

(1) designates the week of October 18 through October 24, 2009, as "National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 45—ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO ALLOW JOSHUA FATTAL, SHANE BAUER, AND SARA SHOUD TO REUNITE WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 45

Whereas, on July 31, 2009, officials of the Government of Iran took 3 United States citizens, Joshua Fattal, Shane Bauer, and Sarah Shourd, into custody near the Ahmed Awa region of northern Iraq, after the 3 United States citizens reportedly crossed into the territory of Iran while hiking in Iraq;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran have confirmed that they are holding the 3 United States citizens; and

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran have allowed consular access by the Embassy of the Government of Switzerland (in its formal capacity as the representative of the interests of the United States in Iran) to the 3 young United States citizens in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) encourages the Government of Iran to allow Joshua Fattal, Shane Bauer, and Sarah Shourd to communicate by telephone with their families in the United States; and

(2) encourages the Government of Iran to allow Joshua Fattal, Shane Bauer, and Sarah Shourd to reunite with their families in the United States as soon as possible.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2626. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2626. MR. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 111, strike lines 4 through 15.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 6, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Minimizing Potential Threats From Iran: Administration Perspectives on Economic Sanctions and Other U.S. Policy Options."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 6, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled "Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance (Treaty Doc. 110-21)."

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 6, 2009, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "The Recovery Act for Small Businesses: What is Working and What Comes Next?"

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 6, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVENESS, INNOVATION, AND EXPORT PROMOTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Competitiveness, Innovation, and Export Promotion of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 6, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on October 6, 2009, at 1:30 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Examining the History and Legality of Executive Branch Czars."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on October 6, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "No Safe Haven: Accountability for Human Rights Violators, Part II."

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

COMMEMORATING THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER DAMIEN DE VEUSTER TO SAINTHOOD

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 304, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 304) commemorating the canonization of Father Damien de Veuster, SS.CC to sainthood.

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

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today, I rise in support of this resolution commemorating the canonization of Father Damien de Veuster, SS.CC, to sainthood.

Joseph De Veuster, was born in Tremolo, Belgium, on January 3, 1840. At the age of 19, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary and took the religious name of Damien.

After his brother fell ill, Damien obtained permission from the Superior General to take his place for a mission in the Hawaiian Islands, although he was not yet an ordained priest. After a six-month boat ride, he arrived in Honolulu on March 19, 1864, and was ordained to the priesthood two months later.

During this time in Hawaii, an outbreak of Hansens' disease, also known as leprosy, occurred. Patients were sent away to the small island of Molokai to prevent the disease from spreading. Several priests took turns coming to Molokai to offer spiritual aid for three months at a time, but Damien chose to never leave, instead sacrificing his own life for those with Hansens' disease.

He worked tirelessly and continuously to turn this remote island into a colony of hope. He offered encouragement and spiritual guidance to those who were less able to help themselves. He built houses, chapels and hospitals and even built coffins and dug graves for those who lost the fight from Hansens' disease.

In 1884, Damien contracted Hansens' disease himself but continued working until months before dying on April 15, 1889. His remains were brought back to Belgium in 1936, and now rest in the crypt of the church of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts at Louvain, where he first entered religious life.

On April 15, 1969, as a gift from Hawaii, a statue of Father Damien and a statue of King Kamehameha I, were unveiled at the Capitol Rotunda.

He was declared Venerable by Pope Paul VI on July 9, 1977, the first of three steps that lead to sainthood. On June 4, 1995, Pope John Paul II declared him Blessed Damien, and his feast is on May 10, the day he entered Molokai.

In observance of Father Damien de Veuster, SS.CC., I urge my colleagues to support this resolution recognizing his canonization to sainthood by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator DANIEL AKAKA be added as a cosponsor to this Resolution.

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

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I am proud to join Senator INOUE in submitting a resolution commemorating the canonization of Father Joseph Damien de Veuster. Father Damien was born in Tremeloo, Belgium, on January 3, 1840. He is best known for his tireless efforts to provide material and spiritual comforts for leprosy patients at Kalaupapa, Molokai, during the latter half of the 19th century. Beloved by the people of Hawaii and the country of his birth, his selfless service to mankind serves as a model for all of us.

Father Damien arrived in Hawaii in 1864 to join the Sacred Hearts Mission in Honolulu. After several years of serving isolated communities on the island of Hawaii, Father Damien became concerned that many of his parishioners that were afflicted by leprosy were forced to separate from their families and sent to Kalaupapa, Molokai and virtually imprisoned. In 1873, Father Damien's request to reside at Molokai and devote his life to serving the people of Kalaupapa was granted.

