

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Jerome F. Kever, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board for a term expiring August 28, 2008.

Michael Schwartz, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board for a term expiring August 28, 2012.

Virgil M. Speakman, Jr., of Ohio, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board for a term expiring August 28, 2009.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate returns to legislative session.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RUTH BELL GRAHAM

CONDEMNING THE MILITARY JUNTA IN BURMA

HONORING THE FIREFIGHTERS IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed en bloc to the consideration of three resolutions submitted earlier today, S. Res. 249, S. Res. 250, and S. Res. 251, that the resolutions be considered and agreed to en bloc, the preambles be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, the consideration of these items appear separately in the RECORD, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. RES. 249

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham was born on June 10, 1920 in Qingjiang, China, the daughter of Presbyterian medical missionaries;

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham returned to the United States to attend Wheaton College, where she met and fell in love with her future husband, Billy Graham, who would become one of the most acclaimed evangelists in the world;

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham married Billy Graham on August 13, 1943 at Montreat Presbyterian Church in her beloved Western North Carolina;

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham was the devoted mother of five children (Virginia, Anne, Ruth, Franklin, and Nelson Edman) and the grandmother of 19 grandchildren;

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham was a renowned author and poet who penned 14 books that have moved and inspired people around the globe;

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham and Billy Graham were recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal in 1996 for their "outstanding and lasting contributions to morality, racial equality, family, philanthropy, and religion"; and

Whereas Ruth Bell Graham touched countless lives worldwide by sharing her tremendous faith, her deep compassion for the less fortunate, her great talents and her light-hearted wit.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life, work, and legacy of Ruth Bell Graham, a

loyal companion who shined with grace and courage beside her husband Billy Graham, and a dedicated mother who fostered individuality and humility in her five children.

S. RES. 250

Whereas Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has dedicated her life to the peaceful, non-violent movement for democracy and reconciliation in the Union of Burma;

Whereas Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy won a majority of parliamentary seats in Burma's last election held in 1990;

Whereas the State Peace and Development Council of Burma refuses to cede power and permit representative government and has detained Aung San Suu Kyi under house arrest for 11 of the last 17 years;

Whereas the ruling military junta has committed numerous, well-documented atrocities against the people of Burma;

Whereas Aung San Suu Kyi continues to promote peaceful dialogue and reconciliation despite mistreatment from the State Peace and Development Council;

Whereas the United States recognizes and supports the dedication and commitment to freedom demonstrated by Aung San Suu Kyi: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi for her courage and devotion to the people of the Union of Burma and their struggle for democracy; and

(2) calls for the immediate release of Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners by the State Peace and Development Council.

S. RES. 251

Whereas at approximately 7:00 p.m. on June 18, 2007, a tragic fire started at the Sofa Super Store in Charleston, South Carolina;

Whereas despite the flames that engulfed the building, the brave men and women of the Charleston Fire Department (Department) fulfilled their duty by rushing inside as others fled for their lives;

Whereas the fire quickly grew out of control and trapped 2 store employees inside;

Whereas the firefighters attempted to punch through the building walls in a selfless effort to save the lives of these employees;

Whereas the roof of the building collapsed, trapping the firefighters inside;

Whereas Captain William "Billy" Hutchinson, a 30-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Captain Mike Benke, a 20-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Captain Louis Mulkey, an 11-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Engineer Mark Kelsey, a 12-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Engineer Bradford "Brad" Baity, a 9-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Assistant Engineer Michael French, a 1½-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Fire Fighter James "Earl" Drayton, a 32-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Fire Fighter Brandon Thompson, a 4-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas Fire Fighter Melven Champaign, a 2-year veteran of the Department, lost his life in the fire;

Whereas the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of these firefighters reflects the spirit of South Carolina, as well as the spirit of our great Nation;

Whereas the United States has not experienced such a devastating loss of firefighters since the horrific events on September 11, 2001; and

Whereas a grateful Nation mourns the loss of these heroes and vows that their sacrifices were not made in vain: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors William "Billy" Hutchinson, Mike Benke, Louis Mulkey, Mark Kelsey, Bradford "Brad" Baity, Michael French, James "Earl" Drayton, Brandon Thompson, and Melven Champaign, who lost their lives in the course of their duty as firefighters, and recognizes them for their bravery and sacrifice;

(2) extends its deepest sympathy to the families of these 9 brave heroes;

(3) honors all the firefighters and other public servants who contributed to battling the fire; and

(4) pledges to continue to support and to work on behalf of the firefighters who risk their lives each day to ensure the safety of all Americans.

