

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, to help end the growing problem of phantom traffic, today I introduce the "Signaling Modernization Act of 2008." Senators INOUE, SMITH, DORGAN, THUNE, PRYOR, and SNOWE cosponsored this bill. Phantom traffic is a phone call sent over the telephone network without the identifying information carriers use to bill each other.

When I call home to Alaska, that call is transmitted over several different carriers. Phone companies charge each other for the use of their networks. The funds generated by these charges are particularly important to carriers in Alaska and throughout rural America. Phantom traffic prevents carriers from collecting the funds they are owed, impacting universal service and raising rates for rural customers.

It's time Congress pulled back the mask on phantom traffic to discover who or what is behind this problem that has plagued carriers for several years. The Federal Communications Commission is actively analyzing the issue, but it is time we find a solution.

Yesterday the Commerce Committee heard from a member of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association from rural Missouri. He told us that 11 percent of their traffic did not have sufficient information for billing, causing them to lose about \$37 per line per year. This loss of revenue makes it more difficult for rural carriers to deploy broadband.

Our bill will require all calls from voice communications service providers to contain enough information to allow carriers to bill each other, including voice over internet protocol providers offering 2-way service and providers transiting the traffic between originating and terminating providers. Our bill also directs the FCC to establish rules implementing this requirement within 12 months of enactment, and gives it the authority to adopt enforcement provisions. Phantom traffic steals from rural carriers and customers. I hope Congress and the FCC will look at this issue closely and put an end to phantom traffic.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 530—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 5, 2008, AS "NATIONAL SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AWARENESS WEEK"

Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 530

Whereas sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas sudden cardiac takes the lives of more than 250,000 people in the United States each year, according to the Heart Rhythm Society;

Whereas anyone can experience sudden cardiac arrest, including infants, high school athletes, and people in their 30s and 40s who have no sign of heart disease;

Whereas sudden cardiac arrest is extremely deadly, with the National Heart, Lung, and

Blood Institute giving it a mortality rate of approximately 95 percent;

Whereas, to have a chance of surviving an attack, the American Heart Association states that victims of sudden cardiac arrest must receive a lifesaving defibrillation within the first 4 to 6 minutes of an attack;

Whereas, for every minute that passes without a shock from an automated external defibrillator, the chance of survival decreases by approximately 10 percent;

Whereas lifesaving treatments for sudden cardiac arrest are effective if they can be administered in time;

Whereas, according to joint research by the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association, implantable cardioverter defibrillators are 98 percent effective at protecting those at risk for sudden cardiac arrest;

Whereas, according to the American Heart Association, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and early defibrillation with an automated external defibrillator more than double a victim's chances of survival;

Whereas the Yale-New Haven Hospital and the New England Journal of Medicine state that women and African Americans are at a higher risk than the general population of dying as a result of sudden cardiac arrest, yet this fact is not well known to those at risk;

Whereas there is a need for comprehensive educational efforts designed to increase awareness of sudden cardiac arrest and related therapies among medical professionals and the greater public in order to promote early detection and proper treatment of this disease and to improve quality of life; and

Whereas early October is an appropriate time to observe National Sudden Cardiac Awareness Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 5, 2008, as "National Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Week";

(2) supports—

(A) the goals and ideals of National Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Week; and

(B) efforts to educate people about sudden cardiac arrest and to raise awareness about the risk of sudden cardiac arrest, identifying warning signs, and the need to seek medical attention in a timely manner;

(3) acknowledges the critical importance of sudden cardiac arrest awareness to improving national cardiovascular health; and

(4) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 531—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A NATIONAL CHILD CARE WORTHY WAGE DAY

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DODD, Mr. CASEY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 531

Whereas approximately 63 percent of the Nation's children under age 5 are in non-parental care during part or all of the day while their parents work;

Whereas the early care and education industry employs more than 2,300,000 workers;

Whereas the average salary of early care and education workers is \$18,820 per year, and only ⅓ of these workers have health insurance and even fewer have a pension plan;

Whereas the quality of early care and education programs is directly linked to the quality of early childhood educators;

Whereas the turnover rate of early childhood program staff is roughly 30 percent per year, and low wages and lack of benefits, among other factors, make it difficult to retain high quality educators who have the consistent, caring relationships with young children that are important to the children's development;

