

Whereas an Enhanced Fujita category 5 (referred to in this preamble as an "EF5") tornado is defined by the National Weather Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as the rarest and most severe type of tornado, with sustained winds of greater than 200 miles per hour and that results in total destruction of well-built, structurally-sound buildings;

Whereas 3 of the 5 EF5 rated tornadoes recorded in the United States since 2000 occurred as part of the April 25 through 28, 2011 tornado outbreak in the States of Mississippi and Alabama;

Whereas the Washington County, Virginia tornado traveled approximately 14 miles and had a maximum path width of 2 miles;

Whereas the National Weather Service estimates that 40 tornadoes hit the State of Tennessee from April 27 through 28, 2011;

Whereas the National Weather Service has confirmed that a total of 15 tornadoes hit the State of Georgia throughout the period of April 25 through 28, 2011, including a powerful EF4 tornado which devastated the city of Ringgold, Georgia;

Whereas dozens of rural communities throughout the South, including in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina, have been decimated by the devastating storms and tornadoes of April 2011;

Whereas more than 500 homes were damaged or destroyed in the State of Tennessee as a result of the devastating storms and tornadoes;

Whereas the massive storms impacted cities and towns in the State of Alabama, including Arab, Berry, Birmingham, Concord, Eclectic, Forkland, Fultondale, Hackleburg, Phil Campbell, Pleasant Grove, Rainsville, and Tuscaloosa;

Whereas President Obama declared 10 counties in the State of Tennessee to be in a state of major disaster and approved the request made by Governor Haslam for Federal disaster assistance;

Whereas the tornado that swept from Monroe County, Mississippi into Marion County, Alabama and destroyed Smithville, Mississippi was—

(1) the sixth deadliest tornado ever recorded in the State of Mississippi;

(2) the first EF5 tornado recorded in the State of Mississippi since 1966; and

(3) the first EF5 tornado recorded in the United States since May 2008.

Whereas the massive storms and tornadoes caused widespread damage in the Georgian counties of Bartow, Catoosa, Cherokee, Coweta, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Greene, Habersham, Harris, Heard, Lamar, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Pickens, Polk, Rabun, Spalding, Troup, Upson, Walker, and White;

Whereas the massive storms and tornadoes caused widespread damage in the North Carolina counties of Bertie, Bladen, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Tyrell, Wake, and Wilson;

Whereas the tornado that swept from Neshoba County, Mississippi to Noxubee County, Mississippi was just the second EF5 tornado recorded in the State of Mississippi since 1966;

Whereas April 27, 2011, marks the third highest number of tornado-related fatalities occurring in a single day since March 18, 1925, when a series of tornadoes caused 747 fatalities across 7 States;

Whereas as of the date of approval of this resolution, the total number of fatalities resulting from the devastating storms and tornadoes remains unknown;

Whereas the suffering and distress of thousands of people affected by the storms and

tornadoes is ongoing, particularly for those who lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods;

Whereas immediate humanitarian aid is critically needed in many of the devastated regions;

Whereas the local emergency responders, National Guard, and many ordinary citizens of the affected regions have risked their lives to save others;

Whereas throughout the crisis, doctors, nurses, and medical personnel in the affected regions worked expeditiously to ensure that hospitals, medical centers, and triage units provided needed care;

Whereas many faith-based organizations and other volunteer organizations and charities are supplying the victims of the storms and tornadoes with food, water, and shelter;

Whereas the Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina Emergency Management Agencies, the first responders in the affected communities, and countless volunteers immediately came to the aid of those affected by the storms;

Whereas the Governor of Alabama, Robert Bentley, the Governor of Tennessee, Bill Haslam, the Governor of Mississippi, Haley Barbour, the Governor of Georgia, Nathan Deal, the Governor of Virginia, Robert McDonnell, and the Governor of North Carolina, Beverly Perdue, reacted swiftly and with great leadership in the immediate aftermath of the destructive storms and tornadoes;