Father Damien's selfless devotion to the patients was evident when in 1876, he told a U.S. medical inspector, "This is my work in the world. Sooner or later I shall become a leper, but may it not be until I have exhausted my capabilities for good." For 16 years, he labored to bring material and spiritual comfort to Kalaupapa's leprosy patients, building chapels, water cisterns, and boys and girls homes.

On April 15, 1889, Father Damien died of leprosy, at the age of 49. While his death was a devastating loss, the spiritual foundation that he established for the community of Kalaupapa would forever be remembered by the people of Hawaii.

Father Damien is a beloved figure in Hawaii's history, and so noteworthy are his deeds that he is one of the two people from Hawaii who are memorialized here in the Capitol, the other being King Kamehameha, the man who united the Hawaiian Islands. The statue of Father Damien stands proudly, as a reminder of his stewardship and love for Kalaupapa.

We must take every opportunity to educate our Nation on Father Damien's life and the history of Kalaupapa. Out of concern that Father Damien's legacy and Kalaupapa's rich history not be forgotten, the Kalaupapa National Historical Park was established in 1980, with a provision that former leprosy patients may remain as long as they wish.

The Holy See ruled in April 2008 that Father Joseph Damien de Veuster was responsible for two miracles and The Congregation of the Causes of Saints at the Vatican voted to recommend raising Father Damien to sainthood. In February 2009, the Vatican announced that Father Damien would be canonized on October 11, 2009 in ceremonies at the Vatican. It will be my great honor to attend those ceremonies as part of President Barack Obama's official delegation. Through this recognition, Father Damien and the 8,000 leprosy patients will forever be remembered as a legacy of human spirit and dignity.

Mr. KAUFMAN. 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 the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 304) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 304

Whereas Father Damien de Veuster, SS.CC. was born Joseph de Veuster in Tremelo, Belgium, on January 3, 1840, and in 1859, at age 19, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in Louvain and selected Damien as his religious name;

Whereas in 1863, Father Damien received permission to replace his ill brother, and sailed to the Hawaiian Islands to perform missionary work;

Whereas Father Damien arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii on March 19, 1864, was ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace on May 21, 1864, and began his pastoral ministry on the island of Hawaii;

Whereas the Hawaiian Government deported individuals infected with Hansen's disease, also known as leprosy, to a peninsula on the island of Molokai, to prevent further spread of the disease, and Bishop Louis Maigret, SS.CC. sought the help of Father Damien and other priests to provide spiritual assistance for the sufferers of Hansen's disease;

Whereas several priests volunteered to work on Molokai for a few months, but Father Damien requested to remain permanently with the individuals suffering from Hansen's disease, and was among the first to leave for the island of Molokai on May 10, 1873;

Whereas for 16 years, Father Damien served as a voice of hope and a source of consolation and encouragement for the individuals afflicted with Hansen's disease, accomplishing remarkable achievements, including building houses and hospitals, taking care of the patients' spiritual and physical needs, building 6 chapels, constructing a home for

boys and a home for girls, and burying the hundreds who died during his years on the island of Molokai;

Whereas Father Damien died on April 15, 1889, after contracting Hansen's disease, and his remains were transferred to Belgium in 1936, where he was interred in the crypt of the church of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts at Louvain;

Whereas in 1938, the process for beatification for Father Damien was introduced at Malines, Belgium;

Whereas on April 15, 1969, a statue of Father Damien and a statue of King Kamehameha I, gifts from the State of Hawaii, were unveiled at the Capitol Rotunda;

Whereas on July 7, 1977, Pope Paul VI declared Father Damien "venerable", the first of 3 steps that lead to sainthood;

Whereas on June 4, 1995, Pope John Paul II declared Father Damien "Blessed Damien", and his feast is on May 10, the day Father Damien first entered the island of Molokai; and

Whereas Father Damien will be canonized a saint on October 11, 2009, by Pope Benedict XVI: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the canonization of Father Damien to sainthood; and

(2) honors and praises Father Damien for his legacy, work, and service to the Hansen's disease colony on the island of Molokai.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 305, which was introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 305) expressing support for the victims of the natural disasters in Indonesia, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Philippines.

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. 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 measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 305) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 305

Whereas on September 30, 2009, an earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter Scale hit Padang, a city of nearly 1,000,000 people on the Indonesian island of Sumatra;

Whereas on October 1, 2009, another earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter Scale struck south of Padang;

Whereas the earthquakes have destroyed hundreds of homes, businesses, schools, hospitals, and hotels;

Whereas John Holmes, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator, has estimated that more than 1,100 people have lost their lives due to the earthquakes;