Whereas the compensation of early childhood program staff should be commensurate with the importance of the job of helping the young children of the Nation develop their social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills and helping them to be ready for school;

Whereas providing adequate compensation to early childhood program staff should be a priority, and resources can be allocated to improve the compensation of early childhood educators to ensure that quality care and education are accessible for all families;

Whereas additional training and education for the early care and education workforce is critical to ensuring high-quality early learning environments;

Whereas child care workers should receive compensation commensurate with their training and experience; and

Whereas the Center for the Child Care Workforce, a project of the American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation, with support from the National Association for the Education of Young Children and other early childhood organizations, recognizes May 1 as National Child Care Worthy Wage Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 1, 2008, as National Child Care Worthy Wage Day; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Child Care Worthy Wage Day by honoring early childhood care and education staff and programs in their communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 532—RECOMMENDING THAT THE LANGSTON GOLF COURSE, LOCATED IN NORTHEAST WASHINGTON, DC, AND OWNED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BE RECOGNIZED FOR ITS IMPORTANT LEGACY AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN GOLF HISTORY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. FEINGOLD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 532

Whereas the Langston Golf Course was designated for construction by the Department of the Interior in the 1930s as a safe and expanded recreational facility for the local and national African-American communities;

Whereas Langston Golf Course was named for John Mercer Langston, the first African-American Representative elected to Congress from the State of Virginia, and who also was a founder of the Howard University Law School;

Whereas the Langston Golf Course is believed to be the first regulation course in the United States to be built almost entirely on a refuse landfill;

Whereas Langston Golf Course has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Capitol City Open golf tournament has made Langston Golf Course its home for the past 40 years;

Whereas the first American-born golf professional of African-American ancestry was John Shippen, who was born circa 1878 in the Anacostia area of Washington, placed 5th in the second United States Open golf tournament in 1896 at 16 years old, and helped found the Capitol City Golf Club in 1925;

Whereas the Capitol City Golf Club, eventually renamed the Royal Golf Club and Wake Robin Women's Club, has historically promoted a safe golf facility for African-Americans in Washington, especially during an era when few facilities were available, and these 2 clubs remain the oldest African American golf clubs in the United States;

Whereas the Langston facility continues to provide important recreational outlets, instructional forums, and a "safe haven center" for the enhancement of the lives of the city of Washington's inner city youth;

Whereas the Langston Golf Course and related recreational facilities provide a home for the Nation's important minority youth "First Tee" golf instruction and recreational program in Washington;

Whereas Langston Golf Course's operations and its related facilities seek to increase course-based educational opportunities under the auspices of the National Park Service for persons under 18 years of age, particularly those from populations of the inner-city and historically under-represented among visitors to units of the National Park System;

Whereas the preservation and ecologically balanced enhancements via future public and private funding for the lands making up the 212 acres of the Langston Golf Course will contribute a positive benefit to the National Park System's Environmental Leadership projects program, the Anacostia River Watershed, the city of Washington, and the entire metropolitan area;

Whereas Federal funds for enhancements to the Langston course have perennially been promised but rarely provided, even after the designation of Langston Golf Course as a "Legacy Project for the 21st Century", and after significant private funding and contributions were committed and provided; and

Whereas the Langston Golf Course and related recreational facilities have traditionally provided additional quality of life value to all residents of Washington, DC, and will do more so once upgraded to meet its obvious athletic and historical promise: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Langston Golf Course, its general management, and the Royal Golf and Wake Robin Golf Clubs are to be commended for their historical and ongoing contributions to the local community and the Nation;

(2) the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior should give appropriate consideration to the future budget needs of this important park in the National Park System; and

(3) the Secretary of the Senate should transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the general manager of the Langston Golf Course.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. OBAMA, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 533

Whereas, on March 29, 2008, parliamentary and presidential elections were held in Zimbabwe amid widespread reports of voting irregularities in favor of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) party and President Robert Mugabe, including, according to the Department of State, "production of far more ballots than there were registered voters...[and] the allowance of police in polling places";

Whereas official results showed that the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) won a majority of seats in the parliamentary elections, and independent monitors concluded based on initially posted results that MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai received substantially more votes than President Mugabe in the presidential election;

