

S. RES. 654

Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the spouses and families of the fallen members of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. represents the spouses and families of the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who have died on active duty or as a result of a service-connected disability;

Whereas the primary mission of the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. is to provide services, support, and friendship to the spouses of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas, in 1945, the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. was organized with the help of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt to assist the families left behind by the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas the first meeting of the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. was in 1945;

Whereas December 18, 2010, marks the 65th anniversary of the incorporation of the Gold Star Wives of America;

Whereas the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States bear the burden of protecting freedom for the United States; and

Whereas the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 18, 2010, as “Gold Star Wives Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes—

(A) the contributions of the members of the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; and

(B) the dedication of the members of the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe “Gold Star Wives Day” to promote awareness of—

(A) the contributions and dedication of the members of the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(B) the important role the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. plays in the lives of the spouses and families of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 655—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2010 AS “STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH” AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT STOMACH CANCER

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 655

Whereas stomach cancer is one of the most difficult cancers to detect and treat in the early stages of the disease, which contributes to high mortality rates and human suffering;

Whereas stomach cancer is the second leading cause of cancer mortality worldwide;

Whereas, in 2009, an estimated 21,000 new cases of stomach cancer were diagnosed in the United States;

Whereas, in 2010, an estimated 10,000 Americans will die from stomach cancer;

Whereas the estimated 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer is only 26 percent;

Whereas approximately 1 in 113 individuals will be diagnosed with stomach cancer in their lifetimes;

Whereas an inherited form of stomach cancer carries a 67 to 83 percent risk that an individual will be diagnosed with stomach cancer by age 80;

Whereas, in the United States, stomach cancer is more prevalent among racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas better patient and health care provider education is needed for the timely recognition of stomach cancer risks and symptoms;

Whereas more research into effective early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer is needed; and

Whereas November 2010 is an appropriate month to observe “Stomach Cancer Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2010 as “Stomach Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) supports efforts to educate the people of the United States about stomach cancer;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research into early diagnosis and treatment for stomach cancer; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe and support November 2010 as “Stomach Cancer Awareness Month” through appropriate programs and activities to promote public awareness of, and potential treatments for, stomach cancer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 656—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE INAUGURAL USA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FESTIVAL

Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ROCKFELLER, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 656

Whereas the global economy of the future will require a workforce that is educated in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”);

Whereas a new generation of American students educated in STEM is crucial to ensure continued economic growth;

Whereas advances in technology have resulted in significant improvements in the daily lives of the people of the United States;

Whereas scientific discoveries are critical to curing diseases, solving global challenges, and expanding our understanding of the world;

Whereas strengthening the interest of American students, particularly young women and underrepresented minorities, in STEM education is necessary to maintain the global competitiveness of the United States;

Whereas countries around the world have held science festivals that have brought together hundreds of thousands of visitors to celebrate science;

Whereas the inaugural 2009 San Diego Science Festival attracted more than 500,000 participants and inspired a national STEM effort;

Whereas the mission of the USA Science & Engineering Festival is to reinvigorate the interest of the young people of the United States in STEM by producing exciting and educational science and engineering gatherings; and

Whereas thousands of individuals from universities, museums and science centers, STEM professional societies, educational societies, government agencies and labora-

tories, community organizations, K-12 schools, volunteers, corporate and private sponsors, and nonprofit organizations have come together to organize the inaugural USA Science & Engineering Festival across the United States, including a 2-day exposition on the National Mall that will feature more than 1,500 hands-on activities and more than 75 stage shows: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses the support of the Senate for the inaugural USA Science & Engineering Festival to be held in October 2010 in Washington, D.C.;

(2) commends the Nobel Laureates, institutions of higher education, corporate sponsors, and all the various organizations whose efforts will make the USA Science & Engineering Festival possible; and

(3) encourages students and their families to participate in the activities which will take place on the National Mall and across the United States at satellite locations as part of the inaugural USA Science & Engineering Festival.

