

pieces of legislation. In fact, there are some provisions that I oppose. Though not perfect, these bills are an important first step toward achieving access to health services for all Americans.

REQUEST FOR SEQUENTIAL REFERRAL

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have my letter of June 12, 2007, to Senator REID printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,
Washington, DC, June 12, 2007.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. LEADER: Pursuant to paragraph 3(b) of Senate Resolution 400 of the 94th Congress, I request that S. 1547, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, and its companion measure, S. 1548, the Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, both of which were filed by the Committee on Armed Services on June 5, 2007, be sequentially referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence for a period of 10 days, as calculated under S. Res. 400. The basis for this request is that the bills contain matters within the jurisdiction of the Select Committee.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
Chairman.

CBO STUDIES

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, today there is a great deal of debate about how Americans are doing, in particular those considered low income. I rise today to dispel a major misconception about the progress of low-income Americans. Those on the other side of the aisle would have you believe that when one person does better it must be at the expense of another. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, when Congress adopts policies that encourages individuals to work harder, save, take risks, and invest more, the economy does better and everyone benefits. Two recent studies I requested from CBO prove a rising tide does lift all boats.

The first report issued in December, entitled "Changes in Low Wage Labor Markets Between 1979 and 2005," found that the inflation adjusted hourly earnings of U.S. workers was 10 percent higher now than back in 1979. Since 1990 those in the bottom 10th percentile of wage earners witnessed their inflation adjusted wages increase 12.8 percent, more than 2.5 percentage points faster than those in the statistical middle.

CBO's second report entitled "Changes in the Economic Resources of Low-Income Households with Children" indicates that poor households with children experienced real earnings gains of 80 percent since 1991, outpacing even those in the top income quintile whose earnings grew 54 per-

cent. This fact is even more amazing viewed in the context of welfare reform.

Those opposing welfare reforms in the mid 1990s argued that limiting direct Government assistance and requiring low-income people to work more would prove to be disastrous. However, low-income households with children now rely less on the Government, are more self reliant and have a higher standard of living. In 1991, low-income households relied on the Government for a majority of their income with earnings accounting for just 49 percent. Today, low-income households earn 65 percent of their income and rely on Government assistance for the remainder. Female headed households also rely less on the Government for their livelihood. In 1991, 35 percent of their income was earned compared with 54 percent now. The share of their income derived from AFDC or TANF fell from 42 percent in 1991 to 7 percent in 2005.

These two studies prove that when the Government interferes less in the lives of its citizens, they are more productive. Once unencumbered by Government, people are motivated to work harder, save, and invest more.

PASSING OF ADEN ABDULLE OSMAN

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express sorrow on behalf of the Somali community of Minnesota, which is currently mourning the death of an important figure for Somalia, former President Aden Abdulle Osman. Aden Abdulle Osman, known by many Somalis as Aden Adde, passed away at the age of 99 on June 7, 2007.

Aden Abdulle Osman became the first President of Somalia in 1960 after the country gained its independence on July 1. Mr. Osman served as President of the newly formed Somalia until June 10, 1967. President Osman led his country during the critical time of its formation and development into a full-fledged state. When he lost the Presidential election in 1967, President Osman graciously ceded his position to his opponent, Abdirashid Ali Shermarke. In doing so, Aden Abdulle Osman set an example for the peaceful transfer of democratic power, which is a critical aspect of all democratic systems. For this reason, Aden Abdulle Osman is viewed throughout Somalia and Africa as a model of statesmanship that seeks the greater good.

I am privileged to represent the State that has the largest Somali community in the U.S. The Somalis of Minnesota represent a thriving community that has enriched the fabric of our State through its vibrant culture. I would like to join my Somali constituents in expressing sorrow for Aden Abdulle Osman's death. It is my sincere hope that the current leaders of Somalia will look to his leadership as an example, and that such leadership will serve to usher Somalia towards peace, stability and democracy.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MODESTO'S NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding National Night Out program in Modesto, CA. For the past 6 years, the city of Modesto has either ranked first or second in the Nation in National Night Out participation among cities with populations of 100,000 to 299,999.

Since its inception in 1983, National Night Out has brought millions of Americans together to take a united stand against crime and send a clear message to criminals that citizens and neighborhoods are committed to crime prevention. National Night Out has played an instrumental role in helping to raise crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anticrime programs, and perhaps most importantly, improve neighborhood spirit and strengthen community-police partnerships.

In 2006, more than 35.2 million people and 11,125 communities from all 50 States, U.S. territories, and military bases worldwide participated in the National Night Out campaign. Conscientious citizens, law enforcement agencies and civic groups came together to participate in a variety of festive events and activities such as block parties, ice cream socials, flashlight walks, and visits from law enforcement and other public agencies to help promote the importance of community involvement in local crime-fighting programs.

In Modesto, 123 neighborhoods participated in National Night Out last year, making it the Nation's leader among cities with populations of 100,000 to 299,999. The city of Modesto is a shining example of the importance of community and cooperation in local crime-fighting efforts.

As the residents of Modesto gather for another successful National Night Out campaign, I would like to congratulate and commend its citizens, civic leaders, and the Modesto Police Department for their leadership and willingness to help make their city a safer and better place to call home. •

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SACRAMENTO HIGH SCHOOL

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I am pleased to recognize the 150th anniversary of Sacramento High School in Sacramento County, CA.

On September 1, 1856, as the Gold Rush came to an end in California and miners migrated into newly formed cities, Sacramento High School opened its doors and began a long tradition of quality education. As the second oldest high school west of the Mississippi, Sacramento High School is a historical landmark and symbol of a quality educational institution in California's capital city.

