

about our recovery efforts, helping our small businesses thrive has to be our first priority.

The programs run by the SBA provide a critical foundation that small businesses depend on to succeed. Whether it is designing a business plan, acquiring financing, or looking for technical assistance, the SBA is often the first place entrepreneurs turn to in helping build and growing their businesses. It's essential that we keep these programs running while we maintain our efforts to work on full reauthorization.

While we are continuing to work with our colleagues in the other body, we need more time to thoughtfully and completely reauthorize these critical programs. I am hopeful that we will be able to complete the work on full reauthorization by the end of this Congress.

Again, I support the chairwoman's request to pass S. 3253 and urge all of my colleagues to do so.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 3253, which extends the Small Business Act.

I support this legislation because it is crucial that the Small Businesses Administration programs that have helped launch and sustain so many small businesses are allowed to continue.

Small businesses employ just over half of all private sector employees, with a payroll of about \$175 billion, and create many of the new jobs we need. More than half of all Americans work at or own a small business. Small businesses have been responsible for the majority of new jobs created in this country. Anyone who talks about getting our economy on track and does not talk about what we need to do for small business is missing a huge piece of the puzzle.

In my district, the 37th Congressional District of California, there are approximately 16,300 small businesses.

But in the global economy of the 21st century, small businesses, very much like the banks and the auto industry, need sound fiscal options to remain competitive, especially in difficult economic times for them and their customers.

This is where the Small Business Administration can help.

The SBA exists to aid and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation.

The SBA was established in 1953 by the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation.

The SBA's Office of Business Development assists firms owned and controlled by economically and socially disadvantaged individuals enter the economic mainstream by providing firm-specific analyses, counseling, management training, professional consulting and monitoring services, and access to business development opportunities under section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

Much like the loan guarantee program, the Section 8(a) program is well intended. But one of its problems is that too often program par-

ticipants are "graduated" before they are sufficiently prepared to compete for contracts with large and established companies in the private sector.

This has resulted in a large number of former 8(a) companies failing to remain in business shortly after leaving the development program.

I have introduced legislation that can build upon the loan guarantee program extended by H.R. 493 and which would eliminate the problem of "graduating" Section 8(a) program participants before they are sufficiently prepared to compete for contracts with large and established companies in the private sector.

My legislation, H.R. 4897, the "Not Too Small to Succeed in Business Act," reforms and modernizes the Section 8(a) program to help more small and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) remain in business and hire more workers by doing the following:

1. Amending the Small Business Act to increase the net worth limits (to \$750,000) used by SBA in determining whether an applicant satisfies the "economically disadvantaged" requirement for admission to the program and increases to \$2.25 million the net worth required for early graduation from the program.

2. Extending the Section 8(a) program period to 11 years, from the current 9 years.

3. Granting a one-time 2-year reinstatement in the Section 8(a) program for companies who were graduated from the program at the expiration of the 9-year term.

Mr. Speaker, extending the programs under the SBA Act, including the Loan Guarantee Program and amending the Section 8(a) Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program are a necessary part of strengthening our ability to help small businesses succeed and provide jobs for our people. I urge all members to join me in voting for S. 3253.

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3253.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1240) supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1240

Whereas Global Youth Service Day is an annual campaign that celebrates and mobilizes the millions of children and youth who improve their communities each day of the year through community service and service-learning;

Whereas Global Youth Service Day will be celebrated from April 23, 2010, to April 25, 2010;

Whereas the goals of Global Youth Service Day are to mobilize and support young people to identify and address the needs of their communities, schools, and organizations, to provide opportunities for youth engagement, and the public, the media, and policymakers to recognize and raise awareness of young people as assets and resources;

Whereas Global Youth Service Day, a program of Youth Service America, is the largest service event in the world, the only day of service dedicated to youth engagement, and in 2010 is being observed for the 22nd consecutive year in the United States and for the 11th year globally in more than 100 countries;

Whereas Global Youth Service Day engages millions of young people worldwide with the support of more than 200 National and International Partners, 85 State and local Lead Agencies, and thousands of local partners;

Whereas high quality community service and service-learning programs increase young people's academic engagement and achievement, workforce readiness, 21st century skills, and civic knowledge and engagement;

Whereas community service and service-learning provide opportunities for young people to apply their knowledge, idealism, energy, creativity, and unique perspectives to improve their communities by addressing a myriad of critical issues, such as health, childhood obesity, education, illiteracy, poverty, hunger, environment, climate change, violence, and natural disasters;

Whereas Global Youth Service Day is an opportunity for citizen diplomacy, as evidenced by the growing number of projects that involve youth working collaboratively across borders to address global issues, increasing intercultural understanding, and promoting the sense that they are global citizens;

Whereas thousands of participants in schools and community-based organizations are planning Global Youth Service Day activities as part of a Semester of Service in which young people spend the semester addressing a community need connected to learning goals or academic standards over the course of at least 70 hours;

Whereas Global Youth Service Day provides an opportunity for young children, teenagers, and young adults, to gain experience as active citizens and community leaders, and assist schools, community organizations, faith-based organizations, government agencies, businesses, and families; and