SENATE RESOLUTION 657—CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE HOOVER DAM

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 657

Whereas the Hoover Dam, a concrete arch-gravity storage dam, was built in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River between the States of Nevada and Arizona, forever changing how water is managed across the West;

Whereas, on September 30, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Hoover Dam;

Whereas the construction of the Hoover Dam created Lake Mead, a reservoir that can store an amount of water that is equal to 2 years average flow of the Colorado River;

Whereas the construction of the Hoover Dam provided vitally critical flood control, water supply, and electrical power and helped to create and support the economic growth and development of the Southwestern United States;

Whereas the Hoover Dam has prevented an estimated \$50,000,000,000 in flood damages in the Lower Colorado River Basin;

Whereas the Hoover Dam provides water for more than 18,000,000 people and 1,000,000 acres of farmland in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada and 500,000 acres of farmland in Mexico, as well as produces an average of 4,000,000 kilowatt-hours of hydroelectric power each year;

Whereas the Hoover Dam, an engineering marvel at 726.4 feet from bedrock to crest, was the highest dam in the world at the time the Hoover Dam was constructed;

Whereas the Hoover Dam is an enduring symbol of the ingenuity of the United States and the persistence of hardworking Americans during the Great Depression;

Whereas the Hoover Dam is the model for major water management projects around the world; and

Whereas the Hoover Dam is registered as a National Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places and is considered 1 of 7 modern engineering wonders by the American Society of Civil Engineers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates and acknowledges the thousands of workers and families that overcame difficult working conditions and great challenges to make construction of the Hoover Dam possible;

(2) celebrates and acknowledges the economic, cultural, and historic significance of the Hoover Dam;

(3) recognizes the past, present, and future benefits of the construction of the Hoover Dam to the agricultural, industrial, and urban development of the Southwestern United States; and

(4) joins the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and the people of the United States in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Hoover Dam.

SENATE RESOLUTION 658—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 17, 2010, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 658

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by institutions and individuals that influence youth to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young people to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of our youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of

the young people of the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into their teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 17, 2010, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 659—SUPPORTING “LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL”, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BURR, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 659

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs support working families by ensuring that the children in such families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of the youth of the Nation, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of the children in the United States;

Whereas “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 21, 2010, highlights the critical importance of high-quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas many afterschool programs across the United States are struggling to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 660—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAM PROMOTING ADVANCEMENTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS MADE BY OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 660

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are vital fields of increasing importance in driving the economic engine and ensuring the security of the United States;

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics have played, and will continue to play, critical roles in helping to develop clean energy technologies, find life-saving cures for diseases, solve security challenges, and discover new solutions for deteriorating transportation and infrastructure;

Whereas the United States is recognized as an international leader in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and a destination for individuals from all over the world studying in those fields;

Whereas in partnership with countries and individuals across the globe, the people of the United States have made advances in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that have advanced the knowledge and improved the condition of human beings everywhere;

Whereas international scientific cooperation enhances relationships among participating countries by building trust and increasing understanding between those countries and cultures through the collaborative nature of scientific dialogue;

Whereas partnerships between the people of other countries and the people of the United States are the most effective form of public diplomacy, helping to counter misconceptions based on fear, ignorance, and misinformation;

Whereas consistent polling and scholarly research have shown that even countries that disagree with some aspects of United States foreign policy admire the leadership of the United States in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

Whereas international scientific cooperation has produced successful engagement and led to improved relations with countries that exhibited hostility to the United States in the past, including Russia and the People's Republic of China: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends individuals and institutions that participate in and support advancements in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, especially through international partnerships;

(2) supports the Science Envoy Program as representative of the commitment of the United States to collaborate with other countries to promote the advancement of science and technology throughout the world based on issues of common interest and expertise; and

(3) encourages the Secretary of State to establish a public diplomacy program that uses embassies of the United States and the resources of the Smithsonian Institution and other such institutions—

(A) to establish engaging exhibits that provide examples of cooperation between institutions and the people of the United States and the institutions and people of the host country in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;