

maintain their land in a forested condition rather than clearing the land for development or other alternative land use;

Whereas United States hardwoods are a renewable resource and bio-based material;

Whereas United States hardwoods are recyclable, and hardwoods used in construction can often be restored and reused in later construction;

Whereas United States hardwoods are grown primarily in those States located along or east of the Mississippi River and in the Pacific Northwest, but, with a presence in every State, the hardwood industry is 1 of the major sources of economic activity and sustenance in many rural communities;

Whereas United States hardwoods are grown by thousands of small family landowners who may harvest trees only once or twice in a generation; and

Whereas United States hardwoods and the products derived from United States hardwoods are prized throughout the world as a superior and long-lasting building material: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that United States hardwoods are an abundant, sustainable, and legal resource under United States law; and

(2) urges that United States hardwoods and products derived from United States hardwoods should be given full consideration in any program to promote construction of environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce a resolution with my colleague, Mr. CHAMBLISS of Georgia, recognizing hardwood trees as an abundant, sustainable and renewable resource. Specifically, the resolution states that the U.S. Senate

Recognizes that United States hardwoods are an abundant, sustainable, and legal resource under United States law; and urges that United States hardwoods and products derived from United States hardwoods should be given full consideration in any program to promote construction of environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings.

Hardwoods are found throughout the U.S., but they are a major component of forests from New England, through the Lake States, and the South-Central and Southeastern states. Hardwood inventories are expected to increase by 27 percent over the next 40 years, according to the Forest Service. Most of these forests are owned and managed by families who make substantial investments in these lands, sometimes without the expectation of timber income in their lifetimes. This resolution recognizes the environmental qualities of hardwood lumber, as well as the generational commitment of America's family forest landowners who grow and nurture this valuable resource.

The Arkansas timber industry has suffered badly during the recession. This resolution will provide new markets for our State's hardwood growers, many of whom are small family landowners who may harvest trees only once or twice in a generation. With more than 60 hardwood facilities in Arkansas, the industry is an important piece of our economy. Hardwood is valued world-wide as a superior and long-lasting building material and I am proud to encourage their use.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a similar resolution, H. Res. 81, on September 15, 2009, by voice vote. It enjoyed widespread, bipartisan support and had more than 50 cosponsors. I urge my colleagues join us in supporting U.S. hardwoods, the hardwood industry and an abundant and renewable resource.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I am submitting a resolution today recognizing that hardwood trees are an abundant and sustainable resource in the United States, and that the products derived from hardwood trees should be given full consideration in programs promoting the construction of environmentally friendly buildings, including commercial, public or private buildings. This resolution will hopefully demonstrate Congress's support for the hardwood industry and that these hardwood materials, a USA product, are sustainable building materials. I invite and encourage all of my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan resolution.

The Nation's forests are a bountiful resource. Not only do they provide forest products and related jobs, but they also are prized for their scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, and maintaining clean air and water.

Today, about one-third of the Nation's landscape is forested. The majority of this forestland, about 57 percent, is privately owned. In my home State of Georgia, 24 million acres, about 67 percent of the land, is covered by forests. These forests have a direct economic impact of nearly \$13 billion per year. About one-third of Georgia's forests are hardwoods, which supports the nearly 300 hardwood facilities in the State. Most of these are small, family owned businesses, just as they are in the rest of the country. Unfortunately, in Georgia and the rest of the country, this industry has been in decline for more than a decade as paper and wood mills have closed and 158,000 jobs, many in rural areas, have been lost.

I hope that with this resolution my colleagues and the Nation remember the numerous benefits of forests and hardwoods. They are a sustainable and renewable resource and should be recognized for the environmental benefits they provide.

