

learning and technical exchange opportunities that benefit the global engineering and technology community; and

Whereas ASME honors the dedicated volunteers who participate in their codes and standards and conformity assessment programs, which today are a global operation involving more than 4,000 individuals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates ASME on the 125th anniversary of its renowned codes and standards activity;

(2) recognizes and celebrates the achievements of all ASME volunteer members and staff who participate in the codes and standards programs;

(3) expresses the gratitude of the people of the United States for the contributions provided by ASME's codes and standards to the health, safety, and economic well-being of the citizenry of this Nation;

(4) recognizes ASME's focus on global and accessible standards development and their vision for technical competence and innovation;

(5) recognizes ASME's mission to be the essential resource for mechanical engineers and other technical professionals throughout the world for solutions that benefit humankind; and

(6) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the president of ASME.

SENATE RESOLUTION 180—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. EDWARD BLOOMER, FRANK CORDARO, ELTON DAVIS, CHESTER GUINN, AND RENEE ESPELAND

Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 180

Whereas, in the cases of United States v. Edward Bloomer (CVB# H5049055), Frank Cordaro (CVB# H5049056), Elton Davis (CVB# H5049058), Chester Guinn (CVB# H5049093), and Renee Espeland (CVB# H5049095), pending in federal district court in the Southern District of Iowa, the prosecution has sought testimony from Dianne Liepa, a former employee of Senator Tom Harkin;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent former employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved that Dianne Liepa is authorized to testify in the cases of United States v. Edward Bloomer, Frank Cordaro, Elton Davis, Chester Guinn, and Renee Espeland, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

Sec. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Dianne Liepa, and any other employee from whom evidence may be sought, in connection with the testimony authorized in section one of this resolution.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 25—RECOGNIZING THE VALUE AND BENEFITS THAT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS PROVIDE AS HEALTH CARE HOMES FOR OVER 18,000,000 INDIVIDUALS, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ENABLING HEALTH CENTERS AND OTHER SAFETY NET PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE TO OFFER ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE, AND CONTINUOUS CARE TO THEIR CURRENT PATIENTS AND TO EVERY AMERICAN WHO LACKS ACCESS TO PREVENTIVE AND PRIMARY CARE SERVICES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. CON. RES. 25

Whereas a strong system of health care safety net providers is vital to ensuring that any health care system address access, cost, and quality challenges while providing care for the most vulnerable individuals and communities;

Whereas community health centers currently form the backbone of the health care safety net for the United States, caring for more than 1 out of every 5 uninsured low-income Americans and providing almost 1 out of every 5 office visits under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program;

Whereas more than 60,000,000 individuals in the United States are medically disenfranchised, lacking access to primary care services like those provided by health centers and other safety net providers, regardless of insurance coverage;

Whereas health centers effectively remove barriers to care by providing cost-effective, high-quality, and comprehensive preventive and primary health care, as well as effective care management for individuals with chronic conditions;

Whereas health centers have compiled a well-documented record of reducing health disparities and improving patient health outcomes, lowering the overall cost of care for their patients by 41 percent as compared to individuals who receive care elsewhere, and generating \$18,000,000,000 in savings each year for the health care system;

Whereas an expansion of the highly effective Health Centers Program to provide a health care home for all 60,000,000 medically disenfranchised Americans would increase the overall savings that health centers generate for the health care system to up to \$80,000,000,000 each year;

Whereas Congress has recognized the value of the care that health centers provide to those enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program by making their services a guaranteed benefit and establishing a mechanism to appropriately reimburse health centers for the quality care that they provide;

Whereas private insurance often does not appropriately reimburse safety net providers like health centers for the full spectrum of care they provide, forcing health centers to subsidize under-payments for their privately insured patients by diverting funds intended to support care for those in need; and

Whereas millions of Americans in underserved communities are in need of a health

care home like those provided by health centers, which serve as a proven model of health care delivery that assures high-quality and cost-effective health care in every State of the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) all individuals should have the choice of a community health center as their health care home and every health center should be appropriately reimbursed for the high-value preventive and primary care they provide;

(2) health care reform should include measures to expand community health centers in order to reach more individuals who need a health care home;

(3) the current payment mechanisms for Federally-qualified health centers through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program are essential to ensuring access to affordable and high-quality preventive and primary care services for beneficiaries of such programs;

(4) any expansion of private insurance must include mechanisms to ensure the full participation of, and appropriate reimbursement to, Federally-qualified health centers and other safety net providers in order to ensure adequate access to care for those individuals who are medically underserved or disenfranchised; and

(5) ensuring access to all safety net providers, including Federally-qualified health centers, will be vital to ensuring that health care reform is successful in expanding access, improving quality, and reducing cost.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. to hear testimony on the nomination of John J. Sullivan to be a member of the Federal Election Commission.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Jean Bordewich at the Rules and Administration Committee, 202-224-6352.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 3 p.m., upon completion of the FEC confirmation hearing, to conduct an executive business meeting to consider the nomination of John J. Sullivan to be a member of the Federal Election Commission.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Jean Bordewich at the Rules and Administration Committee, 202-224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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 Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 10 a.m.

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 Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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 June 9, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

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 June 9, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "The Legal, Moral, and National Security Consequences of 'Prolonged Detention'."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS, ATMOSPHERE, FISHERIES, AND COAST GUARD

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 1256

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, June 10, following a period for morning business, the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 1256, and all postcloture time having expired, there then be an hour of debate only prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on H.R. 1256, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators DODD and ENZI or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of that time and disposition of amendment No. 1256, the substitute amendment be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the bill be read a third time, and the Senate then proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on H.R. 1256; that if cloture is invoked on H.R. 1256, then postcloture time be considered to have begun at 12:05 a.m., Wednesday, June 10, and that all postcloture time continue to run during any recess, adjournment, or period for morning business.

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

HONORING NATIVE AMERICANS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 40, which was received from the House.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 40) to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the joint resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 40) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

UNITED STATES POLICY DURING POLITICAL TRANSITION IN ZIMBABWE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 176, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 176) expressing the sense of the Senate on United States policy during the political transition in Zimbabwe, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. 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. 176) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 176

Whereas, over the course of the last decade, the Zimbabwean African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), led by Robert Mugabe, increasingly turned to violence and intimidation to maintain power amidst government-directed economic collapse and a growing humanitarian crisis;

Whereas the Department of State's 2008 Country Report on Human Rights Practices states that the Government of Zimbabwe "continued to engage in the pervasive and systematic abuse of human rights, which increased during the year," including unlawful killings, politically-motivated abductions, state-sanctioned use of excessive force and torture by security forces against opposition, student leaders, and civil society activists;

Whereas Zimbabwe held presidential and parliamentary elections on March 29, 2008, with official results showing that Mr. Mugabe won 43.2 percent of the vote, while Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of the opposition party Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), won 47.9 percent of the vote;

Whereas, in the wake of those elections, Mr. Mugabe and his allies launched a brutal campaign of violence against members and supporters of the MDC, voters and journalists, and other citizens of Zimbabwe, leading Mr. Tsvangirai to withdraw from the June 27, 2008, runoff presidential election, which Mr. Mugabe, the only remaining candidate, then won with 85 percent of the vote;

Whereas, on September 15, 2008, ZANU-PF and the MDC signed a "Global Political Agreement" (GPA) to form a transitional government under which Mr. Mugabe would remain Prime Minister, and the parties would divide control of the ministries;

Whereas the Global Political Agreement, as written, included provisions to restore the rule of law and economic stability and growth, establish a new constitution, end violence by state and non-state actors, and promote freedom of assembly, association, expression, and communication;

Whereas the installation of the transitional government stalled for five months as Mr. Mugabe and his allies refused to compromise on control of key ministries and security agencies and continued to use the state security apparatus to intimidate and commit violence against political opponents;

Whereas, according to the United Nations, the humanitarian situation during that time deteriorated to unprecedented levels, with an estimated 5,000,000 people in Zimbabwe susceptible to food insecurity, and collapsing water and sewerage services giving rise to a cholera epidemic that has resulted in the deaths of more than 4,000 people;