

I want to commend George Whitaker for his steadfast and tireless service to our Nation, first for his over 20 years of military service in the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, and then for his service to veterans with the Department of Veterans Affairs and Vet Center. Countless veterans have benefitted from George's dedication and commitment. Through his own military experiences and combined with his counseling experiences, George has worked directly with veterans and service-members through parts of six decades. This timespan has produced many wars, conflicts, and military operations and with it, changes in health services, problems, and issues that affect our military soldiers and veterans. George has been able to share his own experiences and work with returning service-members as they deal with the physical and mental health impacts of their military experiences, as well as the impacts on their families and communities.

George will now have more time in his retirement to enjoy hunting, fishing, leather crafts, and other pursuits. I commend George for his dedicated service to veterans and wish him and his wife Eddie all the best in his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBIN DOUTHITT

● Mr. KOHL. Madam President, I would like to take time to recognize Robin A. Douthitt, who is stepping down as Dean of the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. I would also like to wish her a happy birthday. As a proud alumnus of UW—Madison, it is an honor to congratulate Dean Douthitt on her outstanding and exemplary service at UW over the years.

For the past 12 years, Dean Douthitt has given her unwavering commitment to students, faculty, staff, campus, the community, and the State. She began as a professor in the Consumer Science Department, was appointed Interim Dean of the School of Human Ecology in 1999, and was named Dean in 2001. She will be leaving a legacy of courage and visionary leadership. Dean Douthitt has been called the "People's Dean," because she is always approachable and has touched the lives of many of her colleagues and friends.

Dean Douthitt made countless contributions to the University of Wisconsin during her service. She founded the UW Women's Faculty Mentoring Program that has led to the university's retention of female faculty and has become a model for other universities. She helped establish the Nancy Denney House, a cooperative undergraduate residence for single parents and their children. In recognition of her teaching and publishing extensive research on women's unpaid work and its social value, Dean Douthitt has been named a Vaughan Bascom Professor of Women and Philanthropy and a Vilas Associate in the Social Sciences.

Her contributions at UW do not stop there. Dean Douthitt served on the UW Athletic Board, chairing its Academic Affairs Committee and representing UW faculty to the Big Ten. She has been honored on the School of Human Ecology's Roster of 100 Women—Wall of Honor, in recognition of her contributions to family, community, and her embodiment of the School's mission to improve the quality of human life. In addition, Dean Douthitt provided vision in leading a successful \$52 million effort to renovate the School of Human Ecology's historic 1914 building and build a new addition to ensure the School's continued presence at the forefront of education, research, creative scholarship, and outreach in the 21st century.

On behalf of my constituents from the great State of Wisconsin, we say a heartfelt thank you and happy birthday to Dean Robin A. Douthitt. We wish her all the very best in her future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

● Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I wish to recognize the city of Lafayette. Southern Living magazine has named Lafayette "South's Tastiest Town." Lafayette was chosen as the winning city by nearly 35,000 votes in the first annual competition, with more than 500,000 online votes cast for the 10 finalist cities. Lafayette will be formally recognized in Southern Living's April issue, along with third-place finisher New Orleans. In fact, both Louisiana cities combined to receive nearly half the total votes, and Lafayette received almost 200,000 votes.

Southern Living's top 10 towns were chosen based on a number of criteria: food as a cultural identity, growth of a culinary-minded community, diverse cuisine at a variety of price points, local sustainable food practices, chefs on the rise, and an abundance of significant food events. Clearly, Lafayette excels in all these categories, and I am proud of this achievement.

Lafayette and its people are at the heart of all the great Cajun and Creole qualities that have made Louisiana's cuisine unparalleled. Throughout our State's great history, our unique culinary identity and love of food have been at the center of many of family and friend gatherings. Louisianians take tremendous pride in the dishes that represent our culture, the traditions they symbolize about who we are, and the devotion to preserving our heritage.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the city of Lafayette on this honor.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and referred as indicated:

S. 2076. A bill to improve security at State and local courthouses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2204. A bill to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2203. A bill to establish the African Burial Ground International Memorial Museum and Education Center in New York, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2204. A bill to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation; read the first time.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 2205. A bill to prohibit funding to negotiate a United Nations Arms Trade Treaty that restricts the Second Amendment rights of United States citizens; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 399. A resolution calling upon the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to human rights, crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 418, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 434

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 641

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis within six years by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 685

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 685, a bill to repeal the Federal sugar program.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 1270

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1270, a bill to prohibit the export from the United States of certain electronic waste, and for other purposes.

