and dedication to the San Antonio Missions. The legislation I have introduced today is a Senate companion to legislation that Congressman RODRIGUEZ introduced earlier this year.

During the 1700s, Spain greatly influenced the San Antonio area. As Spanish explorers travelled through modern-day Texas, Catholic missionaries and soldiers accompanied the group and established the missions and forts we now benefit from in the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. The missions and forts were originally established to protect Spanish land claims from the French in Louisiana. The missions and forts were also important to Spain in order to spread their influence and recruit new citizens for Spain's expanding empire. The San Antonio Missions National Historical Park preserves the 18th century missions on site and offers visitors an opportunity to learn about the historical importance that the area played in vocational and educational training during the 1700s.

Furthermore, the park exemplifies the diverse cultural influences we enjoy in Texas. The park's cultural influences can be seen through the formation of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, the largest concentration of historical Catholic missions in North America. The park also has some of the most effectively maintained Spanish colonial architecture in the United States. The rich history of the San Antonio Missions Historic Park must be preserved for future generations to enjoy. I am pleased to join Congressman RODRIGUEZ in supporting the San Antonio Missions.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3525. A bill to repeal the Jones Act restrictions on coastwise trade and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce legislation that would fully repeal the Jones Act, a 1920s law that hinders free trade and favors labor unions over consumers. Specifically, the Jones Act requires that all goods shipped between waterborne ports of the United States be carried by vessels built in the United States and owned and operated by Americans. This restriction only serves to raise shipping costs, thereby making U.S. farmers less competitive and increasing costs for American consumers.

This was highlighted by a 1999 U.S. International Trade Commission economic study, which suggested that a repeal of the Jones Act would lower shipping costs by approximately 22 percent. Also, a 2002 economic study from the same Commission found that repealing the Jones Act would have an annual positive welfare effect of $656 million on the overall U.S. economy. Since these studies are the most recent statistics available, imagine the impact a repeal of the Jones Act would have today: far more than a $656 million annual positive welfare impact—maybe closer to $1 billion. These statistics demonstrate that a repeal of the Jones Act could prove to be a true stimulus to our economy in the midst of such difficult economic times.

The Jones Act also adds a real, direct cost to consumers—particularly consumers in Hawaii and Alaska. A 1988 GAO report found that the Jones Act was costing Alaskan families between $1,921 and $4,821 annually for increased prices paid on goods shipped from the mainland. In 1997, a Hawaii government official asserted that ''Hawaii residents pay an additional $1 billion per year in higher prices because of the Jones Act. This amounts to approximately $3,000 for every household in Hawaii.''

This antiquated and protectionist law has been predominantly featured in the news as of late due to the Gulf Coast oil spill. Within a week of the explosion, 13 countries, including several European nations, offered assistance from vessels and crews with experience in removing oil spill debris, and as of June 21, the State Department has acknowledged that overall ''it has had 21 aid offers from 17 countries.'' However, due to the Jones Act, these vessels are not permitted in U.S. waters.

The Administration has the ability to grant a waiver of the Jones Act to any vessel—just as the previous Administration did during Hurricane Katrina—to allow the international community to assist in recovery efforts. Unfortunately, this Administration has not done so.

Therefore, some Senators have put forward legislation to waive the Jones Act during emergency situations, and I am proud to cosponsor this legislation. However, the best course of action is to permanently repeal the Jones Act in order to boost the economy, saving consumers hundreds of millions of dollars. I hope my colleagues will join me in this effort to repeal this unnecessary, antiquated legislation in order to spur job creation and promote free trade.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 562—TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY BY REQUIRING SENATE AMENDMENTS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN A TIMELY MANNER

Mr. GRASSLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 562

Resolved,

SECTION 1. AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC.

Not later than 6 months after the date of adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall make the Senate amendment database (ats.senate.gov or a similar amendment database) available to the public on a public website in a manner that will allow the public to view amendments as soon as they are made widely available to Members of Congress and staff.

SEC. 2. UPGRADES TO THE WEBSITE.

