

submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 283

Whereas, in 1971, in Public Law 92-195 (commonly known as the "Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act") (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), Congress declared that wild free-roaming horses and burros are living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West;

Whereas, under that Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture have responsibility for the humane capture, removal, and adoption of wild horses and burros;

Whereas the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are the Federal agencies responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Act;

Whereas a number of private organizations will assist with the adoption of excess wild horses and burros, in conjunction with the first National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day; and

Whereas there are approximately 31,000 wild horses in short-term and long-term holding facilities, with 18,000 young horses awaiting adoption: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of a National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day to be held annually in coordination with the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture;

(2) recognizes that creating a successful adoption model for wild horses and burros is consistent with Public Law 92-195 (commonly known as the "Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act") (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) and beneficial to the long-term interests of the people of the United States in protecting wild horses and burros; and

(3) encourages citizens of the United States to adopt a wild horse or burro so as to own a living symbol of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West.

SENATE RESOLUTION 284—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION AND GOALS OF "NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK" FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2009, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 284

Whereas the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society has collaborated with more than 5 dozen stakeholder organizations for almost 50 years to transform health care by improving information technology and management systems;

Whereas the Center for Information Technology Leadership estimated that the implementation of national standards for interoperability and the exchange of health information would save the United States approximately \$77,000,000,000 in expenses relating to health care each year;

Whereas health care information technology and management systems have been recognized as essential tools for improving the quality and cost efficiency of the health care system;

Whereas Congress has made a commitment to leveraging the benefits of the health care information technology and management systems, including through the adoption of electronic medical records that will help to reduce costs and improve quality while ensuring patients' privacy and codification of

the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology;

Whereas Congress has emphasized improving the quality and safety of delivery of health care in the United States; and

Whereas since 2006, organizations across the United States have united to support National Health Information Technology Week to improve public awareness of the benefits of improved quality and cost efficiency of the health care system that the implementation of health information technology could achieve: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the value of information technology and management systems in transforming health care for the people of the United States;

(2) designates the period beginning on September 21, 2009, and ending on September 25, 2009, as "National Health Information Technology Week"; and

(3) calls on all stakeholders to promote the use of information technology and management systems to transform the health care system in the United States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 41—PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A STATUE OF HELEN KELLER, PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF ALABAMA

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) submitted the following concurrent resolution which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 41

Whereas Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama on June 27, 1880, and at the age of 19 months lost her sight and hearing as a result of meningitis;

Whereas Helen was liberated from the "double dungeon of darkness and silence" by her teacher, Anne Sullivan, when she discovered language and communication at the water pump when she was 7 years old;

Whereas Helen enrolled in Radcliffe College in 1900 and graduated cum laude in 1904 to become the first deaf and blind college graduate;

Whereas Helen's life served as a model for all people with disabilities in America and worldwide;

Whereas Helen became friends with many American Presidents and was the recipient of some of our Nation's most distinguished honors;

Whereas Helen became recognized as one of Alabama's and America's best known figures and became "America's Goodwill Ambassador to the World";

Whereas Helen pioneered the concept of "talking books" for the blind;

Whereas LIFE Magazine hailed Helen as "one of the 100 most important Americans of the 20th Century—a national treasure"; and

Whereas Helen Keller will become the first person with disabilities enshrined in the Capitol and will become an even greater inspiration for people with disabilities worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

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

SECTION 1. ACCEPTANCE OF HELEN KELLER, FROM THE PEOPLE OF ALABAMA, FOR PLACEMENT IN THE CAPITOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The statue of Helen Keller, furnished by the people of Alabama for placement in the Capitol, in accordance with section 1814 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 2131), is accepted in the name of the United States, and the thanks of Congress are tendered to the people of Alabama for providing this commemoration of one of Alabama's most eminent personages.

(b) PRESENTATION CEREMONY.—The State of Alabama is authorized to use the Rotunda of the Capitol on October 7, 2009, for a presentation ceremony for the statue. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board shall take such action as may be necessary with respect to physical preparations and security for the ceremony.

(c) DISPLAY IN ROTUNDA.—The Architect of the Capitol shall provide for the display of the statue accepted under this section in the Rotunda of the Capitol for a period of not more than 6 months, after which period the statue shall be displayed in the Capitol, in accordance with the procedures described in section 311(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 2132(e)).

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL TO GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an enrolled copy of this concurrent resolution to the Governor of Alabama.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2511. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2512. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2513. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2514. Mrs. McCASKILL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra.

SA 2515. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2516. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2517. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2518. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BOND, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2519. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2520. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. ENSIGN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2521. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2522. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2523. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2524. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2525. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2526. Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2527. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2528. Mr. HARKIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2529. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2530. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2531. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2532. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2533. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2534. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2535. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2536. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2537. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2538. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. UDALL, of Colorado, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. UDALL, of New Mexico, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2539. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2540. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2541. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2542. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2543. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2544. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2545. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2546. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1035, to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to honor the legacy of Stewart L. Udall, and for other purposes.

SA 2547. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2517 submitted by Mrs. FEINSTEIN and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, 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 2511. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, 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:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ PROHIBITION ON NO-BID CONTRACTS AND GRANTS.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be—

(1) used to make any payment in connection with a contract not awarded using competitive procedures in accordance with the requirements of section 303 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253), section 2304 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation; or

(2) awarded by grant not subjected to merit-based competitive procedures, needs-based criteria, and other procedures specifically authorized by law to select the grantee or award recipient.

(b) This prohibition shall not apply to the awarding of contracts or grants with respect to which—

(1) no more than one applicant submits a bid for a contract or grant; or

(2) Federal law specifically authorizes a grant or contract to be entered into without regard for these requirements, including formula grants for States.

SA 2512. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, 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:

Beginning on page 127, strike line 11 and all that follows through page 129, line 7, and insert the following:

resources, \$1,245,786,000, to remain available until September 30, 2011, except as otherwise provided herein: *Provided*, That not less than \$1,900,000 of that amount shall be for research on, and monitoring and prevention of,

white nose bat syndrome: *Provided further*, That \$2,500,000 is for high-priority projects, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$22,103,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1533) (except for processing petitions, developing and issuing proposed and final regulations, and taking any other steps to implement actions described in subsection (c)(2)(A), (c)(2)(B)(i), or (c)(2)(B)(ii)) of that section, of which not to exceed \$11,632,000 shall be used for any activity regarding the designation of critical habitat, pursuant to subsection (a)(3) of that section, excluding litigation support, for species listed pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of that section prior to October 1, 2009: *Provided further*, That of the amount available for law enforcement, up to \$400,000, to remain available until expended, may at the discretion of the Secretary be used for payment for information, rewards, or evidence concerning violations of laws administered by the Service, and miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activity, authorized or approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for environmental contaminants, up to \$1,000,000 may remain available until expended for contaminant sample analyses.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fishery and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; \$39,741,000, to remain available until expended.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 through 4601-11), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, \$81,390,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which, notwithstanding section 7 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), not more than \$1,500,000 shall be for land conservation partnerships authorized by the Highlands Conservation Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-421; 118 Stat. 2375), and not more than \$1,400,000 shall be for the Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated for specific land acquisition projects may be used to pay for any administrative overhead, planning or other management costs.

SA 2513. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, 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 185, line 21, after "*Provided*," insert "That, notwithstanding section 603(d) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1383(d)) or section 1452(f) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12(f)), in the case of the funds appropriated under this heading, each State shall use 30 percent of the amount of the capitalization grants of the State to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, or