Whereas, as of April 24, 2008, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has still not released the results of the presidential election, despite calls to do so by the African Union (AU), the European Union, the Government of South Africa, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, and the United States;

Whereas, on April 19, 2008, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission officially commenced recounting ballots cast in 23 parliamentary constituencies, primarily in districts that did not support candidates affiliated with ZANU-PF;

Whereas, on April 21, 2008, British Foreign Secretary David Miliband stated that the ongoing recount was potentially a "charade of democracy" that "only serves to fuel suspicion that President Mugabe is seeking to reverse the results that have been published, to regain a majority in parliament, and to amplify his own count in the presidential election," and accused him of trying "to steal the election";

Whereas, the Government of Zimbabwe has arrested numerous members of the media and election officials, and over 1,000 Zimbabweans have reportedly been fleeing into South Africa every day, while forces loyal to the government have engaged in a brutal and systematic effort to intimidate voters;

Whereas, on April 20, 2008, the MDC released a detailed report showing that more than 400 of its supporters had been arrested, 500 had been attacked, 10 had been killed, and 3,000 families had been displaced, and Human Rights Watch reported on April 19, 2008, that ZANU-PF is operating "torture camps" where opposition supporters are being beaten;

Whereas United States Ambassador to the United Nations Zalmay Khalilzad stated on April 16, 2008, that he was "gravely concerned about the escalating politically motivated violence perpetrated by security forces and ruling party militias";

Whereas, while there is currently no international embargo on arms transfers to Zimbabwe, a Chinese ship carrying weapons destined for Zimbabwe was recently prevented from unloading its cargo in Durban, South Africa, and has been denied access to other ports in the region due to concerns that the weapons could further destabilize the situation in Zimbabwe;

Whereas Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stated on April 17, 2008, that President Mugabe has "done more harm to his country than would have been imaginable... the last years have been really an abomination..." and called for the AU and SADC to play a greater role in resolving the crisis;

Whereas, the Department of State's 2007 Country Report on Human Rights Practices stated that, in Zimbabwe, "the ruling par-

ty's dominant control and manipulation of the political process through intimidation and corruption effectively negated the right of citizens to change their government. Unlawful killings and politically motivated abductions occurred. State sanctioned use of excessive force increased, and security forces tortured members of the opposition, student leaders, and civil society activists"; and

Whereas annual inflation in Zimbabwe is reportedly running over 150,000 percent, unemployment stands at over 80 percent, hunger affects over 4,000,000 people, and an estimated 3,500 people die each week from hunger, disease, and other causes related to extremely poor living conditions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate—

(1) to support the people of Zimbabwe, who have been subjected to incredible hardships, including violence, political repression, and severe economic deprivation, in their aspirations for a free, democratic, and more prosperous future;

(2) to call for an immediate cessation of politically motivated violence, detentions, and efforts to intimidate the people of Zimbabwe perpetrated by Zimbabwe's security forces and militias loyal to ZANU-PF;

(3) that the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission should immediately release the legitimate results of the presidential election and ratify the previously announced results of the parliamentary elections;

(4) that President Robert Mugabe should accept the will of the people of Zimbabwe in order to effect a timely and peaceful transition to genuine democratic rule;

(5) that regional organizations, including SADC and the AU, should play a sustained and active role in resolving the crisis peacefully and in a manner that respects the will of the people of Zimbabwe;

(6) that the United Nations Security Council should be seized of the issue of Zimbabwe, support efforts to bring about a peaceful resolution of the crisis that respects the will of the people of Zimbabwe, and impose an international arms embargo on Zimbabwe until a legitimate democratic government has taken power;

(7) that the United States Government and the international community should impose targeted sanctions against additional individuals in the Government of Zimbabwe and state security services and militias in Zimbabwe who are responsible for human rights abuses and interference in the legitimate conduct of the elections in Zimbabwe; and

(8) that the United States Government and the international community should work together to prepare a comprehensive economic and political recovery package for Zimbabwe in the event that a genuinely democratic government is formed and commits to implementing key constitutional, economic, and political reforms.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4576. Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. BURR) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1315, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance veterans' insurance and housing benefits, to improve benefits and services for transitioning servicemembers, and for other purposes.

SA 4577. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 334, to provide affordable, guaranteed private health coverage that will make Americans healthier and can never be taken away; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.