

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 79—HONORING THE LIFE OF PAUL M. WEYRICH AND EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON HIS PASSING

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HATCH, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 79

Whereas Paul M. Weyrich was born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin and became enamored with the political system as a student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison;

Whereas after a short stint as a news reporter, Mr. Weyrich came to Congress in 1966 to serve on the staffs of Senators Gordon L. Allott of Colorado and Carl T. Curtis of Nebraska, handling press relations and other assignments;

Whereas as the original President of the Heritage Foundation, Mr. Weyrich established a respectable and reasoned conservative voice in public policy and political debates in the United States;

Whereas as a pioneer of the modern conservative movement, Mr. Weyrich stood as a vocal defender of economic and religious freedom and established the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation to rally conservatives to the defense of traditional Judeo-Christian values;

Whereas Mr. Weyrich died on December 18, 2008;

Whereas Mr. Weyrich was a true visionary in outreach efforts, launching a television network, training grassroots activists, and influencing both politics and policy; and

Whereas Mr. Weyrich's perseverance in the promotion of his philosophy inspired thousands of people of the United States to dedicate themselves to causes that protect liberty and secure the future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses gratitude to Paul M. Weyrich for his significant contributions to the conservative movement and for promoting a capitalist, democratic vision for the world;

(2) expresses profound sorrow at the death of Mr. Weyrich; and

(3) conveys its condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Weyrich.

SENATE RESOLUTION 80—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 15, 2009, AS "NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK"

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 80

Whereas the young people of the United States will bear the bright torch of democracy in the future;

Whereas young people need a safe haven from negative influences, such as child abuse, substance abuse, and crime;

Whereas young people need resources that are readily available to assist them when they are faced with circumstances that compromise their safety;

Whereas the United States needs more community volunteers to act as positive influences on the young people of the United States;

Whereas the Safe Place program is committed to protecting the young people of the United States, the most valuable asset of the Nation, by offering short term safe places at neighborhood locations where trained volunteers are available to counsel and advise young people seeking assistance and guidance;

Whereas the Safe Place program combines the efforts of the private sector and non-profit organizations to reach young people in the early stages of crisis;

Whereas the Safe Place program provides a direct way to assist programs in meeting performance standards relating to outreach and community relations, as set forth in the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

Whereas the Safe Place placard displayed at businesses within communities stands as a beacon of safety and refuge to at-risk young people;

Whereas more than 1,400 communities in 37 States make the Safe Place program available at nearly 16,000 locations;

Whereas more than 200,000 young people have gone to Safe Place locations to get help when faced with crisis situations and have received counseling by phone as a result of Safe Place information the young people received at school;

Whereas, through the efforts of Safe Place coordinators across the United States, each year more than 500,000 students learn in a classroom presentation that the Safe Place program is a resource they can turn to if they encounter abuse or neglect and 1,000,000 Safe Place information cards are distributed; and

Whereas increased awareness of the Safe Place program will encourage more communities to establish Safe Place locations for the young people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning March 15, 2009, as "National Safe Place Week"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups to—

(A) promote awareness of, and volunteer for, the Safe Place program; and

(B) observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 11—CONDEMNING ALL FORMS OF ANTI-SEMITISM AND REAFFIRMING THE SUPPORT OF CONGRESS FOR THE MANDATE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. RISCH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CASEY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KYL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SHELBY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. HATCH, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. BURR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 11

Whereas the United States Government has consistently supported efforts to address the rise in anti-Semitism through its bilateral relationships and through engagement in international organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Organization of American States;

Whereas, in 2004, Congress passed the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act (Public Law 108-332), which established an Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, headed by a Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism;

Whereas the Department of State, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE, and others have reported that periods of Arab-Israeli tension have sparked an increase in attacks against Jewish communities around the world and comparisons of policies of the Government of Israel to those of the Nazis and that, despite growing efforts by governments to promote Holocaust remembrance, the Holocaust is frequently invoked as part of anti-Semitic harassment to threaten and offend Jews;

Whereas, since the commencement of Israel's military operation in Gaza on December 27, 2008, a substantial increase in anti-Semitic violence, including physical and verbal attacks, arson, and vandalism against synagogues, cemeteries, and Holocaust memorial sites, has been reported;