Whereas President Obama responded quickly and efficiently to approve the requests made by Governors Bentley, Haslam, Barbour, Deal, and Perdue for Federal disaster assistance;

Whereas in response to the declaration by the President of a major disaster, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency has made federal disaster assistance available for the State of Alabama and elsewhere in the South to assist in local recovery efforts; and

Whereas thousands of volunteers and government employees from across the United States have committed time and resources to help with recovery efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses the heartfelt condolences of the Senate to the families and friends of those who lost their lives, homes, and livelihoods in the tragic storms and tornadoes of April 2011;

(2) commends the resiliency and courage of the people of the affected States, including the people of the States of Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina;

(3) extends the wishes of the Senate for a full recovery for all those who were injured in the storms and tornadoes;

(4) extends the thanks of the Senate to the forecasters, first responders, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, volunteers, and medical personnel who took quick action to provide warnings, aid, and comfort to the victims of the storms and tornadoes;

(5) commits to provide the necessary resources and to stand by the people of the affected States, including the people of the States of Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina, in the relief, recovery, and rebuilding efforts; and

(6) stands with the people affected by the storms and tornadoes, including the people of the States of Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina, as those people begin the healing process following this terrible event.

S. RES. 183

(National Police Survivors Day)

Whereas the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Judiciary Square in

Washington, D.C. lists on a Wall of Remembrance the names of more than 19,000 law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty;

Whereas in the United States, 1 law enforcement officer is killed every 53 hours;

Whereas in 2010, 152 law enforcement officers lost their lives in the line of duty;

Whereas on May 14, 1983, on the eve of the 2nd annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, 10 widows of fallen law enforcement officers came together to discuss the lack of support for law enforcement survivors;

Whereas 1 year later, that discussion led to the formation of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. at the 1st annual National Police Survivors' Seminar, which drew 110 law enforcement survivors from throughout the United States;

Whereas Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. has grown to serve more than 15,000 surviving families of fallen law enforcement officers by providing healing, love, and the opportunity for a renewed life;

Whereas Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. and its 52 chapters throughout the United States provide a program of peer support and counseling to law enforcement survivors, help survivors obtain the death benefits to which they are entitled, and sponsor scholarships to enable children and surviving spouses to pursue postsecondary education;

Whereas Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. sponsors a year-round series of seminars, meetings, and youth activities, including the National Police Survivors' Seminar during National Police Week, retreats for parents, spouses, and siblings, and programs and summer activities for children;

Whereas Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. helps law enforcement agencies cope with the loss of an officer by promoting the adoption of standardized policies and procedures for line-of-duty deaths; and

Whereas Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. inspires the public to recognize the sacrifices made by law enforcement families by encouraging all citizens of the United States to tie a blue ribbon to their car antenna during National Police Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 14, 2011, as "National Police Survivors Day"; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe "National Police Survivors Day" with appropriate ceremonies to pay respect to—

(A) the survivors of the fallen heroes of law enforcement; and

(B) the fallen law enforcement officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the community.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 16.

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. 16) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 16) was agreed to.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to H. Con. Res. 46.

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. 46) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 46) was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to H. Con. Res. 50.

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. 50) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and there be no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 50) was agreed to.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1229 AND S. 990

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there are two bills at the desk due for their first reading.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1229) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to facilitate the safe and timely production of American energy resources from the Gulf of Mexico, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain offshore oil and gas lease sales, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 990) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I now ask for the second readings en bloc, but I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the reappointment of Sheryl B. Vogt, of Georgia, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 16; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for debate only until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the next rollcall vote will be around noon on Tuesday, May 17, on the confirmation of the nomination of Susan Carney, of Connecticut, to be a U.S. circuit court judge. Senators are encouraged to come to the floor on Monday to debate the Carney nomination.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:56 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 16, 2011, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

MARK D. ACTON, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 14, 2016. (REAPPOINTMENT)

ROBERT G. TAUB, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 14, 2016, VICE TONY HAMMOND, TERM EXPIRED.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