NATIONAL DAY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of a concurrent resolution submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 40) supporting the goals and ideals of observing the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year to raise awareness of and opposition to human trafficking.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 40) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 40

Whereas the United States has a tradition of advancing fundamental human rights;

Whereas because the people of the United States remain committed to protecting individual freedom, there is a national imperative to eliminate human trafficking, including early or forced marriage, commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, labor obtained through debt bondage, involuntary servitude, slavery, and slavery by descent;

Whereas to combat human trafficking in the United States and globally, the people of the United States and the Federal Government, including local and State governments, must be aware of the realities of human trafficking and must be dedicated to stopping this contemporary manifestation of slavery;

Whereas beyond all differences of race, creed, or political persuasion, the people of the United States face national threats together and refuse to let human trafficking

exist in the United States and around the world;

Whereas the United States should actively oppose all individuals, groups, organizations, and nations who support, advance, or commit acts of human trafficking;

Whereas the United States must also work to end human trafficking around the world through education;

Whereas victims of human trafficking need support in order to escape and to recover from the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual trauma associated with their victimization;

Whereas human traffickers use many physical and psychological techniques to control their victims, including the use of violence or threats of violence against the victim or the victim's family, isolation from the public, isolation from the victim's family and religious or ethnic communities, language and cultural barriers, shame, control of the victim's possessions, confiscation of passports and other identification documents, and threats of arrest, deportation, or imprisonment if the victim attempts to reach out for assistance or to leave;

Whereas although laws to prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking and to assist and protect victims of human trafficking have been enacted in the United States, awareness of the issues surrounding human trafficking by those people most likely to come into contact with victims is essential for effective enforcement because the techniques that traffickers use to keep their victims enslaved severely limit self-reporting; and

Whereas the effort by individuals, businesses, organizations, and governing bodies to promote the observance of the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year represents one of the many examples of the ongoing commitment in the United States to raise awareness of and to actively oppose human trafficking: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That Congress supports the goals and ideals of observing the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year and all other efforts to raise awareness of and opposition to human trafficking.

ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK COMMISSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 209, S. 1099.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1099) to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to make individuals employed by the Roosevelt Campobello International Park Commission eligible to obtain Federal health insurance.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1099) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1099

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

SECTION 1. HEALTH INSURANCE.

Section 8901(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (I), by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(3) by inserting before the matter following subparagraph (I) the following:

“(J) an individual who is employed by the Roosevelt Campobello International Park Commission and is a citizen of the United States.”.

THANKING STAFF

Mr. REID. This morning, I talked about the Energy bill and the work of Democrats and Republicans to get it passed. I failed—and I apologize—to mention two of the most important people for getting that passed, two staff members.

Chris Miller, who works in my office, is such a wonderful, hard-working public servant. Chris is originally from Detroit. He has worked in Congress for 20 years, 18 years with the Senate. He worked for Senator JEFFORDS and for me on the Environment and Public Works Committee. His work ethic is unsurpassed. He has become a resource for the entire Senate, Democrats and Republicans. During the Energy bill, staff members came to him and some Members themselves came to him, asked where we were. He gave them information as to where we were, where we were going. Chris has a master's degree from the University of Michigan. That is in natural resource management. He has a bachelor's also from the same institution in political science. I told him personally last night, after the bill passed, how much I appreciated his hard work. I want the record spread with the fact that he is an exemplary employee.

I also want to talk about someone I have worked with over the years because he has been in the Senate for a long time, and that is Bob Simon. Bob has a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from MIT in 1982. He is a person with a wide range of knowledge. Before coming to the Senate about 14 years ago or so, he worked at the Department of Energy and the National Research Council for the National Academies of Science and Engineering. He has served in a variety of science- and technology-related positions in the Senate since 1993. He became a staff director for the overall committee the month the Democrats won the majority. He works very well with Senator DOMENICI, the ranking member and until recently the chairman of that committee.

He is really a good person, works so hard—another example of people we have here on Capitol Hill who are here because they believe in public service. That is why he is here. He is a person who works extremely hard, and his work on this bill was instrumental to its passage.

I ask if the distinguished Republican leader has anything to say?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader. Let me just make the point that we have recently adopted S. Res. 250, which condemns the military junta in Burma and calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Aung San Suu Kyi. The State Peace and Development Council, which rules Burma, is a truly outrageous, pariah regime that deserves universal condemnation. I only wish there were more countries that would join us in publicly criticizing the regime and in taking action to help bring about positive change in this troubled nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 1 p.m., Monday, June 25; that on Monday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 800, with the time until 7 p.m. for debate with respect to the motion, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators KENNEDY and ENZI or their designees; that at 7 p.m. Senator SESSIONS be recognized to speak for up to 1 hour.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2007, at 1 P.M.

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate today, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:16 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 25, 2007, at 1 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Friday, June 22, 2007:

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

MARYLYN ANDREA HOWE, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2008.

LONNIE C. MOORE, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KERRI LAYNE BRIGGS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

JEROME F. KEVER, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 28, 2008.