SENATE RESOLUTION 412—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2010 AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH”

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

S. RES. 412

Whereas during the past 4 decades, obesity rates have soared among all age groups, increasing more than four-fold among children ages 6 to 11;

Whereas 31.8 percent or 23,000,000 children and teenagers ages 2 to 19 are obese or overweight, a statistic that health and medical experts consider an epidemic;

Whereas significant disparities exist among the obesity rates of children based on race and poverty;

Whereas the financial implications of childhood obesity pose a tremendous financial threat to our economy and health care system, carrying up to \$14,000,000,000 per year in direct health care cost, with people in the United States spending about 9 percent of their total medical costs on obesity-related illnesses;

Whereas obese young people have an 80 percent chance of being obese adults and are more likely than children of normal weight to become overweight or obese adults, and therefore more at risk for associated adult health problems, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, stroke, several types of cancer, and osteoarthritis;

Whereas in part due to the childhood obesity epidemic, 1 in 3 children (and nearly 1 in 2 minority children) born in the year 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes at some point in their lifetime if current trends continue;

Whereas some consequences of childhood and adolescent obesity are psychosocial and obese children and adolescents are targets of early and systematic social discrimination, leading to low self-esteem which, in turn, can hinder academic and social functioning and persist into adulthood;

Whereas participating in physical activity is important for children and teens as it may have beneficial effects not only on body weight, but also on blood pressure and bone strength;

Whereas proper nutrition is important for children before birth and through their lifespan as nutrition has beneficial effects for health and body weight, and is key in the prevention of various chronic diseases;

Whereas childhood obesity is preventable yet does not appear to be declining;

Whereas public, community-based, and private sector organizations and individuals throughout the United States, including First Lady Michelle Obama, are working to decrease childhood obesity rates for people in the United States of all races through a range of efforts, including educational presentations, media campaigns, websites, policies, healthier food options, and greater opportunities for physical activity; and

Whereas Members of Congress have championed legislation to reduce and bring awareness to the issue of childhood obesity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month” in order to raise public awareness and mobilize the country to address childhood obesity;

(2) recognizes the importance of preventing childhood obesity and decreasing its prevalence in the United States; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government, States, Tribes and tribal organizations, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of promoting healthy eating and physical activity and increasing awareness of childhood obesity among individuals of all ages and walks of life.

SENATE RESOLUTION 413—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. MURTHA, OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BEGICH, Mr.

BENNET, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAUFMAN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 413

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable John P. Murtha, late a Representative from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

SENATE RESOLUTION 414—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE RECOVERY, REHABILITATION, AND REBUILDING OF HAITI FOLLOWING THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CAUSED BY THE JANUARY 12, 2010, EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

Mr. KERRY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 414

Whereas on January 12, 2010, Haiti suffered an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale, the greatest natural disaster in Haiti's history, which—

- (1) devastated Port-au-Prince and the surrounding areas;
- (2) killed more than 100,000 people;
- (3) injured hundreds of thousands more people; and
- (4) left many hundreds of thousands of people homeless;

Whereas Haiti, which is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere—

- (1) has an estimated 54 percent of its population living on less than \$1 per day;

- (2) has approximately 120,000 people living with HIV;

- (3) had 29,333 new cases of Tuberculosis in 2007; and

- (4) has nearly 400,000 children living in orphanages;

Whereas despite these challenges, cautious signs of developmental progress and stability were beginning to emerge in Haiti prior to the earthquake;

Whereas although initial recovery efforts must continue to assist the people of Haiti struggling to secure basic necessities, including food, water, health care, shelter, and electricity, Haiti cannot afford to only focus on its immediate needs;

Whereas various United States and international assessments indicate that the next priority for the Government of Haiti should be to repair the country's basic infrastructure, including its schools, roads, hospitals, telecommunications infrastructure, and government buildings;

Whereas Haiti's leaders have advocated that—

- (1) reconstruction should not follow the inefficient practices of the past; and

- (2) Haitians should be given the opportunity to accelerate and implement long planned reforms and new ways of doing business in every sector;

Whereas Haiti enjoys several advantages that can facilitate its rebuilding, including—

- (1) people committed to education and hard work;

- (2) duty-free, quota-free access to United States markets;

- (3) a large pool of low-cost labor;