MARK P. WETJEN, OF NEVADA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 19, 2016, VICE MICHAEL V. DUNN, TERM EXPIRING.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE AGENCIES INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NAADIA LISA PORTER, OF CALIFORNIA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ENRIQUE A. BRUNET, OF TEXAS
RYAN ANDREW LAIRD MCGONAGLE, OF WASHINGTON
CHRISTINE N. NTEIREHO, OF VIRGINIA
ROSHANAK SALIMI, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JAY BIGGS, OF OHIO
MARIA B. GALINDO, OF NEW JERSEY
JOSHUA HALPERN, OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OWEN GILBERT ABBE, OF VIRGINIA
CASEY L. ADDIS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RYAN J. ALSABAGH, OF VIRGINIA
LAUREN A. ARESTIE, OF VIRGINIA
STACEY ANNE BA, OF KANSAS
KEVIN M. BARRY, OF VIRGINIA
JULIE ANNE BEBERMAN, OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
RAIN CHE BIAN, OF NEW YORK
IAN MITCHELL BILLARD, OF MISSOURI
CHRISTINA J. BOBADILLA, OF FLORIDA
CARL D. BOOKSING, OF VIRGINIA
KENNETH C. BRENNAN, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL DAVID BREWER, OF NEW YORK
ROBERT A. BRINK, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES M. BRODT, OF VIRGINIA
M. LAURA BROOKINS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
KEVIN J. BROSAHAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THOMAS V. B. BROWN, OF CALIFORNIA
ANGELA Y. BROWN, OF FLORIDA
WYATT L. BUSBEE, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN K. BYINGTON, OF VIRGINIA
MEAGAN M. BYXBEE, OF WEST VIRGINIA
MERLYN CALDERON, OF CALIFORNIA
ADRIANA CALLEJO, OF MARYLAND
BRIAN W. CAMPBELL, OF NEW YORK
DAVID SCOTT CAMPBELL, OF NEW MEXICO
TANYA R. CANADY, OF MARYLAND
DAVID RYAN CARR, OF OREGON
MARIAM A. CEMENTWALA, OF CALIFORNIA
CHRISTINA CARCHAR, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL J. CHASSEN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALICE B. CHEUNG, OF VIRGINIA
JOSHUA L. CHU, OF VIRGINIA
EMILY KATHLEEN CINTORA, OF ARIZONA
WILLIAM BENJAMIN COCKS, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC C. CONCHA, OF FLORIDA
ANDREW WILLIS COOK, OF VIRGINIA
DEVIN WAYNE COOPER, OF VIRGINIA
DIANA L. COSTA, OF MISSOURI
EVA HELENE D'AMBROSIO, OF INDIANA
JANE L. DENHAM, OF TEXAS
RANDALL E. DEPAUL, OF MARYLAND
JOE DICKERSON, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW J. DILBER, OF VIRGINIA
JORDAN T. DOVER, OF VIRGINIA
AIMEE DOWL, OF CALIFORNIA
PHILIP MARTIN DREWRY, OF TEXAS
J. SPENCER DRISCOLL, OF WASHINGTON
PAUL A. DUFRESNE, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW SCOTT DUNN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THOMAS M. EDSALL, OF VIRGINIA
TRACY ELLERBY, OF MARYLAND
JOHN D. ELLIOTT, OF GEORGIA
ANDREW J. ELLIS, JR., OF MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER ELSSASSER, OF MARYLAND
ANGELA K. ENG, OF VIRGINIA
SCOTT EPSTEIN, OF VIRGINIA
ANNA ESTRINA, OF NEW YORK
NICOLE M. FINNEMANN, OF MICHIGAN
TERRENCE FINNERAN, OF FLORIDA
CATHERINE DELIA CAMPBELL FISCHER, OF CALIFORNIA
BON FLEMING, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CLAUDIA S. FOSS, OF VIRGINIA
RUTH A. GASKELL, OF VIRGINIA
BRYAN M. GIBLIN, OF MARYLAND
KENNETH W. GIBSON, OF VIRGINIA
WILLIAM C. GILBERT, OF MISSOURI