Not later than 6 months after the date of adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall improve the Senate amendment website and any other amendment website made available to the public by ensuring that—

(1) all amendments are scanned and posted on the website in their entirety;

(2) all submitted amendments have their purpose inputted when they are entered into the website;

(3) all amendments are identified on the website as first degree or second degree and by what bill or amendment they are offered, if available;

(4) all amendments on the website have the dates they were submitted, proposed, and disposed of; and

(5) all amendments and any associated metadata are permanently available on the website or the Legislative Information System (LIS)/THOMAS sites.

SEC. 3. FUNDING.

It is the sense of the Senate that appropriations should be made available through the appropriations process to carry out this resolution.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I address my colleagues for the purpose of submitting a resolution that will bring about greater transparency in government. I think my colleagues know I have a long history in promoting this sort of transparency. I believe the more people are aware of what we are doing in the Senate and the Congress, or in Washington generally, the more accountable we are. The more accountable we are, the better job we will do. I hope everybody agrees that is a pretty simple concept.

Today, the purpose I come to the Senate floor is to submit a resolution that will improve transparency in this body and hold us all more accountable to the people we serve; in other words, reminding the people that we work for them; they do not work for us.

This resolution requires the Secretary of the Senate to make filed amendments publicly available as soon as they are made available to Members and staff. I will show, in just a minute, that they are almost immediately made available to Members and staff. So why not the public?

In this day and age you would think this was already happening. We live in a world of 24-hour news. We live in a world of instant coverage over the Internet of just about everything. Yet we have not been allowing the general public to get this information real time. My proposal would add more transparency to how the Senate works and what we are debating on the Senate floor.

Some might question whether this is necessary. Under the current system, the public is usually able to see an amendment the next day in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. So I want to say why that is not good enough. In many cases, that may simply be too late.

Under the current system, the public may not be able to see the amendment until after debate has begun or even

after the Senate has already voted. This would be even more common during some of the controversial debates that stretch late into the evening. You might remember the late evening votes we had on health care reform last December and again in March where hundreds of amendments were filed and votes were cast well past midnight.

In fact, today we make the vote count public on the Internet within an hour of when a vote takes place. But we might not be able to make the substance of what we voted on available until the next day. So we let the public see how we voted, but we do not always let them see what we voted on. Of course, that does not make sense.

Just last night, Members tried to call up and pass various amendments. But only the most experienced Washington insider would have been able to actually find copies of those amendments. Shouldn't we have some kind of searchable system for amendments to allow our constituents the same access to information that some seasoned lobbyist or some seasoned congressional staffer has?

Don't we want to give our constituents a chance to see the amendments before we vote on them, if they are interested in reading them? Don't we want to know what our constituents think about amendments before we vote on them?

In order for that to happen, they have to know what those amendments are that have been filed. Of course, I am not talking about an amendment that might change a word here or a word there—although those should be publicly available as well. Some amendments I am talking about are hundreds of pages long and even constitute a complete rewrite of an underlying bill.

Today, we will likely see our fifth version of the extenders bill that is now the pending business on the floor of the Senate, and that fifth version would be in the form of an amendment. But our constituents may not be able to see that until tomorrow.

Shouldn't the public be able to see that amendment as soon as we Members or our staffs can read that amendment? This is a representative system of government, and it is impossible to represent the American people if they do not have access to the same information we have.

In addition to those who will question whether this is necessary, others might wonder whether it is even possible, like technically possible.

In fact, we are already doing it. That is right. The amendments are already available electronically to Senate offices almost immediately after they are filed, but they are not available to the public—not necessarily intentionally hidden from the public, but the public cannot get them like everybody in the Senate and in our offices can get them.

I have a chart in the Chamber that shows there is already an Amendment Tracking System Web site that is only available to Members of Congress and staff. It provides a copy of the amendment, the purpose of the amendment, the sponsor of the amendment, and the status of that amendment.

My resolution is this simple: It would simply make this or a similar Web site available to the public, much like already is done with the Legislative Information System site or the Thomas site at the Library of Congress.

That way, the public gets to see exactly what we Members and our staffs are seeing almost immediately after filing. They get the same information and can provide their input prior to a vote.

