

“Arbeit Macht Frei”—“Work Will Make You Free”—managed to survive the selections, torture, starvation, disease, inhuman medical experiments, and executions that occurred at Auschwitz.

According to a new survey published this week by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, at least 41 of the OSCE’s 56 participating states commemorate the Holocaust with official events. Thirty-three participating states have established official memorial days for Holocaust victims, and January 27 is the official Holocaust Memorial Day in many European countries, including Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. I am deeply gratified that since 2005, the United Nations has also observed January 27 as a day of remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust. In fact, Auschwitz-Birkenau was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1979.

I personally visited Auschwitz in 2004 and cannot overstate the importance of the Memorial Museum there today in the effort to teach future generations about the Holocaust. The recent theft of the “Arbeit-Macht-Frei” sign—which, fortunately, was recovered—has certainly heightened awareness of the need for additional security measures there, and I support the efforts to secure increased funding for the preservation of the Memorial Museum.

Teaching about the Holocaust is an obligation that must be met not only at Auschwitz, but at places where people learn around the globe. As chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I am deeply concerned by the rise of anti-Semitism and violent extremism in some OSCE participating states. In particular, I am deeply troubled by the continued prevalence of Nazi-era discourse to describe Roma. As Thommas Hammarberg, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, has said:

Even after . . . the Nazi killing of at least half a million Roma, probably 700,000 or more, there was no genuine change of attitude among the majority population towards the Roma.

With this concern in mind, I was pleased to learn that the United Nations invited the OSCE senior advisor for Romani issues, Andrzej Mirga, to participate in the commemoration they organized this year. Sadly, as Mr. Mirga observed, although approximately 23,000 Romani people were sent to Auschwitz, none were among the survivors liberated there 65 years ago.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WEBB (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2970. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow rehabilitation expenditures for public school buildings to qualify for rehabilitation credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 2971. A bill to authorize certain authorities by the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. PRYOR):

S. Res. 402. A resolution expressing support for the designation of January 28, 2010 as National Data Privacy Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 752

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 812, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 1067

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1067, a bill to support stabilization and lasting peace in northern Uganda and areas affected by the Lord’s Resistance Army through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by the Lord’s Resistance Army and to authorize funds for humanitarian relief and reconstruction, reconciliation, and transitional justice, and for other purposes.

S. 2755

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2755, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an investment credit for equipment used to fabricate solar energy property, and for other purposes.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2924, a bill to reauthorize the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, in the wake of its Centennial, and its programs and activities.

S. 2961

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2961, a bill to provide debt relief to Haiti, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 402—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JANUARY 28, 2010 AS NATIONAL DATA PRIVACY DAY

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. PRYOR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 402

Whereas the protection of the privacy of personal information has become a global imperative for governments, commerce, civil society, and individuals;

Whereas advances in modern technology enhance our lives by increasing our abilities to communicate, learn, share, and produce, and every effort should be made to continue both the creation and the innovative use of such technologies;

Whereas the pervasive use of technologies in our everyday lives and in our work gives rise to the potential compromise of personal data privacy if appropriate care is not taken to protect personal information;

Whereas many individuals are unaware of data protection and privacy laws generally and of specific steps that they can take to help protect the privacy of personal information;

Whereas a continuing examination and understanding of the ways in which personal information is collected, used, stored, shared and managed in an increasingly networked world will contribute to the protection of personal privacy;

Whereas National Data Privacy Day constitutes an international collaboration and a nationwide and statewide effort to raise awareness about data privacy and the protection of personal information;

Whereas government officials from the United States, Canada, and Europe, privacy professionals, academic communities, legal scholars, representatives of international businesses and nonprofit organizations, and others with an interest in data privacy issues are working together on this date to further the discussion about data privacy and protection;

Whereas privacy professionals and educators are being encouraged to take the time to discuss data privacy and protection issues with teens and young adults in schools and Universities across the country;

Whereas the second annual recognition of National Data Privacy Day will encourage more people nationwide to be aware of data privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their personal information; and

Whereas January 28, 2010, would be an appropriate day to designate as National Data Privacy Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of a National Data Privacy Day;

(2) encourages State and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities that promote awareness of data privacy;

(3) encourages educators and privacy professionals to discuss data privacy and protection issues with teens in high schools across the United States;

(4) encourages corporations to take steps to protect the privacy and security of the personal information of their clients and consumers, to design privacy into products they create where possible, and to promote trust in technologies; and

(5) encourages individuals across the Nation to be aware of data privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their personal information.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine financial transmission rights and other electricity market mechanisms.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Gina_Weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Leon Lowery or Kevin Huyler or Gina Weinstock.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the hearing scheduled before Committee on the Energy and Natural Resources, previously announced for February 9th, has been rescheduled and will now be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Guarantee Program.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Abigail_Campbell@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Mike Carr or Abigail Campbell.

NATIONAL DATA PRIVACY DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 402.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 402) expressing support for the designation of January 28, 2010, as "National Data Privacy Day."

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

Mr. REID. 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 related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 402) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

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(5) encourages individuals across the Nation to be aware of data privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their personal information.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. Monday, February 1; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to debate the nomination of Patricia Smith; finally, I ask that the RECORD remain open until 12 noon today for the introduction of legislation, submission of statements, and cosponsors requests.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the next vote will be at 5:30 p.m. Monday. That will be on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Patricia Smith to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

I announced earlier that the vote on Monday will end at 5:50 p.m. If somebody's plane is late, or whatever the situation, that is what it is going to have to be. We have to close that vote for procedural purposes, as everybody knows.

ORDER TO ADJOURN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEFICIT REDUCTION

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, a number of things of importance have