

Whereas beginning in June 2010, various ceremonies are being planned in the United States and the Republic of Korea to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War and to honor all Korean War veterans, including the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Ceremony in the hometown of President Harry S. Truman, which will express the commitment of the United States to remember and honor all veterans of the Korean War: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress—*

(1) recognizes the historical importance of the 60th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, which began on June 25, 1950;

(2) honors the noble service and sacrifice of the United States Armed Forces and the armed forces of allied countries that served in Korea since 1950 to the present;

(3) encourages all Americans to participate in commemorative activities to pay solemn tribute to, and to never forget, the veterans of the Korean War; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to its alliance with the Republic of Korea for the betterment of peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula.

#### COMMENDING EYECARE AMERICA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 557, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 557) commending EyeCare America for its volunteerism and efforts to preserve eyesight throughout the previous 25 years.

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. 557) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 557

Whereas, according to the National Eye Institute, in public opinion polls, Americans—

(1) have consistently identified the fear of vision loss as second only to the fear of developing cancer; and

(2) have stated that the loss of vision would have the greatest impact on their lives;

Whereas the National Eye Institute estimates that more than 11,000,000 people in the United States have common vision problems;

Whereas, according to the National Eye Institute, approximately 35,000,000 people in the United States experience an age-related eye disease, including age-related macular degeneration (the leading cause of vision loss in older people of the United States), glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and cataracts;

Whereas, according to the National Eye Institute, the number of people in the United States who experience an age-related eye disease is expected to grow to 50,000,000 by 2020;

Whereas, according to the National Eye Institute, the Hispanic and African-American populations experience a disproportionate incidence of glaucoma, cataracts, and diabetic retinopathy;

Whereas, according to the National Eye Institute, diabetic retinopathy is the leading cause of blindness in individuals of all races between the ages of 25 and 74;

Whereas vision impairment and eye disease are major public health issues, especially as 2010 begins the decade in which, according to the Census Bureau, more than ½ of the 78,000,000 Baby Boomers will turn 65 and be at greatest risk for developing an age-related eye disease;

Whereas much can be done to preserve eyesight with early detection and treatment;

Whereas EyeCare America, the public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, works to ensure that eye health is not neglected by matching eligible patients with 1 of nearly 7,000 volunteer ophthalmologists across the United States committed to preventing unnecessary blindness in their communities;

Whereas the volunteer ophthalmologists provide eye exams and eyecare for up to 1 year at no out-of-pocket cost to the patient, and seniors who do not have insurance receive the care at no charge;

Whereas individuals may call EyeCare America toll-free at 1-800-222-EYES (3937) to see if they are eligible to be referred to a volunteer ophthalmologist throughout the United States; and

Whereas EyeCare America has helped more than 1,000,000 people since the inception of the organization in 1985 and is the largest public service program of its kind in United States medicine as of the date of agreement to this resolution: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate commends EyeCare America for its volunteerism and efforts to preserve eyesight throughout the 25 years preceding the date of agreement to this resolution.*

#### NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 558, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 558) designating the week beginning September 12, 2010, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week.”

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. 558) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 558

Whereas direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this preamble as “direct support professionals”) are the primary providers of publicly funded long term support and services for millions of individuals;

Whereas a direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities;

Whereas a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis;

Whereas direct support professionals provide a broad range of support, including—

- (1) preparation of meals;
- (2) helping with medications;
- (3) bathing;
- (4) dressing;
- (5) mobility;
- (6) getting to school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and
- (7) general daily affairs;

Whereas a direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and community of the individual;

Whereas direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives;

Whereas direct support professionals are the key to allowing an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community of the individual, and to avoid more costly institutional care;

Whereas the majority of direct support professionals are female, and many are the sole breadwinners of their families;

Whereas direct support professionals work and pay taxes, but many remain impoverished and are eligible for the same Federal and State public assistance programs on which the individuals with disabilities served by the direct support professionals must depend;

Whereas Federal and State policies, as well as the Supreme Court, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), assert the right of an individual to live in the home and community of the individual;

Whereas, in 2010, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and this trend is projected to increase over the next decade;

Whereas there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and

Whereas many direct support professionals are forced to leave jobs due to inadequate wages and benefits, creating high turnover and vacancy rates that research demonstrates adversely affects the quality of support to individuals with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) designates the week beginning September 12, 2010, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”;

(2) recognizes the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages;

(3) appreciates the contribution of direct support professionals in supporting the needs that reach beyond the capacities of millions of families in the United States;

(4) commends direct support professionals as integral in supporting the long-term support and services system of the United States; and

(5) finds that the successful implementation of the public policies of the United

States depends on the dedication of direct support professionals.

# OBSERVING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 559, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 559) observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day.

