

S. 1739

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1739, a bill to promote freedom of the press around the world.

S. 1834

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1834, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.

S. 1927

At the request of Mr. REID, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1927, a bill to establish a moratorium on credit card interest rate increases, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1927, *supra*.

S. 1939

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1939, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 2097

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, a bill to authorize the rededication of the District of Columbia War Memorial as a National and District of Columbia World War I Memorial to honor the sacrifices made by American veterans of World War I.

S. 2128

At the request of Mr. LEMIEUX, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2128, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Office of Deputy Secretary for Health Care Fraud Prevention.

S. RES. 210

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 210, a resolution designating the week beginning on November 9, 2009, as National School Psychology Week.

S. RES. 278

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 278, a resolution honoring the Hudson River School painters for their contributions to the United States Senate.

S. RES. 340

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

RISCH) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 340, a resolution expressing support for designation of a National Veterans History Project Week to encourage public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our Nation in times of war and conflict.

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 340, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 2733

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2733 proposed to H.R. 3082, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2737

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2737 proposed to H.R. 3082, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 345—DEPLORING THE RAPE AND ASSAULT OF WOMEN IN GUINEA AND THE KILLING OF POLITICAL PROTESTERS

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 345

Whereas, on December 23, 2008, a group of military officers calling itself the National Council for Democracy and Development (referred to in this preamble as the "CNDD") seized power in a coup in Guinea, installed as interim President Captain Moussa Dadis Camara, and promised to hold elections;

Whereas, on September 28, 2009, tens of thousands of unarmed opposition protesters met in and around an outdoor stadium to protest statements made by Captain Camara that he may run for president, after he said that he would not;

Whereas government security forces killed at least 157 demonstrators, after opening fire on the crowd, and brutalized and raped dozens of women openly in public;

Whereas, according to Human Rights Watch, these killings and assaults were part

of a "premeditated massacre" in which the "level, frequency, and brutality of sexual violence that took place at and after the protests strongly suggests that it was part of a systematic attempt to terrorize and humiliate the opposition, not just random acts by rogue soldiers";

Whereas, according to the humanitarian organization CARE, "What happened in Guinea is an outrage—and a stark reminder of a larger epidemic of violence against women and girls around the world.";

Whereas members of the United Nations Security Council condemned "the violence that caused reportedly more than 150 deaths and hundreds of wounded and other blatant violations of human rights including rapes in public streets in broad day light, and violence that led to the arrest of opposition party leaders";

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights characterized the events as a "blood bath" and stated that they "must not become part of the fabric of impunity that has enveloped Guinea for decades";

Whereas Amnesty International reports that violence against women knows few bounds, and that "in armed conflicts, countless women and girls are raped and sexually abused by security forces and opposition groups as an act of war, and often face additional violence in refugee camps. Government sponsored violence also exists in peacetime, with women assaulted while in police custody, in prison, and at the hands of any number of state actors." and that "violence against women is a violation of human rights that cannot be justified by any political, religious, or cultural claim"; and

Whereas, on October 16, 2009, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the creation of an international commission of inquiry to investigate the events: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) deplores the rape and assault of women and the killing of political protestors in Guinea, and calls for an immediate cessation of violence, including gender-based violence and targeted killings by security forces;

(2) strongly supports efforts by the United Nations Security Council's commission of inquiry into the violence, and calls for Captain Moussa Dadis Camara and the National Council for Democracy and Development to abide by their pledge to cooperate with the commission;

(3) urges the identification and prosecution, by the appropriate authorities, of those responsible for orchestrating or carrying out the violence in Guinea;

(4) urges President Barack Obama, in coordination with leaders from the European Union and the African Union, to seriously consider punitive measures that could be taken against senior officials in Guinea found to be complicit in the violence, in particular the atrocities perpetrated against women and other gross human rights violations; and

(5) encourages President Obama to remain actively engaged in the political situation in Guinea, to continue to convey that the blatant abuse of women will not be tolerated, and to continue supporting the efforts of the appointed facilitator, President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, to pave a way forward to credible elections.

SENATE RESOLUTION 346—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT, AT THE 21ST REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD SEEK TO ENSURE MANAGEMENT OF THE EASTERN ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY ADHERES TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVICE PROVIDED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND STATISTICS AND HAS A HIGH PROBABILITY OF ACHIEVING THE ESTABLISHED REBUILDING TARGET, PURSUE STRENGTHENED PROTECTIONS FOR SPAWNING BLUEFIN POPULATIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA TO FACILITATE THE RECOVERY OF THE ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA, PURSUE IMPOSITION OF MORE STRINGENT MEASURES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE BY ALL MEMBERS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS' CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA AND OTHER SPECIES, AND ENSURE THAT UNITED STATES' QUOTAS OF TUNA AND SWORDFISH ARE NOT REALLOCATED TO OTHER NATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 346

Whereas Atlantic bluefin tuna and Atlantic swordfish are valuable historical commercial and recreational fisheries of the United States and many other countries;

Whereas the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas entered into force on March 21, 1969;

Whereas the Convention established the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas to coordinate international research and develop, implement, and enforce compliance of the conservation and management recommendations on the Atlantic bluefin tuna, Atlantic swordfish and other Atlantic highly migratory species in the Atlantic Ocean and the adjacent seas, including the Mediterranean Sea;