Sac High, as it is locally known, has been the alma mater of a wide range of notable alumni including NBA great Kevin Johnson, Pulitzer Prize winner Herb Caen, and a number of distinguished Californians, including former California Governor Hiram Johnson.

Most recently, nearly 100 percent of the senior class will have the opportunity to pursue a post secondary education, 70 percent of whom have been accepted to a public or private 4-year college. Sac High's Dragons have also accumulated many championships in a variety of athletics over the years, including the recent San-Joaquin Division III Championship that both men's and women's basketball teams have won.

As the school and the community celebrate Sac High's sesquicentennial, I would like to congratulate the past and present students, faculty, and administrators who upheld Sacramento High School's traditions and campus pride for the last century and a half and wish them another 150 years of success.●

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

● Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I wish to recognize three great students from New Mexico today. These three students have harnessed their creativity and skills to produce amazing projects which were displayed today at the National Portrait Gallery in honor of National History Day. What a great achievement for these students to be selected out of 500,000 entries to be showcased in the National Portrait Gallery.

Shannon Burns, from Los Alamos Middle school, has put together a 10-minute documentary on Irish immigration and how it contributed to the American Civil War while Ryan Andrews-Armijo and Ashley Page from Moriarity Middle School contributed a documentary on the racial tensions and the triumph over those obstacles, of the 1966 Texas Western College basketball team. I was incredibly honored to meet with these three individuals earlier today, and I am impressed by their projects and their tenacity. I am proud to see these kids learn and put into action what they have learned at school and beyond.

I was also very pleased to hear of 44 other students, in total, from New Mexico participating in the National History Day contest in Maryland today. It is quite impressive to see how well New Mexico was represented in this nationwide contest.

National History Day is an academic organization for elementary and secondary children that has been celebrating history for over 25 years now. This exceptional scholarship program gives kids the opportunity to research a historical event and put that research into a format for others to enjoy. This is a great way for our children to learn and explore history while also putting their creativity to work.

History is one of the cornerstone subjects taught in America's schools today. When students learn about the past, they are taught how to handle the future.

National History Day gives us a unique opportunity to reflect on our past and appreciate where we, as Americans, come from. History makes us who we are, it defines us. We must not forget our history. Learning history is as important today in our schools as it ever was. We must always be stewards of continual learning from our mistakes and victories.

Congratulations again to the amazing students participating in this great commemoration of history.●

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY PROJECTS

● Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize and congratulate students Natalie Haworth and Trenton Knight from Dill City High School in Burns Flat, OK, and Libby Trusty from Verdigris High School in Claremore, OK. These students have been selected to present their award winning National History Day projects in Washington, DC, today. Each project reflects on this year's National History Day theme, "Triumphs and Tragedies in History."

Haworth and Knight have been selected to present their history project at the White House Visitor's Center. Trusty has been selected to present her project at the National Archives and Records Administration. Their projects were selected by the National History Day program from hundreds of thousands nationwide.

Haworth's and Knight's project, "Land Divided—World United," is a depiction of the historical creation of the Panama Canal. The exhibit begins with the original vision to construct a channel through Central America and extends all the way to the completion and proposed expansion of the Panama Canal.

Trusty is presenting a U.S. Supreme Court case which addressed the controversial issue of equal educational opportunities available throughout American history. Fisher v. University of Oklahoma Board of Regents was one of the unfamiliar but significant cases that ultimately led to the landmark decision to desegregate schools in America.

I believe it is important for students to be informed and educated about the milestones of American history, because it will strengthen them as our country's future leaders and provide them with the knowledge to continue to lead our Nation as our Founding Fathers intended. History is an integral part of the education of future generations of Americans, and I would like to commend the National History Day program for empowering teachers to improve history education and influencing students to follow these Oklahoma students' exemplary example.●

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW MARIUTTO

● Mr. MARTINEZ. Madam President, today I recognize and congratulate Floridian Matthew Mariutto for his outstanding work and achievement in the study of history, and specifically, for his award-winning documentary on Apollo I.

Each year, more than half a million students compete for recognition in the National History Day program. Students are given a general theme and the freedom to develop a presentation to present to the judges. This year's National History Day theme is "Triumph and Tragedy in History." This exercise develops and enhances a student's abilities for critical thinking and problem solving skills, research and reading skills, oral and written communication, self-esteem and self confidence.

Based on the quality and accuracy of their projects, this year, around 2,000 finalists were chosen. Of that group, 22 students were given the privilege of presenting their projects at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery here in Washington, DC.

Matthew Mariutto has been selected to present his documentary on "Worth the Risk of Life: The Tragedy and Triumph of Apollo I." Matthew attends American Heritage School in Plantation, and his teacher is Leslie Porges.

History—and the teaching of its lessons—is an integral part of the education of future generations of Americans. I would like to commend the National History Day program for empowering teachers to bring history alive through innovative teaching methods and outside-of-the-classroom learning opportunities. I would also like to congratulate again, Matthew Mariutto, for his fine work.

Matthew, you have earned the admiration of the Sunshine State. Additionally, your teachers and school deserve a great deal of appreciation for contributing to your education.

Congratulations on a job well done.●

RECOGNIZING KELSEY TATE

● Mr. MARTINEZ. Madam President, today I recognize and congratulate Floridian Kelsey Tate for her outstanding work and achievement in the study of history, and specifically, for her award-winning performance on Alfred Nobel.

Each year, more than half a million students compete for recognition in the National History Day program. Students are given a general theme and the freedom to develop a presentation to present to the judges. This year's National History Day theme is "Triumph and Tragedy in History." This exercise develops and enhances a student's abilities for critical thinking and problem solving skills, research and reading skills, oral and written communication, self-esteem and self confidence.