Whereas the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act recognizes Global Youth Service Day as a national day of service and calls on the President to encourage people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate youth-led community improvement and service-learning activities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

- (1) recognizes and commends the significant contributions of youth of the United States and encourages the cultivation of a civic bond between young people dedicated to serving their neighbors, their communities, and the Nation;

- (2) supports the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day; and

- (3) calls on the people of the United States to observe Global Youth Service Day by—

- (A) encouraging youth to participate in community service and service-learning projects and joining their peers in such projects;

- (B) recognizing the volunteer efforts of the young people of the United States throughout the year; and

(C) supporting the volunteer efforts of young people and engaging them in meaningful community service, service-learning, and decision-making opportunities as an investment in the future of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1240 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1240, a resolution to support the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day. Global Youth Service Day is an annual worldwide event that highlights and celebrates the ongoing contributions of youth to their communities through volunteer service and service learning.

Global Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world, and over the past 21 years it has brought together more than 40 million people in thousands of communities worldwide. This past weekend it was observed for the 22nd consecutive year in the United States, and for its 11th year globally, in more than 100 countries.

Mr. Speaker, service learning extends the classroom into the community, providing young people with the opportunity to give back locally. It is also an academic tool that builds real-life applications into student curriculum, keeping students engaged in their education. High quality service learning that is integrated with academic curriculum increases students' cognitive engagement, motivation to learn, school attendance, and academic achievement. Global Youth Service Day takes that one step further by promoting projects that encourage youth to work collaboratively across national borders to address global issues, to increase intercultural understanding, and to promote the sense that we are all global citizens.

There are countless benefits associated with volunteerism and service. Evidence shows that there exists a conclusive correlation between youth service, character development, lifelong adult volunteering, philanthropy, and other forms of civic engagement.

Opportunities like Global Youth Service Day provide avenues for youth to apply their knowledge, idealism, energy, creativity, and unique perspectives to improve local communities by addressing critical issues such as poverty, hunger, illiteracy, education, natural disasters, climate change, and so very much more, Mr. Speaker.

As part of Global Youth Service Day here in the District of Columbia, Greater D.C. Cares organized 7,000 volunteers as part of its annual Servathon to restore national monuments, landscape parks and playgrounds, prepare and distribute food, and paint murals on schools in 100 locations within the metro area.

In Detroit, Michigan, more than 125 students from an inner city Detroit school educated their classmates and families about having a healthy diet and nutrition and incorporating exercise in their daily lives. In Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Speaker, the local YMCA coordinated with over 100 community partners and 1,000 young people in feeding the homeless, in yard work for the elderly, community gardening with the Atlanta Community Food Bank, among many other things.

Both young people and their communities will benefit greatly from expanded opportunities like these which allow youth to engage in volunteer community service and service learning worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution serves to recognize and commend the significant contributions of youth of the United States and to support the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day 2010.

I thank Representative ROSA DELAURO from Connecticut for introducing this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1240, supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day. Global Youth Service Day supports and encourages community service and service learning throughout these United States, and enables millions of students to make contributions to their communities. America's young people, from kindergartners to college students, have the desire, energy, and ability to make a real difference in their communities. Global Youth Service Day is an opportunity for them to convert their ideas and energy into action.

Through community service and service learning, we can inspire, empower, and celebrate young people who recognize the need to do something for their communities, believe in their ability to get it done, and then take action. Service learning engages students in the educational process, using what they learn in the classroom to solve real-life problems. Service learning and community service enables students to not only learn about democracy and citizenship, but to become actively contributing citizens and community members through the service that they perform.

There are a growing number of opportunities for youth to get involved in service activities through schools, service clubs, religious affiliations, family, or neighborhood-based volun-

teering. The challenge is to maintain youth interest and commitment to community service by showing them the benefits to the community that they are serving and to themselves. I stand before you today to commend the significant contributions our youth are making in our Nation's communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the author of H. Res. 1240.

Ms. DELAURO. I rise in support of this resolution honoring and supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day, which took place this past weekend. I want to commend my colleague, Representative EHLERS, for taking the lead in cosponsoring this important resolution.

Global Youth Service Day is a public awareness and education campaign led by Youth Service America with the National Youth Leadership Council and the Global Youth Action Network. It emphasizes the importance of public service. It highlights the valuable contributions that young people make to their communities all year long.

In the words of Gandhi, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." That is the simple truth that animates Global Youth Service Day. By mobilizing young people around the world to identify and address the needs of their neighbors, by supporting their community service, and by civic engagement efforts, we not only help our communities to thrive, we help the next generation find themselves through service and commitment to a greater good.

This past weekend, young people all around the world designed and carried out community service projects in areas ranging from literacy and mentoring, to the environment and energy conservation, to hunger and homelessness. This year saw 2,631 projects in 87 countries and all 50 States.

We often say that service is its own reward, but it actually has the benefit of being true. In addition to the positive results these projects have on our communities, research shows that young people who participate in community service also enjoy increased civic engagement and they do better in school. By recognizing the interdependence of their community, they become more independent, more grounded, more cognizant of the world around them. They become better citizens.