S. 1299

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1299, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012

through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1329

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1329, a bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to establish a pilot program to facilitate the provision of education and training programs in the field of advanced manufacturing.

S. 1591

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1591, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg, in recognition of his achievements and heroic actions during the Holocaust.

S. 1597

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1597, a bill to provide assistance for the modernization, renovation, and repair of elementary school and secondary school buildings in public school districts and community colleges across the United States in order to support the achievement of improved educational outcomes in those schools, and for other purposes.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes.

S. 1935

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1935, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the March of Dimes Foundation.

S. 1981

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1981, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 2032

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2032, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher edu-

cation in order to protect students and taxpayers.

S. 2134

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2134, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the retirement, adoption, care, and recognition of military working dogs, and for other purposes.

S. 2135

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2135, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to authorize a national toll-free hotline and website, to develop and disseminate child care consumer education information for parents and to help parents access child care in their community, and for other purposes.

S. 2143

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2143, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that paper which is commonly recycled does not constitute a qualified energy resource under the section 45 credit for renewable electricity production.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2165

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2165, a bill to enhance strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve oversight of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2188

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2188, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State.

AMENDMENT NO. 1843

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1843 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3606, a bill to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 399—CALLING UPON THE PRESIDENT TO ENSURE THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES REFLECTS APPROPRIATE UNDERSTANDING AND SENSITIVITY CONCERNING ISSUES RELATED TO HUMAN RIGHTS, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, ETHNIC CLEANSING, AND GENOCIDE DOCUMENTED IN THE UNITED STATES RECORD RELATING TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. REED of Rhode Island) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 399

Resolved,

SHORT TITLE

SEC. 1. This resolution may be cited as the "Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide Resolution".

FINDINGS

SEC. 2. The Senate finds the following:

(1) The Armenian Genocide was conceived and carried out by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulting in the deportation of nearly 2,000,000 Armenians, of whom 1,500,000 men, women, and children were killed, 500,000 survivors were expelled from their homes, and the elimination of the over 2,500-year presence of Armenians in their historic homeland.

(2) On May 24, 1915, the Allied Powers of England, France, and Russia, jointly issued a statement explicitly charging for the first time ever another government of committing "a crime against humanity".

(3) This joint statement stated that "the Allied Governments announce publicly to the Sublime Porte that they will hold personally responsible for these crimes all members of the Ottoman Government, as well as those of their agents who are implicated in such massacres".

(4) The post-World War I Turkish Government indicted the top leaders involved in the "organization and execution" of the Armenian Genocide and in the "massacre and destruction of the Armenians".

(5) In a series of courts-martial, officials of the Young Turk Regime were tried and convicted, as charged, for organizing and executing massacres against the Armenian people.

(6) The chief organizers of the Armenian Genocide, Minister of War Enver, Minister of the Interior Talaat, and Minister of the Navy Jemal were all condemned to death for their crimes, but, the verdicts of the courts were not enforced.

(7) The Armenian Genocide and these domestic judicial failures are documented with overwhelming evidence in the national archives of Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, the United States, the Vatican and many other countries, and this vast body of evidence attests to the same facts, the same events, and the same consequences.

(8) The United States National Archives and Record Administration holds extensive and thorough documentation on the Armenian Genocide, especially in its holdings under Record Group 59 of the United States Department of State, files 867.00 and 867.40,

which are open and widely available to the public and interested institutions.

(9) The Honorable Henry Morgenthau, United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1913 to 1916, organized and led protests by officials of many countries, among them the allies of the Ottoman Empire, against the Armenian Genocide.

(10) Ambassador Morgenthau explicitly described to the Department of State the policy of the Government of the Ottoman Empire as "a campaign of race extermination," and was instructed on July 16, 1915, by Secretary of State Robert Lansing that the "Department approves your procedure . . . to stop Armenian persecution".

(11) Senate Concurrent Resolution 12, 64th Congress, agreed to February 9, 1916, resolved that "the President of the United States be respectfully asked to designate a day on which the citizens of this country may give expression to their sympathy by contributing funds now being raised for the relief of the Armenians," who at the time were enduring "starvation, disease, and untold suffering".