- (4) a large, hardworking North American diaspora sending money back to Haiti; and

- (5) regional neighbors who are peaceful, prosperous, and supportive of Haiti's success;

Whereas international experience from rebuilding other countries recovering from natural disaster confirms that—

- (1) stability and security are essential preconditions to longer-term development; and

- (2) economic development and political reform should relieve poverty and foster governance and social justice;

Whereas employment is essential to breaking the vicious cycle of poverty, corruption, insecurity, and loss of faith in democracy;

Whereas the Haitian people, like all people, deserve the income and dignity that gainful employment provides;

Whereas, in addition to providing emergency assistance and relief, the Government of Haiti must grapple with the longer-term issue of how to provide permanent, sustainable shelter to an estimated 1,000,000 Haitians displaced by the earthquake;

Whereas, the impact of natural disaster on Haiti is—

- (1) exacerbated by weak building codes and poor infrastructure; and

- (2) more fundamentally the result of an impoverished state unable to provide most of its people with minimal public services, including security, clean water, shelter, electricity, health care, and education;

Whereas assistance to Haiti should be delivered in a manner that enhances, not diminishes, the ability of the state to provide services to its people;

Whereas the Haitian state should be rebuilt with communities in a central role in the national recovery process led by the Government of Haiti, so that foreign assistance upholds and empowers Haitian mayors, local councils, and municipalities in areas outside of Port-au-Prince;

Whereas international donors and nongovernmental organizations, which have a responsibility to support the Government of Haiti in its rebuilding efforts, should not supplant the ability of local institutions and the government to manage resources and provide essential services:

Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) urges the United States Government and the international community to provide resources, manpower, and technical assistance to support the Government of Haiti's leadership of international assistance efforts and to conduct a comprehensive post-disaster needs assessment that will focus on—

(A) social sector services, including access to, and delivery of, basic services, including—

- (i) health care delivery, including reinstating disrupted care and addressing new needs;

- (ii) all levels of education, including ensuring access to lessons as quickly as possible;

- (iii) social support for communities;

- (iv) improving the welfare of children; and

- (v) recognition of the importance of gender equality and the role of women as economic guardians;

(B) population resettlement, including services and sustainable livelihoods to support new communities and settlements;

(C) stable and democratic governance, ensuring that the Government of Haiti will appropriately steward state resources through a process embracing transparency, civic participation, political moderation, and institutional accountability;

(D) economic sustainability, emphasizing employment generation, macroeconomic stability, and market economy sustainability;

(E) security, ensuring legitimate state efforts to prevent and respond to crime, especially violence, and instilling public order and confidence in Haitian security forces; and

(F) rule of law, developing a just legal framework that—

- (i) is accountable;

- (ii) provides access to justice; and

- (iii) ensures public order;

(2) encourages the United States Government and the international community to support the leadership of the Government of Haiti and key nongovernmental and private sector Haitian stakeholders to create a comprehensive national strategy for recovery and development that will—

(A) be led by the Government of Haiti;

(B) address the findings from the needs assessment conducted under paragraph (1);

(C) coordinate new resources flowing into Haiti;

(D) channel such resources in concrete and specific ways towards key sectoral objectives identified by the Government of Haiti and its people;

(E) take feasible steps to recognize and rectify the social injustice of poverty, and decrease the vulnerability of the poor, through job creation, the provision of health care, the provision of safe shelter and settlements, food security, and education;

(F) place communities at the center of the rebuilding process, by employing local labor and consulting local leaders and communities for their experience and vision;

(G) encourage rebuilding and development of programs that are environmentally sustainable and respectful and restorative of Haiti's natural resources;

(H) work with the Government of Haiti and the international community to reduce the risk of future disasters, including floods and hurricanes, through the relief and recovery efforts focusing on the most vulnerable communities; and

(I) address the difficult issues related to land use, land tenure, the need for land for reconstruction, and land price escalations.

(3) applauds the international community's response to the preliminary appeal for assistance made at Montreal, Canada, on January 25, 2010;

(4) affirms that—