The cycle of service and citizenship is why we passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act 1 year ago last week, to offer young people more opportunities to serve their nation. It is why we continue to encourage our young men and women to become deeply involved in the life, health, and education of our communities through such programs as AmeriCorps, Teach for America, and Summer of Service. It

is why we honor the passion and the sacrifice of those young Americans who choose to make a difference in distant lands, such as members of the Peace Corps and our Armed Forces.

All of us in this room today know firsthand the value of public service. Global Youth Service Day helps to transmit that priceless value to the next generation. All around the world it encourages boys and girls to get involved, to give of themselves, to use their enthusiasm, their energy, and their passion to help our communities.

I urge my colleagues to honor these values of civic and community service, and to support this resolution.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the lead co-author of this legislation, our respected colleague from the State of Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

Mr. EHLERS. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for yielding.

I am a great believer in volunteer efforts, and I believe that is what makes our Nation tick. And I think it is especially appropriate to educate children and young adults at a very early age to become involved in volunteer work.

Global Youth Service Day is a major means of implementing that, and bringing to children the awareness of and importance of volunteer work, and also developing ways to make volunteer work seem interesting and fun to the youth of our Nation.

I do have to warn them, however, as I have learned myself, volunteer service can lead to the halls of Congress. I would have never been elected to office, never even would have become politically active without my volunteer activities. But I soon learned when engaging in volunteer activities and helping people that much of the problems I was trying to solve should have been solved by the local elected officials. And with some friends we got together and got some very good people elected. Never did I suspect that I might myself someday be called upon to do the same thing and follow a path that led to Congress.

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act is a wonderful device to give recognition to the youth of this Nation, gives an opportunity for us to recognize the service that they have rendered, and also calls on the President of the United States to encourage people of the United States to observe this day and make it clear to young people what marvelous opportunities for volunteerism they have.

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There are many different ways in which the youth can contribute to the functioning of the Nation, but two that come to mind as being especially useful are, one, helping the elderly who often have trouble adjusting to new homes or who simply don't know how to handle the electronics of the new abodes that they've moved into. Another method is working with the young people of this Nation, with the very young people—

the children who are having trouble with how to read or who are having trouble learning math. This is a wonderful opportunity for younger people who have more experience with science and mathematics and who are able to communicate their love of science and mathematics to help the young people around them.

So it is with pleasure that I rise. It is with great pleasure that I am a cosponsor of this resolution. I think it is an extremely important issue.

I thank Ms. DeLauro and Ms. Woolsey for their working on this as well.

This is a golden opportunity for all of us to express our gratitude to the young people of this world who continue to act as volunteers in so many different ways and in meaningful ways which will direct their careers as well as will help the Nation.

Mr. PETRI. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to compliment Congresswoman DeLauro and Congressman EHLERS for their amazing efforts in this regard, and I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 1240, a resolution to support the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1240, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1293) expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1293

Whereas "National Child Abuse Prevention Month" is observed in April 2010;

Whereas in 2008, out of an estimated 6,000,000 children referred for investigations and assessments, approximately 772,000 children were determined to be victims of abuse and neglect;

Whereas in 2008, an estimated 1,740 children died as a result of abuse and neglect;

Whereas in 2008, an estimated 80 percent of the children who died due to abuse and neglect were under the age of 4;

Whereas in 2008, of the children under the age of 4 who died due to abuse and neglect, the majority were under the age of 1;

Whereas abused and neglected children have a higher risk in adulthood for devel-

oping health problems, including alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, suicide, and certain chronic diseases;

Whereas a National Institute of Justice study indicated that abused and neglected children are 11 times more likely to be arrested for delinquent behavior as juveniles, and are 2.7 times more likely to be arrested for violent and criminal behavior as adults;

Whereas an estimated ⅓ of abused and neglected children grow up to abuse or neglect their own children;

Whereas providing community-based services to families impacted by child abuse and neglect is less costly than the emotional and physical damage inflicted on children who have been abused and neglected, providing services to abused and neglected children (including child protective, law enforcement, court, foster care, or health care services), or providing treatment to adults recovering from child abuse; and

Whereas child abuse and neglect has long-term economic and societal costs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses support for the goals and ideals of National Child Abuse Prevention Month;

(2) recognizes and applauds the national and community organizations that work to promote awareness about child abuse and neglect, including by identifying risk factors and developing prevention strategies; and

(3) supports efforts to—

(A) increase public awareness of prevention programs relating to child abuse and neglect; and

(B) reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUMMINGS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1293 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WOOLSEY. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1293, which supports the goals and ideals of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Our children are our most precious resources, and they need our support to thrive and to grow into healthy, productive adults.

During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we raise awareness of the critical necessity of responding to child abuse, to promoting healthy families, and to nurturing our children in safe environments free from abuse, neglect, or fear.

The effects of child abuse and neglect have enormous consequences on our Nation's children. On average, five children every day are killed as a result of child abuse or neglect, and a report of child abuse is made every 10