(12) President Woodrow Wilson concurred and also encouraged the formation of the organization known as Near East Relief, chartered by the Act of August 6, 1919, 66th Congress (41 Stat. 273, chapter 32), which contributed some \$116,000,000 from 1915 to 1930 to aid Armenian Genocide survivors, including 132,000 orphans who became foster children of the American people.

(13) Senate Resolution 359, 66th Congress, agreed to May 11, 1920, stated in part that "the testimony adduced at the hearings conducted by the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have clearly established the truth of the reported massacres and other atrocities from which the Armenian people have suffered".

(14) The resolution followed the April 13, 1920, report to the Senate of the American Military Mission to Armenia led by General James Harbord, that stated "[m]utilation, violation, torture, and death have left their haunting memories in a hundred beautiful Armenian valleys, and the traveler in that region is seldom free from the evidence of this most colossal crime of all the ages".

(15) As displayed in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Adolf Hitler, on ordering his military commanders to attack Poland without provocation in 1939, dismissed objections by saying "[w]ho, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" and thus set the stage for the Holocaust.

(16) Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide" in 1944, and who was the earliest proponent of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, invoked the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20th century.

(17) The first resolution on genocide adopted by the United Nations at Mr. Lemkin's urging, the December 11, 1946, United Nations General Assembly Resolution 96(1), and the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide recognized the Armenian Genocide as the type of crime the United Nations intended to prevent and punish by codifying existing standards.

(18) In 1948, the United Nations War Crimes Commission invoked the Armenian Genocide, "precisely . . . one of the types of acts which the modern term 'crimes against humanity' is intended to cover," as a precedent for the Nuremberg tribunals.

(19) The Commission stated that "[t]he provisions of Article 230 of the Peace Treaty of Sevres were obviously intended to cover, in conformity with the Allied note of 1915 . . . offenses which had been committed on

Turkish territory against persons of Turkish citizenship, though of Armenian or Greek race. This article constitutes therefore a precedent for Article 6c and 5c of the Nuremberg and Tokyo Charters, and offers an example of one of the categories of 'crimes against humanity' as understood by these enactments".

(20) On May 28, 1951, in a written statement submitted to the International Court of Justice concerning the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the United States Government stated, "The Genocide Convention resulted from the inhuman and barbarous practices which prevailed in certain countries prior to and during World War II, when entire religious, racial and national minority groups were threatened with and subjected to deliberate extermination. The practice of genocide has occurred throughout human history. The Roman persecution of the Christians, the Turkish massacres of Armenians, the extermination of millions of Jews and Poles by the Nazis are outstanding examples of the crime of genocide. This was the background when the General Assembly of the United Nations considered the problem of genocide. Not once, but twice, that body declared unanimously that the practice of genocide is criminal under international law and that States ought to take steps to prevent and punish genocide."

(21) House Joint Resolution 148, 94th Congress, adopted on April 8, 1975, resolved, "That April 24, 1975, is hereby designated as 'National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man', and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry . . .".

(22) President Ronald Reagan, in proclamation number 4838, dated April 22, 1981 (95 Stat. 1813), stated that, in part "[l]ike the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians, which followed it—and like too many other persecutions of too many other people—the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten".

(23) House Joint Resolution 247, 98th Congress, adopted on September 10, 1984, resolved, "That April 24, 1985, is hereby designated as 'National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man', and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially the one and one-half million people of Armenian ancestry . . .".

(24) In August 1985, after extensive study and deliberation, the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities voted 14 to 1 to accept a report entitled "Study of the Question of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide," which stated that "[t]he Nazi aberration has unfortunately not been the only case of genocide in the 20th century. Among other examples which can be cited as qualifying are . . . the Ottoman massacre of Armenians in 1915-1916".

(25) This report also explained that "[a]t least 1,000,000, and possibly well over half of the Armenian population, are reliably estimated to have been killed or death marched by independent authorities and eye-witnesses. This is corroborated by reports in United States, German and British archives and of contemporary diplomats in the Ottoman Empire, including those of its ally Germany".

(26) The United States Holocaust Memorial Council, an independent Federal agency,