence who believed deeply in the promise of American democracy. He sacrificed much to extend that promise to some of the poorest people in America: farm workers.

“Yes, we can.” That was Cesar Chavez’s message to people who had felt powerless against the crushing

hand of fate. Yes, we can make a better life for ourselves and our children. Yes, we can overcome injustice, without resorting to violence.

His words and his work inspired not only the Latino farmworkers with whom he lived but all Americans.

This coming Saturday, March 31, would have been Cesar Chavez's 80th birthday. In California, where his birthday is a legal holiday, and in homes and communities throughout our Nation, Americans will pause over the next few days to remember and celebrate the life and legacy of this great man.

Cesar Chavez was the founder of the United Farm Workers Union, a labor and civil rights leader. He established the first collective bargaining agreement between farmworkers and growers in the United States. That agreement allowed farmworkers to negotiate for safer and better working conditions—for such simple, basic human needs such as the right to a drink of clean water after hours working in a hot field.

In 1993, at the age of 66, Cesar Chavez died—his great heart weakened by the many fasts he had conducted to call attention to the plight of farmworkers. But his legacy lives on.

In a time when our Nation is at war and the income and equality gaps are again widening in America, we would do well to remember the lessons of peace and social justice from the life of Cesar Chavez.

There is no better way to promote his legacy than to continue these teachings in our communities and especially among our young people.

In my State of Illinois, schools set aside 1 day in the month of March as "Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning." It is an idea that was introduced by our Lieutenant Governor, Pat Quinn, in 2004. Students in kindergarten through high school learn about Cesar Chavez's life and beliefs in the classroom, and they also learn about his ethic of service and social responsibility by participating in community service projects.

Here in Congress, as we debate the war, the Federal budget, and other matters that affect the lives of so many people so profoundly, perhaps we should have our own Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning.

We would do well to remember his challenge: "We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community . . . Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own."

Can we make America better, more just—a more perfect union? In the words of Cesar Chavez, "Yes, we can." It is not easy, but it can be done. And it is up to each of us to try.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF BRADLEY UDALL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

NOMINATION OF ROGER ROMULUS MARTELLA, JR. TO BE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the nominations reported out earlier today by the Environment and Public Works Committee: PN 110, Bradley Udall to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship Foundation; PN 53, Roger Romulus Martella, Jr. to be assistant administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

MORRIS K. UDALL SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL POLICY FOUNDATION

Bradley Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence In National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2012.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Roger Romulus Martella, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 10; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date; the morning hour be deemed expired; and the time of the two leaders be reserved for use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to

speak for up to 10 minutes each; with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Republicans, and the final 30 minutes under the control of the majority; that following morning business, the Senate proceed to consider the two stem cell bills, as provided for under a previous order entered by the President earlier today.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. I would also say, Mr. President, that I have conferred with the Republican leader, and there is no reason that we will have any votes scheduled for Tuesday, the day we return. Monday is a legal holiday, and Tuesday we are going to start the stem cell debate. The debate on that will last for at least 2 days, so there is no reason we will need to come back for a vote on Tuesday. People will have plenty to do here, and the vote would just interrupt that.

I have told the Republican leader, and he acknowledges that is probably the right thing to do. So we will have no votes on Tuesday. The first vote will be sometime on Wednesday.

If there is no further business today, I would turn to the Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would just say to the majority leader that I agree there is no necessity to have a vote on Tuesday, the week after next, and I think we will proceed with the debate on the stem cell proposals and be ready to vote on Wednesday.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I failed to announce, but it was very important, those numbers that we read off were two very important ambassadorships: Ford M. Fraker, to be the Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Zalmay Khalilzad, who, of course, has served so well in Iraq and is now going to be the Ambassador to the United Nations. That is very important, and I am glad we did that.

One thing I did not mention is, for all Senators and staff, our Democratic caucus, which is normally held on Tuesday, we are going to have that on Wednesday. It is obvious now, with no votes on Tuesday, that is probably the right thing to do. So, for all Democrats, we will have our caucus on Wednesday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, likewise on this side of the aisle, we will be having our policy luncheon, which normally happens on Tuesday, on Wednesday. We have already notified our members of that, but it bears repeating here today.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2007, AT 10 A.M.

Mr. REID. I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 103.