Whereas, among many other examples of the dramatic rise of anti-Semitism around the world, over 220 anti-Semitic incidents have been reported to the Community Security Trust in London since December 27, 2008, approximately eight times the number recorded during the same period last year, and the main Jewish association in France, Counsel Représentatif des Institutions Juives de France, recorded more than 100 attacks in January, including car bombs launched at synagogues, a difference from 20 to 25 a month for the previous year;

Whereas, interspersed with expressions of legitimate criticism of Israeli policy and actions, anti-Semitic imagery and comparisons of Jews and Israel to Nazis have been widespread at demonstrations in the United States, Europe, and Latin America against Israel's actions, and placards held at many demonstrations across the globe have compared Israeli leaders to Nazis, accused Israel of carrying out a "Holocaust" against Palestinians, and equated the Jewish Star of David with the Nazi swastika;

Whereas, in some countries, demonstrations have included chants of "death to Israel," expressions of support for suicide terrorism against Israeli or Jewish civilians, and have been followed by violence and vandalism against synagogues and Jewish institutions;

Whereas some government leaders have exemplified courage and resolve against this trend, including President Nicolas Sarkozy of France, who said he "utterly condemned the unacceptable violence, under the pretext of this conflict, against individuals, private property, and religious buildings," and assured "that these acts would not go unpunished," Justice Minister of the Netherlands Ernst Hirsch Ballin, who announced on January 14, 2009, that he would investigate allegations of anti-Semitism and incitement to hatred and violence at anti-Israel demonstrations, and parliamentarians who have voiced concern, such as the British Parliament's All-Party Group Against Anti-Semitism, which expressed its "horror as a wave of anti-Semitic incidents has affected the Jewish community";

Whereas, despite these actions, too few government leaders in Europe, the Middle

East, and Latin America have taken action against the anti-Semitic environments in their countries and in some cases have even promoted violence;

Whereas other leaders have made hostile pronouncements against Israel and Jews, including the President of Venezuela, Hugo Chavez, who called Israel's actions a "Holocaust against the Palestinian people" and singled out Venezuela's Jewish community, demanding that they publicly renounce Israel's "barbaric acts" and in so doing implying that the Jewish community is co-responsible for any actions by the Government of Israel and thus a legitimate target, the leader of Hamas, Mahmoud al-Zahar, who recently called for Jewish children to be attacked around the world, and the Supreme Leader of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khomeini, who vowed to confer the status of "martyr" on "anyone who dies in this holy struggle against World Zionism";

Whereas incitement to violence against Jews also continues in state-run media, particularly in the Middle East, where government-owned, government-sanctioned, or government-controlled publishing houses publish newspapers which promulgate anti-Jewish stereotypes and the myth of the Jewish blood libels in editorial cartoons and articles, produce and broadcast anti-Semitic dramatic and documentary series, and produce Arabic translations of anti-Semitic tracts such as "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" and "Mein Kampf";

Whereas Jewish communities face an environment in which the convergence of anti-Semitic sentiment and demonization of Israel in the public debate have fostered a hostile environment and a sense of global insecurity, especially in places such as Belgium, Argentina, Venezuela, Spain, and South Africa;

Whereas, in response, the United States Government and other governments and multilateral institutions have supported international government and civil society efforts to monitor and report on anti-Semitic activities and introduce preventive initiatives such as tolerance education and Holocaust Remembrance; and

Whereas challenges still remain, with the governments of many countries failing to implement and fund preventive efforts, accurately track and report anti-Semitic crimes, and prosecute offenders: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) unequivocally condemns all forms of anti-Semitism and rejects attempts to rationalize anti-Jewish hatred or attacks as a justifiable expression of disaffection or frustration over political events in the Middle East or elsewhere;

(2) decries the comparison of Jews to Nazis perpetrating a Holocaust or genocide as a pernicious form of anti-Semitism, an insult to the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust, and an affront both to those who survived and the righteous gentiles who saved Jewish lives at peril to their own and who fought to defeat the Nazis;

(3) calls on leaders to speak out against manifestations of anti-Semitism that have entered the public debate about the Middle East;

(4) applauds those foreign leaders who have condemned anti-Semitic acts and calls on those who have yet to take firm action against anti-Semitism in their countries to do so;

(5) reaffirms its support for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism; and

(6) urges the Secretary of State—

(A) to maintain the fight against anti-Semitism as a foreign policy priority of the United States and to convey the concerns of

the United States Government in bilateral meetings;

(B) to continue to raise with United States allies in the Middle East their failure to halt incitement to violence against Jews, including through the use of government-run media;

(C) to urge governments to promote tolerance education and establish mechanisms to monitor, investigate, and punish anti-Semitic crimes, including through utilization of the education, law enforcement training, and civil society capacity building initiatives of the Tolerance and Non-discrimination Department of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);

(D) to swiftly appoint the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism of the Department of State;

(E) to ensure that Department of State Annual Country Reports on Human Rights and International Religious Freedom Reports continue to report on incidents of anti-Semitism and the efforts of foreign governments to address the problem;

(F) to provide necessary training and tools for United States embassies and missions to recognize these trends; and

(G) to ensure that initiatives of the United States Government to train law enforcement abroad incorporate tools to address anti-Semitism.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bipartisan resolution condemning the recent, troubling rise in anti-Semitism across the globe. The resolution also calls upon world leaders to speak out against anti-Semitic acts and reaffirms that the United States is committed to making the fight against anti-Semitism a top foreign policy priority.

I am very pleased that Senator CARDIN and 40 other Senate colleagues have joined me in saying to the world that we stand tall with the Jewish community against these acts of violence and crimes of hate.

In recent months, there has been a substantial rise in anti-Semitic violence around the globe. We are deeply concerned about the safety and well-being of Jews in Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America, where they have faced a significant increase in anti-Semitic attacks, often very violent. These criminal acts include physical and verbal attacks, arson, and vandalism against synagogues, cemeteries, and Holocaust memorials. In some nations, demonstrations have included chants of "death to Israel" and expressions of support for suicide terrorism against Israeli or Jewish civilians.

Also distressing are the blatantly anti-Semitic Nazi imagery and Holocaust comparisons. Our resolution rejects attempts to rationalize Jewish hatred or attacks as justifiable expression of disaffection or frustration over Israeli policy and political events in the Middle East or elsewhere. The Nazi imagery and Holocaust comparisons have been prevalent at demonstrations throughout the world. Placards held at many demonstrations have compared Israeli leaders to Nazis, accused Israel of carrying out a "Holocaust" against the Palestinians, and equated the Jewish Star of David to the Nazi swastika. This is intolerable. We must speak out

against these unacceptable acts of hatred and bigotry.

While we applaud those world leaders who have shown courage by condemning these acts, we call on those who have yet to do so to expressly reject anti-Semitism in their own countries. We must continue to impress upon our allies the critical importance of opposing these disturbing trends, all the while ensuring that our own initiatives to address these forms of hate violence are bolstered.

I urge our colleagues to join our effort to raise awareness of this important issue.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am deeply troubled by the rise in anti-Semitic acts around the globe, which is why I am joining the junior Senator from Maine in introducing a bipartisan resolution that condemns anti-Semitism and calls upon world leaders to speak out against it. The concurrent resolution reaffirms that the U.S. is committed to making the fight against anti-Semitism a top foreign policy priority.

Senator COLLINS, the other co-sponsors of this resolution, and I are extremely concerned about the safety and well-being of Jewish communities worldwide. In recent weeks and months, Jewish communities around the world have been subjected to vicious anti-Semitic attacks. These attacks include acts of violence and hatred against members of the Jewish community. The criminal acts include physical attacks, arson, and vandalism against synagogues, cemeteries, and Holocaust memorials.

In some nations, demonstrations have included chants of "death to Israel" and expressions of support for suicide terrorism against Israeli or Jewish civilians. Placards held at many demonstrations have compared Israeli leaders to Nazis, accused Israel of carrying out a "Holocaust" against Palestinians, and equated the Jewish Star of David to the Nazi swastika. Anti-Semitism is not a legitimate form of policy or public protest. We cannot, in good conscience, allow these acts of hatred to continue without swift and strong action from world leaders. We must speak out against these atrocities.

We applaud those world leaders who have spoken out against these acts, but call on those who have yet to do so to take firm action against anti-Semitism in their own countries. We must continue to impress upon our allies and other nations the critical importance of combating anti-Semitism. At the same time, the United States must bolster its own initiatives to address anti-Semitism as a foreign policy priority. The resolution we are introducing today helps to do that so I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 686. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 146, to establish