Whereas the United States has established for its fisheries a strict regime of conservation, management and compliance for Atlantic highly migratory species and protected living marine resources caught incidentally to such fisheries that is unmatched by other fishing nations;

Whereas the reallocation of United States quotas of Atlantic bluefin tuna and Atlantic swordfish to other nations will cause severe economic impacts, including a loss of United States jobs, and undermine the conservation of populations of protected living marine resources such as Atlantic billfish species, endangered sea turtles, sea birds and marine mammals caught incidentally in the fisheries of other nations;

Whereas in 1974, the Commission adopted its first conservation and management rec-

ommendation to ensure the sustainability of Atlantic bluefin tuna throughout the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, while allowing for the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes;

Whereas in 1981, for management purposes, the Commission adopted a working hypothesis of 2 Atlantic bluefin stocks, with 1 occurring west of 45 degrees west longitude (hereinafter referred to as the "western Atlantic stock") and the other occurring east of 45 degrees west longitude (hereinafter referred to as the "eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock");

Whereas, despite scientific advice intended to prevent overfishing, rebuild and maintain bluefin tuna populations at levels that will permit the maximum sustainable yield, and ensure the future sustainability of the stocks, the total allowable catch quotas have consistently been set at levels significantly higher than the recommended levels for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock;

Whereas despite the establishment by the Commission of minimum sizes for Atlantic bluefin tuna with which the United States has fully complied, the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics has repeatedly expressed grave concerns that the flagrant lack of compliance with such size limits by Members fishing in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean is seriously undermining the effectiveness of the Commission's bluefin tuna recovery plans;

Whereas despite the ongoing establishment by the Commission of fishing quotas for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery that surpass scientific recommendations, compliance with such quotas by parties to the Convention that harvest that stock has been extremely poor, with harvests exceeding the scientific advice by more than 50 percent in recent years as reported by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics and other independent sources monitoring the fishery;

Whereas insufficient data reporting in combination with unreliable national catch statistics resulting from inadequate or non-existent catch monitoring and observer programs has frequently undermined efforts by the Commission to determine the levels of overharvests by specific countries;

Whereas the failure of many Commission members fishing for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna east of 45 degrees west longitude to comply with other Commission recommendations to conserve and control the overfished eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stock has been an ongoing problem;

Whereas it is widely recognized that some fishing vessels, in particular those participating in illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing, have little incentive to cease these infractions due to a lack of adequate sanctions;

Whereas the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics noted in its 2008 stock assessment that the fishing mortality rate for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock was more than 3 times the level that would permit the stock to stabilize at the maximum sustainable catch level and that unless fishing mortality rates are substantially reduced in the near future, further reduction in spawning stock biomass is likely to occur leading to a risk of fisheries and stock collapse;

Whereas the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics has recommended that the annual harvest levels for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna be reduced to levels between 15,000 and 8,500 metric tons to halt the decline of the resource and initiate rebuilding, and indicated that a total allowable catch of 8,500 has a higher probability of rebuilding the

stock within the Commission's established time frame;

Whereas in 2006, the Commission adopted the "Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean" (Recommendation 06-05), which was amended in 2008, containing a wide range of management, monitoring, and control measures designed to facilitate the recovery of the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stock by the year 2023;

Whereas the Recovery Plan is inadequate and allows overfishing and stock decline to continue, and continuing information and repeated warnings by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics indicate that current implementation of the plan is unlikely to achieve its goals;

Whereas the Principality of Monaco has submitted a petition to list Atlantic bluefin tuna under Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora, and while the United States did not cosponsor this petition, the Administration has expressed its support for this petition unless the Commission "adopts significantly strengthened management and compliance measures" for countries fishing on the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stock;

Whereas since 1981, the Commission has adopted additional and more restrictive conservation and management recommendations for the western Atlantic bluefin tuna stock, including a closure to directed fishing in the spawning grounds of the Gulf of Mexico, and these recommendations have been fully implemented by Nations fishing west of 45 degrees west longitude;

Whereas despite adopting, fully implementing, and complying with a science-based rebuilding program for the western Atlantic bluefin tuna stock by countries fishing west of 45 degrees west longitude, catches and catch rates remain very low, especially for the United States;

Whereas scientific evidence now provides indisputable evidence from electronic tagging studies and other scientific research that mixing of the eastern and western Atlantic bluefin tuna stocks occurs throughout the Atlantic ocean on feeding and fishing grounds, and the poor management and non-compliance with the Commission's Recovery Plan for the eastern Atlantic stock is having an adverse impact on the western Atlantic stock and United States fisheries;

Whereas additional research on stock mixing will improve the understanding of the relationship between eastern and western bluefin tuna stocks, which will assist in the conservation, recovery, and management of the species throughout its range;

Whereas a 2008 Independent Review of the Commission concluded that the Commission's management of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean has been "widely regarded as an international disgrace": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States delegation to the 21st Regular Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, should—

(1) seek the adoption of all revisions to the Recovery Plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna that will conform the Plan to the scientific advice provided by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics and has a high probability of achieving the established rebuilding target within the established time frame, including a strict penalty regime and other appropriate mechanisms to verify and ensure compliance;