

SENATE RESOLUTION 508—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2008 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CORKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 508

Whereas, on April 8, 2008, before a crowd of over 21,000 fans, the University of Tennessee women's basketball team (referred to in this preamble as the "Lady Vols") defeated the Cardinal of Stanford by a score of 64–48 to win the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship;

Whereas that victory marked the second national title for the Lady Vols in 2 years, and the 8th national title of the Lady Vols in the last 20 years;

Whereas the University of Tennessee became the first school to accomplish back-to-back national titles twice, having previously achieved that feat during its 3-peat from 1996 through 1998;

Whereas the Lady Vols were successful due to the leadership of Head Coach Pat Summitt, the Nation's all-time winningest National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball coach among men's and women's teams, with 983 wins over 34 seasons at the University of Tennessee;

Whereas Joan Cronan, the Women's Athletics Director of the University of Tennessee, has—

- (1) shown vision and leadership throughout her 25-year career at the University of Tennessee; and
- (2) created 1 of the most visible and respected athletic programs in the country;

Whereas the Lady Vols compiled an impressive overall record of 36 wins and 2 losses, avenging 1 of those losses against Stanford in the championship game;

Whereas the Lady Vols were guided all season long by—

- (1) the leadership of the seniors on the team, including—

- (A) Nicky Anosike;
- (B) Alberta Auguste;
- (C) Shannon Bobbitt; and
- (D) Alexis Hornbuckle; and

- (2) the outstanding play of the 2008 Naismith Trophy winner, Candace Parker;

Whereas Candace Parker, while playing with an injured shoulder, tallied 17 points, 9 rebounds, and 4 steals, and was selected as the Most Outstanding Player for the 2008 tournament, becoming—

- (1) the 4th player in history to achieve that honor 2 years in a row; and

- (2) the 5th member of the University of Tennessee women's basketball team to be so honored, following in the footsteps of—

- (A) Chamique Holdsclaw, who was honored in 1997 and 1998;
- (B) Michelle Marciniak, who was honored in 1996;

- (C) Bridgette Gordon, who was honored in 1989; and
- (D) Tonya Edwards, who was honored in 1987;

Whereas Shannon Bobbitt, who at only 5 feet, 2 inches, is the shortest player ever to play on the University of Tennessee women's basketball team, and whose 3 first half 3-pointers and transition defense helped establish an early lead, finished the game with 13 points, and was named to the 2008 All-Tournament Team;

Whereas Nicky Anosike, who finished the game with 12 points, 8 rebounds, and a game-high 6 steals, was named to the 2008 All-Tournament Team;

Whereas Alberta Auguste scored 7 points to go along with 7 rebounds;

Whereas Alexis Hornbuckle, whose dogged defense helped hold the Stanford team to a season-low 48 points and a season-high 25 turnovers, finished with 6 points and 3 assists;

Whereas freshman Vicki Baugh provided a nice boost off the bench with 8 points and 4 rebounds; and

Whereas Head Coach Pat Summitt's Lady Vols set an example off the court as well, by continuing to sustain a remarkable graduation rate, with every student athlete who has completed her eligibility at the University of Tennessee graduating or working toward all of the requirements for graduation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Tennessee women's basketball team for—

- (A) being champions on and off the court; and

(B) the victory of the team in the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship (referred to in this resolution as the "NCAA women's basketball championship");

(2) recognizes the significant achievements of the players, coaches, students, alumni, and support staff whose dedication and hard work helped the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers win the NCAA women's basketball championship; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit for appropriate display an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

- (A) Dr. John D. Petersen, President of the University of Tennessee;

- (B) Joan Cronan, Women's Athletics Director of the University of Tennessee; and

- (C) Pat Summitt, Women's Basketball Head Coach of the University of Tennessee.

