

use of the telework arrangement described under paragraph (2) while minimizing agency travel expenses and employee travel requirements.

“(4)(A) The test program under this subsection shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government.

“(B) The Director of the Patent and Trademark Office shall—

“(i) prepare an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program; and

“(ii) before the test program is implemented, submit the analysis and criteria to the Administrator of General Services and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(C) With respect to an employee of the Patent and Trademark Office who voluntarily relocates from the pre-existing duty station of that employee, the operating procedures of the program may include a reasonable maximum number of occasional visits to the pre-existing duty station before that employee is eligible for payment of any accrued travel expenses by the Office.

“(D)(i) Not later than 3 months after completion of the test program under this subsection, the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office shall provide a report on the results of the program to the Administrator of General Services and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(ii) The results in the report described under paragraph (1) may include—

“(I) the number of visits an employee makes to the pre-existing duty station of that employee;

“(II) the travel expenses paid by the Office;

“(III) the travel expenses paid by the employee; or

“(IV) any other information that the Director determines may be useful to aid the Administrator and Congress in understanding the test program and the impact of the program.

“(E) In this paragraph, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(i) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committees on Government Oversight and Reform and on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

“(f)(1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.

“(2) The authority to conduct a test program by the Patent and Trademark Office under this section shall expire 20 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.”

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as though enacted as part of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-264; 112 Stat. 2350).

#### FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES USAGE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 379, S. 2868.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2868) to provide increased access to the General Services Administration's Schedules Program by the American Red Cross and State and local governments.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 2868) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2868

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2009”.

#### SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS TO USE FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) **USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES BY THE RED CROSS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator may provide for the use by the American National Red Cross of Federal supply schedules. Purchases under this authority shall be used in furtherance of the purposes of the American National Red Cross set forth in section 300102 of title 36, United States Code.

“(2) **LIMITATION.**—The authority under this subsection may not be used to purchase supplies for resale.”.

#### SEC. 3. DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) **DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES.**—All users of Federal supply schedules, including non-Federal users, shall use the schedules in accordance with the ordering guidance provided by the Administrator of General Services.”.

#### SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO USE SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Subsection (d)(1) of section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting “, to facilitate disaster preparedness or response,” after “Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)”.

#### SUPPORTING U.S. ALLIANCE WITH THAILAND

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 538, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 538) affirming the support of the United States for a strong and vital alliance with Thailand.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent my name be added as a cosponsor of this measure.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 538) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 538

Whereas Thailand became the first treaty ally of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region with the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, signed at Sia-Yut'hia (Bangkok) March 20, 1833, between the United States and Siam, during the administration of President Andrew Jackson and the reign of King Rama III;

Whereas the United States and Thailand furthered their alliance with the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty, (commonly known as the “Manila Pact of 1954”) signed at Manila September 8, 1954, and the United States designated Thailand as a major non-North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally in December 2003;

Whereas, through the Treaty of Amity and Economic Relations, signed at Bangkok May 26, 1966, along with a diverse and growing trading relationship, the United States and Thailand have developed critical economic ties;

Whereas Thailand is a key partner of the United States in Southeast Asia and has supported closer relations between the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

Whereas Thailand has the longest-serving monarch in the world, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who is loved and respected for his dedication to the people of Thailand;

Whereas Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has issued a 5-point roadmap designed to promote the peaceful resolution of the current political crisis in Thailand;

Whereas approximately 500,000 people of Thai descent live in the United States and foster strong cultural ties between the 2 countries; and

Whereas Thailand remains a steadfast friend with shared values of freedom, democracy, and liberty; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) affirms the support of the people and the Government of the United States for a strong and vital alliance with Thailand;

(2) calls for the restoration of peace and stability throughout Thailand;

(3) urges all parties involved in the political crisis in Thailand to renounce the use of violence and to resolve their differences peacefully through dialogue;

(4) supports the goals of the 5-point roadmap of the Government of Thailand for national reconciliation, which seeks to

(A) uphold and protect respect for and the institution of the constitutional monarchy;

(B) resolve fundamental problems of social justice systematically and with participation by all sectors of society;

(C) ensure that the media can operate freely and constructively;

(D) establish facts about the recent violence through investigation by an independent committee; and

(E) establish mutually acceptable political rules through the solicitation of views from all sides; and

(5) promotes the timely implementation of an agreed plan for national reconciliation in

Thailand so that free and fair elections can be held.

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPOSAL AWARENESS DAY

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 539, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 539) designating May 24, 2010, as "Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day."

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

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, today I submitted a resolution designating May 24, 2010, as "Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day." May 24 would be Timothy Michael Strain's birthday. Timmy, as his family called him, died last year when he was given two painkillers that had not been prescribed for him. Through their grief, his parents Bernie and Beverly Strain have taken up the cause of safe drug disposal to make sure what happened to their son does not happen to others.

In recent years, recreational prescription drug use has grown at an alarming rate. In 2008, approximately 15,200,000 Americans 12 years of age and older reported having taken a prescription drug that had not been prescribed to them for recreational purposes in the previous year. Our children are finding these drugs in our medicine cabinets and the results can be deadly.

Apart from the tragic impact on our children, the lack of a safe place to dispose of prescription drugs is harming the environment and infiltrating our water sources. Without a place to turn in prescription drugs people are washing them down the drain where they end up in our rivers and in our drinking water.

We must work to find a safe way to dispose of prescription drugs and help make sure that what happened to Timmy Strain does not happen to any other child. I thank Senator GRASSLEY and Senator KOHL for joining me in introducing this resolution and I encourage all my colleagues to work to ensure safe methods of prescription drug disposal are available in their States.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I am pleased to join my colleagues, Senator CASEY and Senator KOHL, in submitting a resolution to designate May 24, 2010 as the "Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day."

The abuse of prescription narcotics such as pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, and sedatives is currently the fastest growing drug abuse trend in the country. According to the most recent National Survey of Drug Use and Health, NSDUH, nearly 7 million people have admitted to using controlled substances without a doctor's prescription. People between the ages of 12 and 25 are the most common group to abuse

these drugs. However, more and more people are dying because of this abuse. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that the unintentional deaths involving prescription narcotics increased 117 percent from the years 2001 to 2005. These are statistics that can no longer be ignored and tolerated.

Regretfully, we read about children dying as a result of prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse. An article from February 2009 in the Des Moines Register reports on the death of a 14-year-old Brody Middle School Student who was found dead at his home from an apparent overdose of prescription drugs. The same article reports that 85 percent of drug and alcohol overdoses at the children's emergency center at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines are from prescription or over-the-counter medicines.

Millions of Americans are prescribed controlled substances every year to treat a variety of symptoms due to injury, depression, insomnia, and other conditions. Many legitimate users of these drugs often do not finish their prescriptions. As a result, these drugs remain in the family medicine cabinet for months or years because people forget about them or do not know how to properly dispose of them. However, these drugs, when not properly used or administered, are just as addictive and deadly as street drugs like methamphetamine or cocaine.

According to the NSDUH, more than half of the people who abuse prescription narcotics reported that they obtained controlled substances from a friend or relative or from the family medicine cabinet. As a result, most community antidrug coalitions, public health officials, and law enforcement officials have been encouraging people within their communities to dispose of old or unused medications in an effort to combat this growing trend.

This is also why I have cosponsored the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010. This legislation will enable the Attorney General of the United States to issue guidelines to help States and communities establish prescription drug take-back programs. Current law makes efforts to establish these programs difficult and time consuming. However, efforts to get old and unwanted medicines out of the home have shown signs of great promise to be successful if widely adopted. For example, the town of Clinton, IA, has held an annual "Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet" day that has collected over 300 pounds of old or unwanted medicine from the community. This is medicine that will not fall into the hands of a child or stranger or cause potential harm to any user.

It is important that we encourage people to dispose of their old or unwanted medicines so that they will not fall into the wrong hands. This is why I am pleased to be submitting this resolution and why I encourage all my colleagues to join us in raising public awareness of this important issue.

Mr. DURBIN. 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 resolution (S. Res. 539) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 539

Whereas in 2008, pharmacies in the United States filled 3,649,468,866 retail drug prescriptions;

Whereas in 2008, approximately 15,200,000 Americans 12 years of age and older reported having taken a prescription drug that had not been prescribed to them for recreational purposes in the previous year;

Whereas in 2006, approximately 26,400 deaths occurred in the United States from an unintentional drug overdose;

Whereas prescription drugs are involved in more overdose deaths annually than illegal drugs;

Whereas in 2007 and 2008, 55.9 percent of individuals 12 years of age and older who used pain relievers nonmedically in the past year had obtained the pain relievers from a friend or relative for free;

Whereas in 2007 and 2008, of the individuals 12 years of age and older who obtained non-medical pain relievers from a friend or relative for free—

(1) 81.7 percent indicated that the friend or relative had obtained the drugs from just 1 doctor; and

(2) 1.6 percent reported that the friend or relative had bought the drugs from a drug dealer or other stranger;

Whereas the improper disposal of prescription drugs may result in chemicals contaminating the environment and water supply; and

Whereas collection programs may reduce the supply of unused, unwanted prescription drugs in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 24, 2010, as "Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes the importance of prescription drug disposal programs to reduce the supply of unused, unwanted prescription drugs in the United States; and

(3) encourages each State to establish and promote a prescription drug collection program.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 25; 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 the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4899, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill; finally, I ask that the Senate recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly luncheons.

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