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

Mr. BURRIS. Mr. President, on a hot day in the summer of 1776, delegates from across the American Colonies gathered in Philadelphia to cast off the yoke of tyranny and assert the fundamental right of self-government.

At that moment, when our Republic was born, our Founders ratified a document unique in human history which contained the landmark words:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

This simple creed became the justification of a great Revolutionary War, which gave rise to the thriving democracy we inhabit today. That is why we celebrate every Fourth of July as Independence Day—because of the principles laid out in that remarkable Declaration.

But, tragically, for almost a century after that document was ratified, the equality of all men remained an unfulfilled promise. It began to seem that the Declaration of Independence defined our aspirations rather than our core beliefs.

Slavery, brutal and unjust, remained legal throughout the majority of the 19th century and helped set the stage for the bloodiest war we have ever known. But, as President Lincoln had dearly hoped, out of that terrible violence was born a new and more complete freedom—a freedom that wiped out the scourge of slavery once and for all and realized the promise our Founding Fathers documented for all Americans.

That is why, on Saturday, many in this country observe another independence day known as Juneteenth. Slavery ended in the Confederate States of America when President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. But many slaves did not learn of their freedom until much later.

Finally, on June 19, 1865—more than 2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation—Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, TX. They brought news that must have been almost unbelievable to all who heard it. The Civil War was over, they announced, and all slaves were free.

From that day on, former slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19 as the anniversary of their emancipation. That is why I have submitted this resolution observing the historical significance of this date—Juneteenth Independence Day.

Over the past 145 years, Juneteenth celebrations have been held to honor African-American freedom. But this date has come to hold even greater significance. Throughout the world, Juneteenth celebrations lift the spirit of freedom and rail against the forces of oppression. At long last, this day is beginning to be recognized as both a national event and a global celebration.

But just as the Fourth of July marks the beginning of a journey that continues even today, we must not forget that the long march to freedom that started on June 19, 1865, is far from over.

Our country has made great strides in the century and a half since slavery was abolished, but deep wounds are slow to heal. We will never be able to rewrite this terrible history. But we can, and we must, do everything we can to rise above it—to seek constructive solutions to the problems that time alone cannot wash away, problems that still affect the African-American community on a daily basis, from discrimination, to crime, to health care disparities, to unemployment, to substance abuse, and so on.

So let's pay tribute to the suffering of our forefathers by seeking justice for our children. Let's remember our past by looking to our future and confronting these problems with bold, new solutions.

This is a day for all of us to stand together and lift up the liberties we hold so dear—a day to look forward, to look ahead to tomorrow, and continue the fight for freedom and equality.

So I ask my colleagues to stand with me. I ask them to support my resolution observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day. I invite them to share the joy of those who greeted Union soldiers in Galveston more than 140 years ago.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I rise to highlight the celebration of Juneteenth throughout my State of Colorado.

One hundred forty-five years ago, Black slaves in Galveston, TX, heard the contents of "General Order No. 3," which proclaimed their freedom from slavery. Though the announcement in Galveston in 1865 came over 2 years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, for the first time, Black slaves learned of their freedom from a shameful policy of early America that threatened the wellbeing of the entire Union. June 19, 1865, was a joyous day for these men, women and children and has since become a day of reflection and celebration as the day when Lincoln's words in the Emancipation Proclamation were finally realized. As African Americans migrated

west and out of Texas, they carried with them the memories and message they had heard on that great day in June.

Communities in Colorado come together every year to continue a tradition that highlights a notable turning point in our country's history; a point at which our country's hard fought efforts to empower a segment of America's population materialized. Today, just as before, this community has continued to make powerful and positive contributions to our common quality of life. That is why it is no surprise to me that this tradition carries on. In Colorado, citizens of various backgrounds gather in Pueblo, Colorado Springs, Denver and in the backyards of communities across our State to celebrate Juneteenth.

I am particularly proud to mention that in Pueblo, CO, they are celebrating the 30th anniversary of their first official Juneteenth celebration with the theme "Growing the Community." And just as in Colorado Springs, Denver and other places across the State, it is an event that shares this history and time of reflection with the entire community.

To all my fellow Coloradans who will gather this June 19 to celebrate an important event in America's history, I wish you a safe and joyous occasion. And I am proud that you continue to instill a sense of history and community that provides rich cultural and historical knowledge of our country's fight to ensure freedom for all.

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. 559) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

## S. RES. 559

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach frontier areas of the United States, and in particular the southwestern States, for more than 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued on January 1, 1863, and months after the conclusion of the Civil War;

Whereas, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free;

Whereas African-Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as "Juneteenth Independence Day", as the anniversary of their emancipation;

Whereas African-Americans from the Southwest continue the tradition of celebrating Juneteenth Independence Day as inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas, for more than 140 years, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations