

Whereas al Shabaab has claimed responsibility for many bombings—including suicide attacks—in Mogadishu, as well as in central and northern Somalia, typically targeting officials of the Government of Somalia and perceived allies of the TFG;

Whereas, according to Human Rights Watch, al Shabaab is subjecting inhabitants of areas under its control in southern Somalia to executions, cruel punishments, including amputations and floggings, and repressive social control;

Whereas the human rights situation in Somalia has dramatically worsened over the past several years with increased numbers of killings, torture, kidnappings, and rape;

Whereas the 2009 Department of State Country Terrorism Report notes that “Somalia’s fragile transitional Federal government, protracted state of violent instability, its long, ungarded coastline, porous borders, and proximity to the Arabian Peninsula, made the country an attractive location for international terrorists seeking a transit or launching point for operations in Somalia or elsewhere”;

Whereas the situation in southern and central Somalia, particularly the activity of al Shabaab, poses direct threats to the stability of Puntland and Somaliland regions, as well as the stability of neighboring states and the wider region;

Whereas al Shabaab leaders have stated their intent to provide recruits and support for al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula in Yemen;

Whereas the Government of Eritrea has provided military and financial support for armed opposition groups, including al Shebaab, in part as a proxy front in its continuing tensions with Ethiopia;

Whereas, according to the most recent report by the United Nations Somalia Monitoring Group, arms, ammunitions, and military or dual-use equipment continue to enter Somalia at a fairly steady rate, in violation of the general and complete arms embargo imposed in 1992;

Whereas, in July 2009, the Department of State confirmed that, in addition to other support for the TFG, it had provided cash to purchase weapons and ammunitions for the TFG’s efforts “to repel the onslaught of extremist forces which are intent on destroying the Djibouti peace process”;

Whereas, according to most recent report by the United Nations Somalia Monitoring Group, “[d]espite infusions of foreign training and assistance, government security forces remain ineffective, disorganized and corrupt — a composite of independent militias loyal to senior government officials and military officers who profit from the business of war and resist their integration under a single command”;

Whereas, on April 13, 2010, President Barack Obama issued an executive order to sanction or freeze the assets of militants who threaten, both directly and indirectly, the stability of Somalia, as well as individuals involved in piracy off Somalia’s coast;

Whereas, in March 2009, at a hearing of the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate, Andrew Liepman, Deputy Director of Intelligence at the National Counterterrorism Center, noted that “[s]ince 2006, a number of U.S. citizens [have] traveled to Somalia, possibly to train in extremist training camps”;

Whereas, in September 2009, at a hearing of the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate, the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center Michael Leiter testified that “the potential for al-Qaeda operatives in Somalia to commission Americans to return to the United States and launch attacks against the Homeland remains of significant concern”;

Whereas al Shabaab has claimed responsibility for the bombings in Kampala, Uganda on July 11, 2010, which killed 76 people, including one American, and wounded scores of other people; and

Whereas the extraordinary and ongoing crisis in Somalia has enormous humanitarian consequences and direct national security implications for the United States and our allies in the region: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the urgency of addressing the threats to United States national security in Somalia and the conditions that foster those threats;

(2) reaffirms its commitment to stand with all the people of Somalia who aspire to a future free of terrorism and violence through advancing political reconciliation and building legitimate and inclusive governance institutions;

(3) recognizes the difficult, but very important, work being done by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to help secure parts of Mogadishu, and reaffirms its support for the mission;

(4) calls on the Transitional Federal Government in Somalia—

(A) to cease immediately any use of child soldiers;

(B) to ensure better accountability and transparency for all received security assistance;

(C) to renew its commitment to political reconciliation; and

(D) to take necessary steps toward becoming a more legitimate and inclusive government in the eyes of the people of Somalia;

(5) calls on all actors and governments in the region, particularly the Government of Eritrea, to play a productive role in helping to bring about peace and stability to Somalia, including ceasing to provide any financial or material support to al Shabaab and other armed opposition groups in Somalia;

(6) welcomes efforts by the President to bring greater focus and resources toward understanding and monitoring the situation in Somalia;

(7) urges the President to develop a comprehensive strategy to ensure that all United States humanitarian, diplomatic, political, and counterterrorism programs in Somalia and the wider Horn of Africa are coordinated and making progress toward the long-term goal of establishing stability, respect for human rights, and functional, inclusive governance in Somalia;

(8) urges the President and Secretary of State, as part of a comprehensive strategy—

(A) to provide greater support for a range of diplomatic initiatives to engage clan leaders, business leaders, and civil society leaders in Somalia and the Somali Diaspora in political reconciliation and consensus-building;

(B) to ensure better oversight, monitoring, and transparency of all United States security assistance provided to the TFG;

(C) to increase and strengthen the United States diplomatic team working on Somalia, including the appointment of a senior envoy, and to ensure that these officials have the necessary resources, access, and mandate;

(D) to pursue opportunities for periodic, temporary United States Government travel to Somalia, consistent with any security concerns;

(E) to expand and deepen our engagement with the regional administration of Puntland and other regional administrations in order to promote good governance, effective law enforcement, respect for human rights, and stability in these regions;

(F) to provide additional humanitarian, development, and security assistance to the region of Somaliland, recognizing the positive developments in that region with respect to consolidating multi-party democracy, which was evident in the recent election there;

(G) to outline punitive measures and incentives that can be used with the Government of Eritrea to bring a halt to its financial and material support for armed opposition groups in Somalia, including steps to improve bilateral relations and to push for a resolution of Eritrea’s border dispute with Ethiopia consistent with the arbitration decision of the Ethiopia-Eritrea Border Commission;

(H) to explore, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, increased options for pressuring individuals, governments, and other actors who undertake economic activities that support al Shabaab and other armed opposition groups in Somalia; and

(I) to develop, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, creative and flexible mechanisms for delivering basic humanitarian and development assistance to the people of Somalia while minimizing the risk of significant diversion to armed opposition groups.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment to the resolution be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, 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 committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 573), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR LONG-TERM CARE PHYSICIANS

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Con. Res. 52.

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

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 52) expressing support for the designation of March 20 as a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the technical amendment at the desk be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 4690) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 2, line 3, after “March 20” add “, 2010.”

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 52), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 52

Whereas a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians is designed to honor and recognize physicians who care for an ever-growing elderly population in different settings, including skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, hospice, continuing

care retirement communities, post-acute care, home care, and private offices;

Whereas the average long-term care physician has nearly 20 years of practice experience and dedicates themselves to 1 or 2 facilities with nearly 100 residents and patients;

Whereas the American Medical Directors Association is the professional association of medical directors, attending physicians, and others practicing in the long-term continuum and is dedicated to excellence in patient care and provides education, advocacy, information, and professional development to promote the delivery of quality long-term care medicine; and

Whereas the American Medical Directors Association would like to honor founder and long-term care physician William A. Dodd, M.D., C.M.D., who was born on March 20, 1921; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress expresses support for—

(1) the designation of March 20, 2010, as a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians; and

(2) the goals and ideals of a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians.

45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Con. Res. 72.

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

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 72) recognizing the 45th anniversary of the White House Fellows Program.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 72) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 72

Whereas in 1964, John W. Gardner presented the idea of selecting a handful of outstanding men and women to travel to Washington, DC, to participate in a fellowship program that would educate such men and women about the workings of the highest levels of the Federal Government and about leadership, as they observed Federal officials in action and met with these officials and other leaders of society, thereby strengthening the abilities of such individuals to contribute to their communities, their professions, and the United States;

Whereas President Lyndon B. Johnson established the President's Commission on White House Fellowships, through Executive Order 11183 (as amended), to create a program that would select between 11 and 19 outstanding young citizens of the United

States every year and bring them to Washington, DC, for "first hand, high-level experience in the workings of the Federal Government, to establish an era when the young men and women of America and their government belonged to each other—belonged to each other in fact and in spirit";

Whereas the White House Fellows Program has steadfastly remained a nonpartisan program that has served 9 Presidents exceptionally well;

Whereas the 672 White House Fellows who have served have established a legacy of leadership in every aspect of our society, including appointments as cabinet officers, ambassadors, special envoys, deputy and assistant secretaries of departments and senior White House staff, election to the House of Representatives, Senate, and State and local governments, appointments to the Federal, State, and local judiciary, appointments as United States Attorneys, leadership in many of the largest corporations and law firms in the United States, service as presidents of colleges and universities, deans of our most distinguished graduate schools, officials in nonprofit organizations, distinguished scholars and historians, and service as senior leaders in every branch of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas this legacy of leadership is a resource that has been relied upon by the Nation during major challenges, including organizing resettlement operations following the Vietnam War, assisting with the national response to terrorist attacks, managing the aftermath of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, providing support to earthquake victims in Haiti, performing military service in Iraq and Afghanistan, and reforming and innovating the national and international securities and capital markets;

Whereas the 672 White House Fellows have characterized their post-Fellowship years with a lifetime commitment to public service, including creating a White House Fellows Community of Mutual Support for leadership at every level of government and in every element of our national life; and

Whereas September 1, 2010, marked the 45th anniversary of the first class of White House Fellows to serve this Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the 45th anniversary of the White House Fellows program and commends the White House Fellows for their continuing lifetime commitment to public service;

(2) acknowledges the legacy of leadership provided by White House Fellows over the years in their local communities, the Nation, and the world; and

(3) expresses appreciation and support for the continuing leadership of White House Fellows in all aspects of our national life in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC SHOOTINGS AT FORD HOOD, TEXAS, ON NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 319, which was received from the House.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 319) recognizing the anniversary of the tragic

shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the concurrent resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 319) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

HONORING THE 28TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 74, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 74) honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent 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 this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 74) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 74

Whereas some units of the 28th Infantry Division date back to 1747;

Whereas units that would one day comprise the 28th Infantry Division served in the Revolutionary War, including units that served in the Continental Army under General George Washington;

Whereas what eventually became the 28th Infantry Division was initially established March 12 through 20, 1879, as the Division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, and is recognized as the oldest, continuously serving division in the Army;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division as we know it today was formed on September 1, 1917, and was integral to the success of World War I campaigns in the European theater, including those in Champagne, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Lorraine, and Meuse-Argonne;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division adopted the title of "Iron Division" for the valiant efforts of the Division during World War I;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division contributed to military operations in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland,