

Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 508 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 508) recognizing June 2010 as National Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) month established to increase awareness of HHT, which is a complex genetic blood vessel disorder that affects approximately 70,000 people in the United States.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, 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 that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. 508) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 508

Whereas, according to the HHT Foundation International, Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT), also referred to as Osler-Weber-Rendu Syndrome, is a long-neglected national health problem that affects approximately 70,000 (1 in 5,000) people in the United States and 1,200,000 people worldwide;

Whereas HHT is an autosomal dominant, uncommon complex genetic blood vessel disorder, characterized by telangiectases and artery-vein malformations that occurs in major organs including the lungs, brain, and liver, as well as the nasal mucosa, mouth, gastrointestinal tract, and skin of the face and hands;

Whereas left untreated, HHT can result in considerable morbidity and mortality and lead to acute and chronic health problems or sudden death;

Whereas according to the HHT Foundation International, 20 percent of those with HHT, regardless of age, suffer death and disability;

Whereas according to the HHT Foundation International, due to widespread lack of knowledge of the disorder among medical professionals, approximately 90 percent of the HHT population has not yet been diagnosed and is at risk for death or disability due to sudden rupture of the blood vessels in major organs in the body;

Whereas the HHT Foundation International estimates that 20 to 40 percent of complications and sudden death due to these "vascular time bombs" are preventable;

Whereas patients with HHT frequently receive fragmented care from practitioners who focus on 1 organ of the body, having little knowledge about involvement in other organs or the interrelation of the syndrome systemically;

Whereas HHT is associated with serious consequences if not treated early, yet the condition is amenable to early identification and diagnosis with suitable tests, and there are acceptable treatments available in already-established facilities such as the 8 HHT Treatment Centers of Excellence in the United States; and

Whereas adequate Federal funding is needed for education, outreach, and research to

prevent death and disability, improve outcomes, reduce costs, and increase the quality of life for people living with HHT: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the need to pursue research to find better treatments, and eventually, a cure for HHT;

(2) recognizes and supports the HHT Foundation International as the only advocacy organization in the United States working to find a cure for HHT while saving the lives and improving the well-being of individuals and families affected by HHT through research, outreach, education, and support;

(3) supports the designation of June 2010 as National Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) month, to increase awareness of HHT;

(4) acknowledges the need to identify the approximately 90 percent of the HHT population that has not yet been diagnosed and is at risk for death or disability due to sudden rupture of the blood vessels in major organs in the body;

(5) recognizes the importance of comprehensive care centers in providing complete care and treatment for each patient with HHT;

(6) recognizes that stroke, lung, and brain hemorrhages can be prevented through early diagnosis, screening, and treatment of HHT;

(7) recognizes severe hemorrhages in the nose and gastrointestinal tract can be controlled through intervention, and that heart failure can be managed through proper diagnosis of HHT and treatments;

(8) recognizes that a leading medical and academic institution estimated that \$6,600,000,000 of 1-time health care costs can be saved through aggressive management of HHT in the at-risk population; and

(9) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe and support the month through appropriate programs and activities that promote public awareness of HHT and potential treatments for it.

NATIONAL BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate proceed to S. Res. 537.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 537) designating May 2010 as "National Brain Tumor Awareness Month."

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent 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. 537) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 537

Whereas 62,000 Americans are diagnosed with a primary brain tumor each year and

150,000 more are diagnosed with a metastatic brain tumor that results from cancer spreading from another part of the body to the brain;

Whereas brain tumors are the leading cause of death from solid tumors in children under the age of 20 and are the third leading cause of death from cancer in young adults ages between the ages of 20 and 39;

Whereas brain tumors may be malignant or benign, but can be life-threatening in either case;

Whereas 612,000 Americans have been diagnosed and are living with a brain tumor;

Whereas the treatment of brain tumors is complicated by the fact that more than 120 different types of brain tumors exist;

Whereas the treatment of brain tumors presents significant challenges because of—

(1) the location of brain tumors in an enclosed bony canal;

(2) the difficulty of delivering treatment across the blood-brain barrier;

(3) the obstacles to complete surgical removal of the tumors; and

(4) the serious edema that results when the blood-brain barrier is disrupted;

Whereas brain tumors have been described as a disease that affects the essence of "self";

Whereas brain tumor research is supported by a number of private nonprofit research foundations and by institutes at the National Institutes of Health, including the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke;

Whereas important advances have been made in understanding brain tumors, including the genetic characterization of glioblastoma multiforme, 1 of the deadliest forms of brain tumor;

Whereas advances in basic research may fuel the research and development of new treatments;

Whereas daunting obstacles still remain to the development of new treatments, and no strategies for the screening or early detection of brain tumors exist;

Whereas a need for greater public awareness of brain tumors exists, including awareness of the difficulties associated with research on brain tumors and the opportunities for advances in brain tumor research and treatment; and

Whereas May, when brain tumor advocates nationwide unite in awareness, outreach, and advocacy activities, would be an appropriate month to recognize as National Brain Tumor Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2010 as "National Brain Tumor Awareness Month";

(2) encourages increased awareness of brain tumors to honor those individuals who have lost their lives to brain tumors, as well as those individuals who are living with brain tumors;

(3) supports efforts to develop better treatments for brain tumors that will improve the quality of life and their long-term prognosis of those individuals diagnosed with a brain tumor;

(4) expresses the support of the Senate for those individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals; and

(5) urges a collaborative public-private approach to brain tumor research as the best means of advancing basic knowledge of, and treatments for, brain tumors.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 540 submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 540) honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business in the United States during "National Small Business Week," beginning May 23, 2010.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 540) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 540

Whereas the approximately 29,600,000 small businesses in the United States are the driving force behind the economy of the Nation, creating more than 64 percent of all net new jobs and generating more than 50 percent of the non-farm gross domestic product of the Nation;

Whereas small businesses will play an integral role in rebuilding the economy of the Nation;

Whereas small businesses are the Nation's innovators, producing 13 times more patents per employee as large firms, and advancing technology and productivity;

Whereas only 1 percent of all small businesses export and produce 31 percent of exported goods;

Whereas Congress established the Small Business Administration in 1953 to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small businesses in order to preserve free and competitive enterprise, to ensure that a fair proportion of the total purchases, contracts, and subcontracts for property and services for the Federal Government are placed with small businesses, to make certain that a fair proportion of the total sales of Federal Government property are made to such small businesses, and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the Nation;

Whereas every year since 1963 the President of the United States has proclaimed a National Small Business Week to recognize the contributions of small businesses to the economic well-being of the United States;

Whereas in 2010, "National Small Business Week" will honor the estimated 29,600,000 small businesses in the United States;

Whereas the Small Business Administration has helped small businesses with access to critical lending opportunities, protected small businesses from excessive Federal regulatory enforcement, played a key role in ensuring full and open competition for government contracts, and improved the economic environment in which small business concerns compete;

Whereas for more than 50 years, the Small Business Administration has helped millions of entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of owning a small business and has played a key role in fostering economic growth; and

Whereas the President has designated the week beginning May 23, 2010, as "National Small Business Week": Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the entrepreneurial spirit of small businesses in the United States during "National Small Business Week", beginning May 23, 2010;

(2) applauds the efforts and achievements of the owners of small businesses and their employees, whose hard work and commitment to excellence have made them a key part of the economic vitality of the Nation;

(3) recognizes the work of the Small Business Administration and its resource partners in providing assistance to entrepreneurs and small businesses; and

(4) recognizes the importance of ensuring that—

(A) the applicable procurement goals for small businesses, including the goals for small businesses owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, small businesses owned and controlled by women, HUBZone small businesses, and socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses, are reached by all Federal agencies;

(B) guaranteed loans and microloans for start-up and growing small businesses, are made available to all qualified small businesses;

(C) the management assistance programs delivered by resource partners on behalf of the Small Business Administration, such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, Veterans Business Outreach Centers, and the Service Corps of Retired Executives, are provided with the Federal resources necessary to provide small businesses the technical assistance and counseling that they desperately need;

(D) small business disaster assistance through the Small Business Administration is provided in a timely and efficient manner;

(E) Federal tax policy spurs small business growth, creates jobs, and increases competitiveness;

(F) the Federal Government reduces the regulatory compliance burden on small businesses;

(G) advanced technology policy facilitates access to affordable broadband Internet service to foster rural small business growth; and

(H) systems of intellectual property protection continues to foster small business innovation.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4899, as provided for under the previous order; further, I ask that the filing deadline for second degree amendments be 11 a.m. tomorrow.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, tonight we were able to reach an agreement that would provide for a series of up to seven rollcall votes beginning at approximately 10 a.m. tomorrow morning.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business coming before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it recess under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator KERRY.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

PATENT TERM RESTORATION

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I wish to send an amendment to the desk for the purpose of filing at a later time, if it is appropriate. Can they simply hold it at the desk?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment can be received at the desk.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the amendment I have sent to the desk is an amendment that is very important. It is important to us in Massachusetts, but it is also important to a certain number of companies in this country that may find themselves in a similar situation.

I wish to express my strong support on the Senate floor tonight for the inclusion of this amendment in the upcoming House tax extenders bill. The purpose of this amendment is to fix a complete anomaly in the patent law that is vital to our State. Let me explain.

The House provision that is being contemplated will allow for a patent application to be filed up to 30 days late, with a penalty to be paid by the filer to the Patent and Trademark Office. This provision has been drafted so that it can be included in the tax extenders bill. Let me explain why this is important and what it does.

The Medicines Company, which is a New Jersey startup company, licensed Angiomax. That is the name of the product. It is a synthetic blood thinner. That company invested \$200 million in R&D, and it gained FDA approval for this product.

In 2001, the Angiomax's patent term restoration application was unintentionally filed after the close of business on the day of the filing deadline. It was filed electronically. Because it was filed electronically on the day of the deadline beyond the close of business in the office, in terms of daytime presence, it was deemed to be filed 1 day late. It was ruled as being filed 1 day late by the Patent and Trademark Office subsequently.

I remember when I was in law school, people taught me often that sometimes