

budget inside and out. He ran me through the paces. He grilled me about what my bill would do and how much it would cost and what kind of impact it would have on the taxpayers. He was very tough. But ultimately, because he asked those hard questions and made me defend my legislation, we improved the focus of that legislation and we got it passed. Governor Locke has brought that level of expertise and dedication to the taxpayers in every single position he has held, and it makes him an ideal person now to lead the Commerce Department.

So let me say a few words about the experience Governor Locke brings to this position. One of the most critical jobs the Commerce Secretary performs is finding markets for American products and technologies. He understands how important this is, and he knows how to do it successfully. As the two-term Governor of the Nation's most trade-dependent State, he spent 8 years breaking down trade barriers and promoting our American products, from airplanes to apples to operating systems. He has led numerous successful delegations to our Asian trading partners to help build those relationships. He also understands that the health of the environment has a direct impact on our quality of life and on our economy.

All of Governor Locke's experience means he is going to hit the ground running as our Commerce Secretary as we confront global climate change and other environmental concerns, including the management of our fisheries. So I was very pleased to help support the confirmation of Gary Locke. He won unanimous approval from our Commerce Committee, and today he won unanimous approval from the Senate. He has served the people of Washington State well, and he will bring that same level of commitment and intelligence to this administration.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

HONORING GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHMENT AUTHORIZATION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 12, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 12) recognizing and honoring the signing by President Abraham Lincoln of the legislation authorizing the establishment of collegiate programs at Gallaudet University.

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

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to re-

consider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 12) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 12

Whereas in 2009, the United States honored the 200th anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln;

Whereas on July 4, 1861, President Lincoln stated in a message to Congress that a principal aim of the United States Government should be "to elevate the condition of men—to lift artificial weights from all shoulders—to clear the paths of laudable pursuit for all—to afford all, an unfettered start, and a fair chance, in the race of life";

Whereas on April 8, 1864, President Lincoln signed into law the legislation (Act of April 8, 1864, ch. 52, 13 Stat. 45) authorizing the conferring of collegiate degrees by the Columbia Institution for Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, which is now called Gallaudet University;

Whereas that law led for the first time in history to higher education for deaf students in an environment designed to meet their communication needs;

Whereas Gallaudet University was the first, and is still the only, institution in the world that focuses on educational programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing students from the pre-school through the doctoral level;

Whereas Gallaudet University has been a world leader in the fields of education and research for more than a century; and

Whereas since 1869, graduates of Gallaudet University have pursued distinguished careers of leadership in the United States and throughout the world; Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) congratulates and honors Gallaudet University on the 145th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's signing of the legislation authorizing the establishment of collegiate programs at Gallaudet University; and

(2) congratulates Gallaudet University for 145 years of unique and exceptional service to the deaf people of the United States and the world deaf community.

NATIONAL CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 83, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 83) designating March 25, 2009, as National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day.

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

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to submit a resolution to designate March 25, 2009, as National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day.

Cerebral palsy is a group of chronic, neurological disorders that appear in

infancy or early childhood and permanently affect body movement and muscle coordination necessary to maintain balance and posture. Cerebral palsy is caused by damage to one or more specific areas of the brain, usually occurring during fetal development; before, during or shortly after birth; or during infancy. The top two risk factors for the disorders are premature births and multiple births, and despite the introductions of modern prenatal testing, improved obstetric care, and newborn intensive care technologies, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, estimates that every year 10,000 babies born in the United States will develop cerebral palsy. These disorders are not caused by problems in the muscles or nerves but, instead, damage to motor areas in the brain.

Cerebral palsy currently affects children at a rate of 1 in 278 and an estimated 800,000 Americans. The majority of children who have cerebral palsy are born with it, rather than developing the disorder over time; however, it may not be detected for months or years. Over 75 percent of individuals with cerebral palsy also have one or more additional developmental disability including epilepsy, intellectual disability, autism and visual impairments or blindness. The disorders are not progressive and are noncommunicable.

