

Whereas the conduct of Russian trade and energy policy has created a widespread perception that the Government of the Russian Federation is using oil and gas exports and economic policy as a means of political pressure on countries that seek closer ties with the United States and Euro-Atlantic partners;

Whereas the behavior of the Russian Federation as it relates to several neighboring countries has contributed to the erosion of regional peace and security;

Whereas such actions are inconsistent with the G8's objectives of protecting global security, economic stability, and democracy, hinder cooperation with the Government of the Russian Federation, and undermine the standing of the Russian Federation as a respected member of the international community;

Whereas there has been considerable disagreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Russian Federation regarding proposals to place ballistic missile defense interceptor and radar sites in Poland and the Czech Republic, respectively;

Whereas certain developments inside the Russian Federation and the Russian Government's conduct of domestic policy have undermined confidence in the Russian Federation's ability and capability to serve as a full partner in the work of the international community;

Whereas the Department of State's Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 2007 stated that, in Russia, "continuing centralization of power in the executive branch, a compliant State Duma, corruption and selectivity in enforcement of the law, media restrictions, and harassment of some NGOs eroded the government's accountability to its citizens.";

Whereas, in June 2008, a report released by Human Rights Watch concluded that Russian "law enforcement and security forces involved in counterinsurgency [in the North Caucasus] have committed dozens of extrajudicial executions, summary and arbitrary detentions, and acts of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment";

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has failed to successfully prosecute individuals responsible for the murder of critics of the Kremlin, including journalist Anna Politkovskaya and Alexander Litvinenko;

Whereas the 2008 Annual Report of Reporters without Borders noted a sharp increase in government pressure on the independent media in Russia, reporting that at least 2 journalists were forcibly sent to psychiatric hospitals in 2007 and others were badly beaten or kidnapped prior to the local and parliamentary elections in 2007;

Whereas Transparency International ranked Russia 143 out of 179 countries for perceived corruption in 2007;

Whereas there is increasing concern about violent nationalism and xenophobia in the Russian Federation and the 2008 Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom reports that there has been a "sharp rise in violent crimes against persons [in Russia] on account of their religion or ethnicity";

Whereas, in the handling of the Yukos Oil Company case and numerous other judicial actions, the Government of the Russian Federation has permitted the politicization of Russia's legal system;

Whereas these developments have seriously damaged international confidence in the institutions and laws of the Russian Federation and hindered the ability of the United States and other partners to work with the Russian Federation in addressing a

broad range of pressing global, regional, and domestic challenges;

Whereas the people of the Russian Federation and the people of the United States have been disadvantaged by the resulting damage to relations between the countries;

Whereas President Dmitry Medvedev, in an interview with the Reuters News Service on June 25, 2008, stated that "freedom, democracy and the right to private property" should define Russia's behavior;

Whereas the United States believes that adherence on the part of the Government of the Russian Federation to the values articulated by President Medvedev would provide a foundation for improved cooperation with the Russian Federation;

Whereas adherence to the values articulated by President Medvedev would also help repair damage to the international reputation of the Russian Federation and advance the goals of security, prosperity, and representative governance that should be the common ambition of all members of the G8;

Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) in order to build a more constructive relationship with the Government of the Russian Federation and its people, the President of the United States and other leaders of the G8 nations should—

(A) pursue a broad agenda of cooperation with the leaders of the Russian Federation; and

(B) encourage Russia's transformation into a more liberal and democratic polity;

(2) the Government of the United States and the Government of the Russian Federation should work to ensure the continued success of Nunn-Lugar initiatives and non-proliferation and counterterrorism programs through—

(A) additional funding;

(B) access to sensitive facilities;

(C) effective safety and security measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and weapons-related materials and technology; and

(D) cooperation between the United States and Russia to enhance these objectives on a worldwide basis;

(3) the Government of the United States and the Government of the Russian Federation, working within the International Atomic Energy Agency and United Nations Security Council, should renew demands for Iran to cease its nuclear enrichment activities and fully disclose any prior weapons-related work;

(4) the Government of the United States and the Government of the Russian Federation should negotiate a legally-binding successor agreement to the 1991 Strategic Arms Reductions Treaty and address all outstanding concerns regarding the 1991 Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe;

(5) the leaders of the Russian Federation should adopt foreign and domestic policies that are consistent with "freedom, democracy and the right to private property", as articulated by President Dmitry Medvedev;

(6) the Government of the Russian Federation should take immediate steps to restore the freedom and independence of the country's media in accordance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(7) the Government and officials of the Russian Federation should refrain from portraying the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as a threat to the Russian Federation and fully utilize the consultative mechanisms that exist through the NATO-Russia Council to facilitate cooperation between the countries of NATO and the Russian Federation;

(8) the United States, in coordination with other members of the G8, should—

(A) encourage the Government of the Russian Federation to address the challenges facing its society, including widespread corruption, a deteriorating health care system, growing instability in the North Caucasus, and an increasingly serious demographic crisis; and

(B) stand ready to assist the people and Government of the Russian Federation in those efforts;

(9) just as the United States welcomed the increasing prosperity and political development of Germany, Japan, and the nations Eastern Europe in the aftermath of former conflicts, the United States should welcome the emergence of the Russian Federation as a strong, successful, democratic partner in addressing global challenges; and

(10) the leaders of the Russian Federation should respect the rights of sovereign, democratic governments in neighboring countries and their prerogative to seek membership in Euro-Atlantic institutions.

NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 613.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 613) designating the week beginning September 8, 2008, as "National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week."

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 613) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 613

Whereas direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this preamble as "direct support professionals") are the primary providers of publicly funded long term support and services for millions of individuals;

Whereas a direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities;

Whereas a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis;

Whereas direct support professionals provide a broad range of support, including—

(1) preparation of meals;

(2) helping with medications;

(3) bathing;

(4) dressing;

(5) mobility;

(6) getting to school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and

(7) general daily affairs;

Whereas a direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and community of the individual;

Whereas direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives;

Whereas direct support professionals are the key to allowing an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community of the individual, and to avoid more costly institutional care;

Whereas the majority of direct support professionals are female, and many are the sole breadwinners of their families;

Whereas direct support professionals work and pay taxes, but many remain impoverished and are eligible for the same Federal and State public assistance programs on which the individuals with disabilities served by the direct support professionals must depend;

Whereas Federal and State policies, as well as the Supreme Court, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), assert the right of an individual to live in the home and community of the individual;

Whereas, in 2008, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and this trend is projected to increase over the next decade;

Whereas there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and

Whereas many direct support professionals are forced to leave jobs due to inadequate wages and benefits, creating high turnover and vacancy rates that research demonstrates adversely affects the quality of support to individuals with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 8, 2008, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”;

(2) recognizes the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages;

(3) appreciates the contribution of direct support professionals in supporting the needs that reach beyond the capacities of millions of families in the United States;

(4) commends direct support professionals as integral in supporting the long-term support and services system of the United States; and

(5) finds that the successful implementation of the public policies of the United States depends on the dedication of direct support professionals.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are going to be able to move through this PEPFAR legislation. It would be good for our country if we pass it. I also have spoken to the Speaker. She agrees with me and Senator McConnell that we should move this housing fix quickly. The President and his people have submitted to us some language that we think, from all we can tell, is appropriate. Senator Dodd is agreeing we should move forward. I think there is a sense we should do this within the next couple of days. This is something that is important.

With the housing crisis, the main reason we do this is to make sure people understand that we have faith in our financial markets. Fannie and Freddie, we believe, with the attention

being focused on them over the week-end and today, have stabilized, and that is the way it should be. We are going to try to move forward on this very quickly.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, July 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the second half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2731, the Global AIDS bill, and when the Senate resumes consideration of the bill, the majority leader or his designee be recognized to move to table the DeMint amendment No. 5078. I further ask the Senate stand adjourned from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly policy luncheons.

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

Mr. REID. I would say, Mr. President, Senators should expect the first vote of the day to occur as early as 11 a.m. tomorrow morning.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to be brought before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:27 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 15, 2008, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 8034 AND 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. WILLIAM M. FRASER III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. LARRY D. JAMES

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KELLY K. MCKEAGUE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT E. DURBIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. RONALD L. BURGESS, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JOHN F. KIMMONS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. GEORGE J. FLYNN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JUAN G. AYALA
COLONEL RONALD F. BACZKOWSKI
COLONEL WILLIAM B. CROWE
COLONEL MICHAEL G. DANA
COLONEL WILLIAM M. FAULKNER
COLONEL WALTER L. MILLER, JR.
COLONEL JOSEPH L. OSTERMAN
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER S. OWENS
COLONEL GREGG A. STURDEVANT
COLONEL GLENN M. WALTERS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

STEPHEN L. AKI
RODRIGUE ALEANDRE
JOEL O. ALEXANDER
EDWARD W. ALLEN II
PAUL M. ALLMON
TODD K. ALSTON
LISA L. ANDERSON
SEAN D. ANDERSON
WILLIAM J. ANDERSON
CARMEN R. ANTHONY
MICHAEL J. ARNOLD
OSWALDO C. ARROYO
SPENCER O. ASHFORD
HOUSTON E. BAKER
RONALD L. BAKER
SHERWOOD P. BAKER II
ROY D. BANZON
CHARLES H. BARBER
DALLIS L. BARNES
KIMMIE M. BARTENSLAGER
MICHAEL A. BAUMEISTER
KIRBY D. BEARD
DAVID M. BEDARD
LAMONICA BELL
CHRISTOPHER A. BENN
THOMAS F. BENTZEL
CRAIG S. BESAW
DERELL M. BIBBS
JOHN C. BIVONA, JR.
CHARLES E. BLEDSOE
ELIZABETH E. BLEDSOE
MICHAEL D. BLOMQUIST
JAMES W. BOGART
LAURA B. BOZEMAN
STEVEN R. BRADDOM
JAMES T. BRADY II
WILLIAM T. BRENNAN
CHRISTOPHER M. BRIDGES
JOHN C. BROOKIE
CHRISTOPHER L. BROWN
EVAN J. BROWN
JAMES L. BROWN
KEYVYN M. BRYANT
SHATRECE B. BUCHANAN
CLYDE M. BUCKLEY
GREGORY N. BURN
BRENDEN D. BURKE
ADAM W. BUTLER
DAVID B. BYERS
JILL F. CAHILL
LINNIE W. CAIN, JR.
EARL D. CALSB
JOHN C. CALHOUN
MIKE A. CALVIN
WILLIAM J. CAMPBELL III
JASON A. CARRICO
JEFFERY A. CARTER
WILLIAM D. CARUSO
YONG S. CASSE
ERNEST R. CHAMBERS
JOSEPH H. CHAN
JEAN R. CHAUSSE