There is a lot of distrust of government these days. People believe Congress is ignoring what the public thinks and what the public wants. Some of this is the result of the policies that are being considered around here. But it also has to do with the lack of transparency and accountability in government.

I am not saying this resolution is going to fix all that is wrong with that distrust that is expressed—because it will not—but this resolution is one more step toward letting a little more sunshine into this Chamber. This straightforward resolution will increase transparency, it will promote accountability, and it will make us all better representatives of the people we serve.

I hope the Senate will consider this resolution at some point in the near future, and I also urge my colleagues to support it. The public deserves access to this information on the same basis as those of us who are closely connected to this institution—meaning the Members and our staffs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 563—RECOGNIZING THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS ON THEIR 2010 NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP AND CONGRATULATING THE PLAYERS, COACHES, AND STAFF FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 563

Whereas on June 17, 2010, the Los Angeles Lakers won the 2010 National Basketball Association (NBA) Championship with a 83–79 victory over the Boston Celtics in Game 7 of the NBA Finals;

Whereas during the 2010 NBA Playoffs, the Lakers defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder, Utah Jazz, Phoenix Suns, and Boston Celtics en route to the storied franchise's 16th championship and 11th in Los Angeles;

Whereas the 2010 Lakers honored the franchise's tradition of excellence that dates back to its establishment in 1947 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where the Lakers were named for the ''Land of 10,000 Lakes'' and won 5 championships before moving to Los Angeles in 1960;

Whereas this marks the Lakers' 5th NBA championship since 1999, the most by any franchise during that period, and matches the run by the ''Showtime'' Lakers of the 1980's that featured Hall of Fame players Earvin ''Magic'' Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and James Worthy;

Whereas Phil Jackson has won more championships than any other coach in NBA history, recording his 11th championship this year and 5th with the Lakers;

Whereas the 2010 NBA Championship marks the 10th for the Lakers owner Gerald Hatten Buss;

Whereas general manager Mitch Kupchak has built a team that has exemplified the talent, character, and resilience necessary to repeat as NBA Champions;

Whereas Kobe Bryant won his 5th NBA Championship, tying him with Earvin ''Magic'' Johnson and Derek Fisher for the most by a Lakers player;

Whereas Kobe Bryant averaged 28.6 points, 8.0 rebounds, and 3.9 assists during the NBA Finals, en route to winning his 2nd consecutive NBA Finals Most Valuable Player Award and becoming just the 8th player to win the award on multiple occasions;

Whereas Ron Artest, whose hustle and defensive tenacity were critical to the Lakers' win, recorded 20 points and 5 steals during Game 7 of the NBA Finals;

Whereas the frontcourt of Pau Gasol, Andrew Bynum, and Lamar Odom played stifling defense and helped the Lakers out-rebound the Celtics in the decisive Game 7;

Whereas Derek Fisher consistently showed toughness and leadership and scored 16 critical points in Game 3 in Boston;

Whereas the Lakers bench scored 25 points in a pivotal Game 6, and players Jordan Farmar, Luke Walton, Sasha Vujacic, Shannon Brown, Josh Powell, and DJ Mbenga all contributed to the team's 2010 Championship;

Whereas the Lakers posted a record of 57–25 during the regular season, the best record in the Western Conference and 3rd best in the NBA; and

Whereas the Los Angeles Lakers have demonstrated that they are both champions on the court and in the community through the team's involvement in charity and outreach programs throughout the Southern California community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes and congratulates—

(1) the Los Angeles Lakers for winning the 2010 NBA Finals;

(2) the Boston Celtics for winning the NBA Eastern Conference Championship and continuing a timeless rivalry; and

(3) coach Phil Jackson for winning his record-setting 11th championship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 564—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY OF MUTUAL SECURITY AND COOPERATION WITH JAPAN, AND AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES-JAPAN SECURITY ALLIANCE AND RELATIONSHIP

Mr. WEBB (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DODD, and Mr. BOND) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 564

Whereas Japan became a treaty ally of the United States with the signing of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security on January 19, 1960;