Currently, there is no cure for cerebral palsy. There are treatments, however, which can serve to alleviate some of the symptoms. Treatments now include physical and occupational therapy; speech therapy; drugs to control seizures, relax muscle spasms, and alleviate pain; surgery to correct anatomical abnormalities or release tight muscles; braces and other orthotic devices; wheelchairs and rolling walkers; and communication aids such as computers with attached voice synthesizers.

It is essential that more research be conducted on ways in which to prevent and treat cerebral palsy. As chairman and ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, I led the effort to successfully double funding for the National Institutes of Health, NIH. Funding for the NIH has increased from \$11.3 billion in fiscal year 1995 to \$30 billion in fiscal year 2009. In addition, I cosponsored an amendment to H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide an additional \$10 billion to the NIH. In 2008, the NIH provided \$28 million for cerebral palsy research, which is a \$16.5 million increase over 2000, when the NIH provided \$11.5 million. The Department of Health and Human Services' "Healthy People 2010" report identified cerebral palsy as one of the important public health conditions to be monitored, and the CDC regularly conducts studies on the prevalence of cerebral palsy across the nation. This report will help the CDC to provide a more comprehensive picture of cerebral palsy and advance efforts to provide better services for these children.

Raising awareness of cerebral palsy is integral in the fight against this debilitating condition. I encourage my colleagues to work with Senator CASEY and me to designate March 25, 2009, as "National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day."

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 83) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 83

Whereas the term "cerebral palsy" refers to any number of neurological disorders that appear in infancy or early childhood and permanently affect body movement and the muscle coordination necessary to maintain balance and posture;

Whereas cerebral palsy is caused by damage to 1 or more specific areas of the brain, which usually occurs during fetal development, before, during, or shortly after birth, or during infancy;

Whereas the majority of children who have cerebral palsy are born with the disorder, although cerebral palsy may remain undetected for months or years;

Whereas 75 percent of people with cerebral palsy also have 1 or more developmental disabilities, including epilepsy, intellectual disability, autism, visual impairments, and blindness;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released information indicating that cerebral palsy is increasingly prevalent and that about 1 in 278 children have cerebral palsy;

Whereas approximately 800,000 people in the United States are affected by cerebral palsy;

Whereas, although there is no cure for cerebral palsy, treatment often improves the capabilities of a child with cerebral palsy;

Whereas scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs in cerebral palsy research will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the United States are conducting important research projects involving cerebral palsy; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of cerebral palsy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 2009, as "National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day";

(2) encourages all people in the United States to become more informed and aware of cerebral palsy; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Reaching for the Stars: A Foundation of Hope for Children with Cerebral Palsy.

CALLING ON BRAZIL TO COMPLY WITH THE CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 37, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 37) calling on officials of the Government of Brazil and the federal courts of Brazil to comply with the requirements of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and to assist in the safe return of Sean Goldman to his father, David Goldman.

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

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment to the resolution at the desk be agreed to; that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; that an amendment to the preamble, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; further, that an amendment to the title be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The amendment (No. 697) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the resolving clause)

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the Senate calls on Brazil—

(1) to fulfill its obligations under the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, done at the Hague October 25, 1980 (TIAS 11670); and

(2) to assist in the safe return of Sean Goldman to his father, David Goldman, in the United States.

The amendment (No. 698) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Strike the 12th whereas clause of the preamble.

Strike the 13th whereas clause of the preamble.

Strike the 15th whereas clause of the preamble.

Strike the 16th whereas clause of the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the Goldman case has been pending in the courts of Brazil since 2004;

The resolution (S. Res. 37), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

(The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The amendment (No. 699) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "Calling on Brazil to comply with the requirements of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and to assist in the safe return of Sean Goldman to his father, David Goldman."

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 25; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the second half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1388, the national service legislation; finally, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. to allow for the Democratic caucus luncheon.

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

PROGRAM

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, under a previous order, the Senate will vote at 12 noon on confirmation of the nomination of David Kris to be an Assistant Attorney General. That will be the first vote of the day. Additional votes in relation to amendments are expected to occur throughout the afternoon.

For the information of all Senators, there will be no rollcall votes on Monday, March 30.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:37 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.