

They also offer families peace of mind, knowing their loved one is being taken care of in a safe and affordable manner.

I am very pleased with the passage of my resolution to honor senior caregivers and the private home care industry. According to The Dilenschneider Group, Inc., an estimated 44 million adults in this country provide care to adult relatives or friends, and an estimated 725,000 non-family, privately paid individuals are senior caregivers. The Department of Labor estimates that in 2006, paid caregivers worked a total of 835 million hours. I salute those who provide quality care for so many Americans. I also salute the cooperative effort of both unpaid family caregivers and paid caregivers to serve the needs of seniors living in their own homes.

We need to examine Federal policy alternatives to make caregiving for seniors more accessible and more affordable for families. This resolution encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services to continue working to educate aging Americans about the assistance options available for seniors.

I thank the senior caregivers for their service to Americans throughout this Nation, and I am pleased my colleagues agreed to support this resolution.

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

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 59) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR STATUE OF HELEN KELLER

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 41, which was introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 41) providing for the acceptance of a statue of Helen Keller, presented by the people of Alabama.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 41) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

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.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE HUGO

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 282, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 282) remembering the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo, which struck Charleston, South Carolina on September 21 through September 22, 1989.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 282) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 282

Whereas September 21 through September 22, 2009, marks the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo, one of the most destructive storms in United States history, making landfall in South Carolina;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo, with a storm surge that rose as high as 20 feet along the South Carolina coast, killed 57 people in the mainland United States and 29 people in the United States Caribbean islands and left an estimated 65,000 people homeless;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo resulted in 4 presidential disaster declarations, for the United States Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and North Carolina;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo inflicted an estimated \$7,000,000,000 in total damages within the United States and an additional \$3,000,000,000 in damages to the United States Virgin Islands;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo set a record as the most expensive hurricane to strike the United States up until that time;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo underscored the critical value of early evacuation, bold leadership, and personal and regional preparation and planning;

Whereas the people of South Carolina rose to meet Hurricane Hugo, working tirelessly to prepare for the storm and to assist their fellow citizens in its aftermath;

Whereas Hurricane Hugo was a reminder of the kindness and compassion of people, as help came from all parts of the Nation to assist in the areas damaged by Hugo;

Whereas the magnitude of the Hurricane Hugo disaster and difficulties with the Federal response led to important changes to the preparedness and response efforts of the Federal Government with respect to hurricanes in the United States; and

Whereas September is National Preparation Month and the President has emphasized the responsibility of all people of the United States to take time to prepare for potential emergencies by preparing an emergency supply kit and a family emergency plan, and to educate themselves about potential disasters: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Senate

(1) recognizes the historical significance of the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo; and
(2) remembers the victims of Hurricane Hugo.

NATIONAL WILD HORSE AND BURRO ADOPTION DAY

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 283, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 283) expressing support for the goals and ideals of the first annual National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day taking place on September 26, 2009.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I ask unanimous consent 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 any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 283) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

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 the 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.

NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 284, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 284) expressing 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.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I ask unanimous consent 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 any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 284) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

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.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, September 24; 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 of morning business for 1 hour with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2996, Interior appropriations. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the filing deadline for second-degree amendments be 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

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

PROGRAM

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, the managers of the bill are working on an agreement to limit the number of amendments in order to the bill. If an agreement is reached, the cloture vote would not be necessary. However, if we are unable to reach an agreement on amendments, the cloture vote would occur at approximately 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. 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 5:38 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.