

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

VETERANS HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2011

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of H.R. 2646, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2646) to authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects and leases, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and to modify certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 2646) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SHORT-TERM TANF EXTENSION ACT

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2943, which was received from the House.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2943) to extend the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and related programs through December 31, 2011.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title for the third time.

The bill (H.R. 2943) was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 2943) was passed.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

HONORING THE SERVICE OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS LEROY ARTHUR PETRY

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 27 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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. 27) honoring the service of Sergeant First Class Leroy Arthur Petry, a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the second living recipient of the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the concurrent resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 27) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

S. CON. RES. 27

Whereas Sergeant First Class Leroy Arthur Petry of the United States Army, a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Obama on July 12, 2011;

Whereas the Medal of Honor is the highest honor awarded to members of the Armed Forces for valor in combat;

Whereas the official citation awarding the Medal of Honor to Sergeant First Class Petry states that then-Staff Sergeant Petry "distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action with an armed enemy in the vicinity of Paktya Province, Afghanistan, on May 26, 2008";

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry joins an elite group of Medal of Honor recipients dating back to the Civil War;

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry has continued a long tradition of military service to the United States by New Mexicans, dating back to the defense of the Western United States during the Civil War, and followed by participation in every major war fought by the United States;

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry is the second living recipient of the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War;

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry fought with bravery and, despite wounds to both of his legs, had the courage and quick thinking needed to save the lives of his fellow soldiers by throwing back an enemy grenade and losing his right hand when the grenade detonated shortly after he released it;

Whereas the actions of Sergeant First Class Petry represent the highest values of

the Army, the Rangers, and the United States;

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry has consistently demonstrated humility and dedication to his fellow soldiers;

Whereas Sergeant First Class Petry, who overcame a troubled youth and found the strength to turn his life around and dedicate himself to serving the United States, is an example to all people who are struggling in the United States; and

Whereas the brave actions of Sergeant First Class Petry, as well as his modesty and selfless service, stand as the embodiment of the best attributes of the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) honors the service and sacrifice of Sergeant First Class Leroy Arthur Petry of the United States Army and his family; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to recognize the valor, heroism, and dedication to the United States exhibited by Sergeant First Class Petry.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Con. Res. 29, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 29) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. 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 relating to the matter be placed in the RECORD as if read.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 29) was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 29

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The rotunda of the United States Capitol is authorized to be used for an event on November 16, 2011 for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

NATIONAL BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 248 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 248) supporting the goals and ideals of National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent the 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 any statements relating to the matter be placed in the RECORD as if read.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 248) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 248

Whereas a brain aneurysm is an abnormal saccular or fusiform bulging of an artery in the brain;

Whereas an estimated 1 out of every 50 people in the United States will develop a brain aneurysm;

Whereas brain aneurysms are most likely to occur in people between the ages of 35 and 60;

Whereas brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in women than in men by a 3-to-2 ratio;

Whereas brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in African-Americans than in Whites by a 2-to-1 ratio;

Whereas various risk factors can contribute to the formation of a brain aneurysm, including infection, tumors, traumatic head injury, drug use, smoking, hypertension, and a family history of brain aneurysms;

Whereas approximately 6,000,000 people in the United States will develop a brain aneurysm that will not rupture;

Whereas an unruptured brain aneurysm can lead to fatigue, short-term memory problems, speech problems, loss of balance and coordination, and changes in behavior;

Whereas a brain aneurysm is often discovered when it ruptures and causes a subarachnoid hemorrhage;

Whereas a subarachnoid hemorrhage can lead to brain damage, hydrocephalus, stroke, and death;

Whereas annually more than 30,000 people in the United States suffer from ruptured brain aneurysms;

Whereas annually between 3,000 and 4,500 people in the United States with ruptured brain aneurysms die before reaching the hospital;

Whereas a number of advancements have been made in recent years regarding the detection of aneurysms, including the computerized tomography scan, the magnetic resonance imaging test, and the cerebral arteriogram;

Whereas September is an appropriate month to designate as "National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month"; and

Whereas various research studies are currently being conducted in the United States in order to better understand, prevent, and treat brain aneurysms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month; and

(2) continues to support research to prevent and treat brain aneurysms.

CONGRATULATING NUNAKA VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE

NATIONAL MEDICINE ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from the following resolutions en bloc, and the Senate proceed to their consideration en bloc: S. Res. 273 and S. Res. 261.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolutions by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 273) congratulating the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team on their performance in the Junior League Softball World Series.

A resolution (S. Res. 261) designating the month of October 2011 as "National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month."

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD as if read.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. RES. 273

Whereas the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team is comprised of young women from Anchorage, Alaska, who play softball;

Whereas the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team compiled an impressive record in the 2011 regular season, outscoring opponents 428 to 83;

Whereas the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team was undefeated in the district and State tournaments on the way to winning the Alaska State Championship;

Whereas the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team was undefeated in 4 games and won the West Regional Tournament held in Marana, Arizona;

Whereas in August, 2011, the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team represented the West Region at the Junior League Softball World Series in Kirkland, Washington;

Whereas in 2011, Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team manager Richard Knowles led the team to the Junior League Softball World Series for the second time in 3 years;

Whereas in 2011, the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team won 4 games and lost just 2 games en route to a third place finish in the Junior League Softball World Series;

Whereas more than 2,000 teams and 30,000 players compete in Junior League Girls Softball each year;

Whereas the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team finished the 2011 season ranked third in the world;

Whereas the hard work and dedication of the entire Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team and the support of their families led the team to success in 2011;

Whereas Little League softball and baseball has provided a positive athletic experience and fostered teamwork and sportsmanship to millions of children in the United States and around the world; and

Whereas Alaskans everywhere are proud of the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls athletes, Jacynne Augufa, Leilani Blair, Heather Breslin, Metanoya Fiame, Morgan Hill, Julia Merritt, Gabrielle Meyerson, Taria Page, Hannah Peterson, Sydney Smith, Lauren Syrup, and Nanea Tali, on the 2011 softball season: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the athletes, parents, and coaching staff of the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team on an impressive 2011 season; and

(2) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the Nunaka Valley Little League President, Greg Davis; and

(B) the Nunaka Valley Little League junior girls softball team manager, Richard Knowles, and coaches Rick Peterson and Richard Hill.

S. RES. 261

Whereas over-the-counter and prescription medicines approved by the Food and Drug Administration have been determined to be safe and effective when used properly;

Whereas the abuse of such medicines can be extremely dangerous and produce serious side effects;

Whereas according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the nonmedical use of prescription drugs has risen, with 2.5 percent of the population engaging in nonmedical use of prescription drugs in 2008 and 2.8 percent of the population engaging in such use in 2009;

Whereas the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health illustrates that the abuse of prescription medications such as pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, and sedatives is second only to marijuana, the most commonly abused illegal drug in the United States;

Whereas the 2010 Monitoring the Future survey, funded by the National Institutes of Health, indicates that approximately 5 percent of teenagers in the United States report having abused an over-the-counter cough medicine to get high, and prescription and over-the-counter drugs account for 8 of the 14 most frequently abused drugs by students in grade 12;

Whereas the 2010 Monitoring the Future survey also indicates that the intentional abuse of cough medicine among students in grades 8, 10, and 12 is at 3.2 percent, 5.1 percent, and 6.6 percent, respectively;

Whereas according to research from The Partnership at DrugFree.org, more than one-third of teenagers mistakenly believe that taking prescription drugs, even if not prescribed by a doctor, is much safer than using street drugs;

Whereas the lack of understanding by teenagers and parents of the potential harm of