SENATE RESOLUTION 509—RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 2008 TO APRIL 13, 2008, AS "NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK"

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. NELSON of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 509

Whereas the week of April 7th, 2008, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is "Climate Change: Our Health in the Balance";

Whereas, since 1996, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week, has educated the public, policy-makers, and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health;

Whereas, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), climate change is a significant and emerging threat to public health and the WHO estimates that human-induced changes in the Earth's climate lead to at least 5,000,000 cases of illness and more than 150,000 deaths each year;

Whereas, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), climate change contributes to the global burden of disease, premature death, and other adverse health impacts due to extreme weather events and changes in infectious dis-

ease patterns, air quality, quality and quantity of water and food, ecosystem changes, and economic impacts;

Whereas, according to the IPCC, the United States will be challenged by increased heat waves, air pollution, and forest fires during the course of the century, with potential risk for adverse health impacts, such as heat stress and increases in asthma, allergies, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease;

Whereas the Director of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Julie Gerberding, testified in October 2007 that, "Climate change is anticipated to have a broad range of impacts on the health of Americans and the nation's public health infrastructure";

Whereas, according to the World Health Organization, the negative public health impacts of climate change will likely disproportionately impact communities that are already vulnerable;

Whereas these communities include developing countries, young children, the elderly, people with chronic illnesses or otherwise compromised health, people in underserved communities, communities of color, traditional societies, subsistence farmers, and coastal populations;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 900,000,000 people worldwide live in slum-like conditions and are particularly vulnerable to the possible health impacts of climate change due to a lack of access to health care, sanitation, and vulnerability to displacement;

Whereas future vulnerability to the health impacts of climate change will depend not only on the degree of climate change the Earth experiences, but also on development and adaptation measures; and

Whereas the public health system will be a first-line responder to emergency conditions related to impacts of climate change and plays a key role in informing, educating, and empowering local communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes "National Public Health Week";

(2) recognizes the efforts of public health professionals, first responders, States, municipalities, and local communities to incorporate measures to adapt health care systems to address impacts of climate change;

(3) recognizes the role of adaptation in preventing impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities, the potential for improvement of health status and health equity through efforts to address climate change, and the need to include health policy in the development of climate responses;

(4) encourages further research, interdisciplinary partnership, and collaboration between stakeholders to understand and monitor the health impacts of climate change, for preparedness activities and for improvement of health care infrastructure; and

(5) encourages each and every American to learn about the impacts of climate change on health.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4518. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4387 submitted by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 3221, moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, protecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our

energy infrastructure, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation.

SA 4519. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2739, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4520. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2739, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4521. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2739, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4522. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2739, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 4518.** Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4387 submitted by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 3221, moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, protecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our energy infrastructure, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation; as follows:

On page 49, line 6, insert, “the second place it appears” after “in excess of 6 percent”.

At the end, add the following:

#### TITLE VIII—VETERANS HOUSING MATTERS

##### SEC. 801. HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS FOR TOTALLY DISABLED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES BEFORE DISCHARGE OR RELEASE FROM THE ARMED FORCES.

Section 1717 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d)(1) In the case of a member of the Armed Forces who, as determined by the Secretary, has a disability permanent in nature incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service, the Secretary may furnish improvements and structural alterations for such member for such disability or as otherwise described in subsection (a)(2) while such member is hospitalized or receiving outpatient medical care, services, or treatment for such disability if the Secretary determines that such member is likely to be discharged or released from the Armed Forces for such disability.

“(2) The furnishing of improvements and alterations under paragraph (1) in connection with the furnishing of medical services described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(2) shall be subject to the limitation specified in the applicable subparagraph.”.

##### SEC. 802. ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES AND INDIVIDUALS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Chapter 21 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2101 the following new section:

##### “§ 2101A. Eligibility for benefits and assistance: members of the Armed Forces with service-connected disabilities; individuals residing outside the United States

“(a) MEMBERS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.—(1) The Secretary may provide assistance under this chapter to a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who is suffering from a disability that meets applicable criteria for benefits under this chapter if the disability is incurred or aggravated in line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service. Such assistance shall be provided to the same extent as assistance is provided under this chapter to veterans eligible for assistance under this chapter and subject to the same requirements as veterans under this chapter.

“(2) For purposes of this chapter, any reference to a veteran or eligible individual shall be treated as a reference to a member of the Armed Forces described in subsection (a) who is similarly situated to the veteran or other eligible individual so referred to.

“(b) BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may, at the Secretary’s discretion, provide benefits and assistance under this chapter (other than benefits under section 2106 of this title) to any individual otherwise eligible for such benefits and assistance who resides outside the United States.

“(2) The Secretary may provide benefits and assistance to an individual under paragraph (1) only if—

“(A) the country or political subdivision in which the housing or residence involved is or will be located permits the individual to have or acquire a beneficial property interest (as determined by the Secretary) in such housing or residence; and

“(B) the individual has or will acquire a beneficial property interest (as so determined) in such housing or residence.

“(c) REGULATIONS.—Benefits and assistance under this chapter by reason of this section shall be provided in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY.—Section 2101 of such title is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (c); and

(B) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c).

(2) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—Section 2102 of such title is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking “veteran” each place it appears and inserting “individual”; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “veteran’s” and inserting “individual’s”;

(B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “a veteran” and inserting “an individual”;

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking “a veteran” and inserting “an individual”; and

(ii) by striking “the veteran” each place it appears and inserting “the individual”; and

(D) in subsection (d), by striking “a veteran” each place it appears and inserting “an individual”.

(3) ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS TEMPORARILY RESIDING IN HOUSING OF FAMILY MEMBER.—Section 2102A of such title is amended—

(A) by striking “veteran” each place it appears (other than in subsection (b)) and inserting “individual”;

(B) in subsection (a), by striking “veteran’s” each place it appears and inserting “individual’s”; and

(C) in subsection (b), by striking “a veteran” each place it appears and inserting “an individual”.

(4) FURNISHING OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.—Section 2103 of such title is amended by striking “veterans” both places it appears and inserting “individuals”.

(5) CONSTRUCTION OF BENEFITS.—Section 2104 of such title is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “veteran” each place it appears and inserting “individual”; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “A veteran” and inserting “An individual”; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking “a veteran” and inserting “an individual”; and

(iii) by striking “such veteran” each place it appears and inserting “such individual”.

(6) VETERANS’ MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE.—Section 2106 of such title is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking “any eligible veteran” and inserting “any eligible individual”; and

(ii) by striking “the veterans’” and inserting “the individual’s”;

(B) in subsection (b), by striking “an eligible veteran” and inserting “an eligible individual”;

(C) in subsection (e), by striking “an eligible veteran” and inserting “an individual”;

(D) in subsection (h), by striking “each veteran” and inserting “each individual”;

(E) in subsection (i), by striking “the veteran’s” each place it appears and inserting “the individual’s”;

(F) by striking “the veteran” each place it appears and inserting “the individual”; and

(G) by striking “a veteran” each place it appears and inserting “an individual”.

(7) HEADING AMENDMENTS.—(A) The heading of section 2101 of such title is amended to read as follows:

##### “§ 2101. Acquisition and adaptation of housing: eligible veterans”.

(B) The heading of section 2102A of such title is amended to read as follows:

##### “§ 2102A. Assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member”.

(8) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 21 of such title is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 2101 and inserting the following new item:

“2101. Acquisition and adaptation of housing: eligible veterans.”;

(B) by inserting after the item relating to section 2101, as so amended, the following new item:

“2101A. Eligibility for benefits and assistance: members of the Armed Forces with service-connected disabilities; individuals residing outside the United States.”;

and

(C) by striking the item relating to section 2102A and inserting the following new item:

“2102A. Assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.”.

##### SEC. 803. SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SEVERE BURN INJURIES.

Section 2101 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph: