

Whereas the Youth Impact Program provides year-round mentoring to its participants, a proven formula for building success;

Whereas the National Football League, the National Football League Players Association, the University of Southern California, and Tulane University have provided critical support to the Youth Impact Program;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program will be expanded to 3 additional cities in partnership with local National Football League franchises and universities;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program seeks to establish a presence in each city with a local National Football League franchise; and

Whereas under the vision and leadership of Mr. Riki Ellison, the founder of the Youth Impact Program, a 10-year veteran of the National Football League, a 3-time Super Bowl champion, and a University of Southern California alumnus, the Youth Impact Program has expanded from a regional program to a program with a growing national presence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the ongoing and significant contributions of those organizations that support the Youth Impact Program; and

(2) encourages the expansion of the Youth Impact Program to inner cities across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 726—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 13, 2008, AS “WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

MS. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 726

Whereas, more than 15 years ago, the Wreaths Across America project began the tradition of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir holiday wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery each December;

Whereas, since that tradition began, through the hard work and generosity of the people involved in the Wreaths Across America project, hundreds of thousands of wreaths have been sent to more than 200 national cemeteries and veterans’ memorials in all 50 states;

Whereas, in December 2008, the Patriot Guard Riders, a motorcycle and motor vehicle group dedicated to patriotic events, with more than 65,000 members nationally, will continue their tradition of escorting a tractor-trailer full of donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas hundreds of volunteers participate in the escort each December; and

Whereas Wreaths Across America will continue this proud legacy on December 13, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 13, 2008, as “Wreaths Across America Day”;

(2) honors the Wreaths Across America project, the Patriot Guard Riders, and all other volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes the sacrifices our veterans and service members and their families have made, and continue to make, for our great Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 727—HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE BOMBING OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103 ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGEDY

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 727

Whereas, on December 21, 1988, 259 passengers and crew members on board Pan American Airways flight 103, and 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland, were killed by a terrorist’s bomb;

Whereas 189 people of the United States and nationals from 20 other countries were victims of this heinous attack;

Whereas the families and friends of the victims of this tragedy have suffered immeasurable losses;

Whereas people around the world actively have worked to diminish the possibility of future terrorist attacks;

Whereas, in 2003, Libya accepted responsibility for Libyan officials’ involvement in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103, denounced terrorism, and vowed to abandon its weapons program;

Whereas, on October 31, 2008, almost 20 years after the terrorist attack, Libya completed delivery of long-awaited compensation to the families of the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103; and

Whereas nothing can replace the loved ones lost in the attack, and the United States must never forget the victims of this crime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 21, 2008, as “Twentieth Anniversary of Remembrance for the Victims of the Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 Day”; and

(2) conveys the most sincere condolences to the families, friends, and communities of the victims of the attack on Flight 103.

DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 718 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 718) designating November 30, 2008, as “Drive Safer Sunday.”

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 718) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 718

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas everyone driving on the roads and highways needs to do so more safely to re-

duce deaths and injuries resulting from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saved 15,434 lives in 2004, 15,632 lives in 2005, and 15,383 lives in 2006;

Whereas Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters has urged all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and has encouraged motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but each time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to drive safely;

(B) national trucking firms to alert truck drivers to focus on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day using Citizen’s Band (“CB”) radios and truck stops across the United States;

(C) clergy to remind members to travel safely en route to religious services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 30, 2008, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 720 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 720) supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The resolution (S. Res. 720) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 720

Whereas approximately 37,680 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year in the United States;

Whereas pancreatic cancer is the 4th most common cause of cancer death in the United States;

Whereas Randolph (“Randy”) Frederick Pausch, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2006, delivered his “Last Lecture” on September 18, 2007, which gave a voice to victims of pancreatic cancer, and inspired people to live life to the fullest;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have brought, and will continue to bring, renewed advocacy and commitment to the field of pancreatic cancer research and treatment;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have touched countless people throughout the United States and the world and encouraged them to change their lives for the better;

Whereas 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis and only 5 percent survive more than 5 years, making pancreatic cancer the deadliest of any cancer;

Whereas there has been no significant improvement in survival rates in the last 30 years and pancreatic cancer research is still in the earliest scientific stages;

Whereas there are no early detection methods and minimal treatment options for pancreatic cancer;

Whereas when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally too late for an optimistic prognosis, and the average survival rate of those diagnosed with metastasis of the disease is only 3 to 6 months;

Whereas the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer is 40 to 50 percent higher in African-Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to observe November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month to educate communities across the Nation about pancreatic cancer and the need for research funding, early detection methods, effective treatments, and treatment programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Indian Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 719 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 719) recognizing National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 719) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 719

Whereas from November 1, 2008, through November 30, 2008, the United States celebrates National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas, in 2000, the United States Census Bureau reported that there were more than 4,000,000 people in the United States of American Indian and Alaska Native descent;

Whereas, on December 2, 1989, the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate held a hearing exploring the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy, and its influence on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of freedom of speech, the separation of governmental powers, and checks and balances among the branches of government;

Whereas the Senate has reaffirmed that a major national goal of the United States is to provide the resources, processes, and structure that will enable Indian Tribes and tribal members to obtain the quantity and quality of health care services and opportunities that will eliminate the health disparities between American Indians and the general population of the United States;

Whereas Congress recently reaffirmed its trust responsibility to improve the housing conditions and socioeconomic status of American Indians and Alaska Natives by providing affordable homes in a safe and healthy environment;

Whereas, throughout its course of dealing with Indian Tribes, the United States Government has engaged in a government-to-government relationship with Tribes;

Whereas the United States Government owes a trust obligation to Tribes, acknowledged in treaties, statutes, and decisions of the Supreme Court, to protect the interests and welfare of tribal governments and their members;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have consistently served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States, some as early as the Revolutionary War, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives speak and preserve indigenous languages and have contributed hundreds of words to the English language, including the names of people and locations in the United States;

Whereas Congress has recognized Native American code talkers who served with honor and distinction in World War I and World War II, using indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless American lives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are deeply rooted in tradition and culture, which drives their strength of community; and

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives of all ages celebrate the great achievements of their ancestors and heroes and continue to share their stories with future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month during the month of November 2008;

(2) honors the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities.

REGARDING HORRIFIC TERRORIST ATTACKS AND SIEGE IN MUMBAI, INDIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 724 submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 724) expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 724) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 724

Whereas, on the evening of November 26, 2008, evidence strongly suggests that 10 terrorists came ashore into the city of Mumbai, India, from a hijacked fishing trawler in the Arabian Sea, and conducted coordinated attacks on major hotels, restaurants, hospitals, and transportation hubs, and a religious center;

Whereas the attackers entered into a standoff with security forces of the Government of India over the next 60 hours at a number of sites, deliberately holding many hostages while trapping other innocent victims with no means of escape;

Whereas authorities of the Government of India brought the horrific three-day siege of Mumbai to a close on the morning of November 29, 2008;

Whereas the final death toll from the siege exceeded 170 victims, with hundreds more injured;

Whereas those murdered include citizens of India as well as 22 foreigners from 11 different countries, including the following six United States citizens: Aryeh Leibish Teitelbaum, Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, Ben Zion Chroman, Sandeep Jeswani, Alan Michael Scherr, and Naomi Leia Scherr.

Whereas the terrorists who attacked Mumbai attacked a symbol of religious pluralism and outreach, a Jewish outreach center at the Nariman House, murdering six residents of the Nariman House, including Rabbi Holtzberg and his five-month pregnant wife, Rivka, orphaning their two-year old son, Moshe, who was heroically rescued by his Indian nanny, Sandra Samuel;

Whereas nine of the attackers were found dead at various sites where they were engaged in a standoff with authorities of the Government of India, with only one surviving attacker taken into custody;

Whereas evidence collected to date suggests the involvement of an Islamic militant group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, that has ties to al Qaeda and operates out of Pakistan;

Whereas India has endured a series of devastating terrorist attacks in recent years, suffering 3,674 deaths from terrorist attacks in a recent three-year period; and

Whereas India, the world's largest democracy, is a strategic partner of the United