

form one coeducational institution of higher learning dedicated to academic freedom and the unfettered pursuit of truth;

Whereas the distinguished alumni of Hamilton College include recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Pulitzer Prize, and public servants at every level, including a former Vice President of the United States, United States Senators and Representatives, United States district and appellate court judges, members of the Presidential Cabinet, ambassadors, Governors, and State, county, and local officials; and

Whereas Hamilton College is currently comprised of 1,812 students from 49 states and 37 countries, and a faculty dedicated to teaching and the discovery and advancement of new knowledge: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the bicentennial of the chartering of Hamilton College in Clinton, New York; and

(2) honors the outstanding contributions made by the alumni, faculty, and students of Hamilton College during the past 200 years, including service to the United States that has fostered the development of the United States as a diplomatic force and industrial power in the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 479—COMMEMORATING THE DEDICATION OF THE STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND MEMORIAL DURING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS STAND DOWN

Mr. JOHANNIS (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 479

Whereas Strategic Air Command was formed on March 21, 1946, to provide the United States with long-range bombing capabilities;

Whereas Strategic Air Command operations were moved to Offutt Air Force Base in 1948 to avoid a surprise attack from the growing nuclear threat by the Soviet Union during the Cold War;

Whereas the men and women of Strategic Air Command perfected aerial refueling, allowing Strategic Air Command bombers to reach any spot in the world and advancing the ability of the United States to project military power worldwide;

Whereas in 1953, following the Korean War, the defense strategy of the United States shifted and President Eisenhower designated Strategic Air Command as the primary nuclear deterrent for the United States;

Whereas the Strategic Air Command played a major role in the triad of aircraft, missiles, and submarines that provided an undefeatable nuclear force that prevented nuclear war and kept the Soviet Union at bay until the demise of the Soviet Union in December 1991;

Whereas Strategic Air Command is credited with the development of the Snark, Atlas, and Minuteman missiles;

Whereas Strategic Air Command maintained continuous airborne alert operations from October 1957 until September 1991, which many consider the longest continuous military operation in history;

Whereas in 1962, the visibility of Strategic Air Command bombers responding to the DEFCON 2 order issued by President Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis presented a clear indication to the Soviet Union of the determination of the United States to remove Soviet missiles from Cuba;

Whereas at its height in 1962, Strategic Air Command employed 283,000 personnel and maintained 3,400 aircraft and 224 land-based missiles;

Whereas in December 1972, 33 crewmembers and 10 B-52 bombers supported by Strategic Air Command were lost during Operation Linebacker II in North Vietnam during the aerial bombing campaign that forced Vietnamese leadership back to negotiations and a peace settlement;

Whereas the need for absolute command and control by national leaders led Strategic Air Command to organize the National Emergency Airborne Command Post operation, which became the National Airborne Operations Center and the E-4B aircraft operating at Offutt Air Force Base;

Whereas the operational practices and procedures for safe and secure nuclear weapons were established by Strategic Air Command and continue under the leadership of United States Strategic Command and Air Force Global Strike Command;

Whereas the Strategic Air Command performed the assigned mission flawlessly according to its famous motto, "Peace is Our Profession";

Whereas the United States, and particularly the State of Nebraska, is extremely grateful to those who served the United States at Strategic Air Command; and

Whereas the Senate recognizes the service and dedication of the individuals whose unyielding commitment and sacrifice contributed to the continued safety of the United States for over 4 decades: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 20th anniversary of the stand down of Strategic Air Command and the immeasurable contributions and prominent role of Strategic Air Command in national security and nuclear deterrence during the Cold War;

(2) commemorates the dedication of the Strategic Air Command Memorial in the State of Nebraska, which pays tribute to the men and women who worked tirelessly to make Strategic Air Command the most powerful and professional military organization in the world; and

(3) honors the personnel who served at Strategic Air Command and those who have carried on the tradition of excellence through service at United States Strategic Command.

SENATE RESOLUTION 480—COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES STRATEGIC COMMAND

Mr. JOHANNIS (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 480

Whereas United States Strategic Command was established on June 1, 1992, to meet national security needs of the post-cold-war era by combining all strategic planning, targeting, and wartime employment of forces under one commander headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base in the State of Nebraska;

Whereas United States Strategic Command was reestablished in 2002 at Offutt Air Force Base, combining the responsibilities of United States Strategic Command and the United States Space Command along with responsibility for early warning and defense against missile attack;

Whereas over the last 20 years, United States Strategic Command has flawlessly ex-

ecuted the mission to deter nuclear attacks and employ nuclear forces if necessary;

Whereas in 2010 the mission of United States Strategic Command expanded again to include cyberspace operations through United States Cyber Command, a subunified command;

Whereas United States Strategic Command provides continuous information regarding orbiting satellites and space debris to spacecraft such as the International Space Station;

Whereas United States Strategic Command has supported coalition forces in Iraq and Afghanistan by providing intelligence, planning, and cyber support;

Whereas United States Strategic Command contributed to United States operations in Libya through long-range conventional strikes and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance;

Whereas United States Strategic Command continues to be the premier nuclear deterrent in the United States, serving as a center for global command and communications headquartered in the State of Nebraska; and

Whereas the United States, and particularly the State of Nebraska, is grateful to those who serve the United States at United States Strategic Command: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 20th anniversary of the establishment of United States Strategic Command and the vital contributions of United States Strategic Command to national security; and

(2) honors the dedicated men and women who serve at United States Strategic Command executing the mission to deter and detect strategic attack against the United States and allies of the United States and to defend the nation as directed.

SENATE RESOLUTION 481—CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES-PHILIPPINES MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY AND THE VITALITY OF THE OVERALL BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. WEBB, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 481

Whereas Filipinos and Americans fought together in World War II, and an estimated 1,000,000 Filipinos gave their lives to defend freedom;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of the Philippines signed the United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty in 1951;

Whereas the Philippines and the United States are longstanding allies, as demonstrated by the Mutual Defense Treaty, cooperation in conflicts since World War II, and the United States designation of the Philippines as a Major Non-NATO Ally;

Whereas the Clark Veterans Cemetery in the Philippines is the final resting place for the remains of thousands of United States and Filipino veterans from the United States Army, United States Marines Corps, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Coast Guard, Philippine Scouts, and their dependents from seven wars since 1900;

Whereas the United States Government administered and cared for the Clark Veterans Cemetery from 1900 to 1991;

Whereas the United States Government seeks to maintain an alliance with the Government of the Philippines that promotes peace and stability in Southeast and East Asia, rule of law and human rights, economic growth, counter-terrorism efforts, and maritime security;

Whereas United States naval ships visit Philippines' ports, and the United States and Philippines' military forces participate in combined military exercises under the Visiting Forces Agreement established in 1998;

Whereas the people and Governments of the United States and the Philippines share a common interest in maintaining freedom of navigation, unimpeded lawful commerce, and transit of people across the seas and subscribe to a rules-based approach in resolving competing claims in maritime areas through peaceful, collaborative, multilateral, and diplomatic processes within the framework of international law;

Whereas the Philippines has served ably for the past three years as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) country coordinator for the United States;

Whereas the United States Government and the Government of the Philippines work closely together in the struggle against terrorism to make local communities safer and help establish an environment conducive to good governance and development;

Whereas the navy of the Government of the Philippines has received a United States Coast Guard cutter and assistance in establishing a coastal radar system to enhance its monitoring of its waters, with a second cutter due to be transferred soon;

Whereas the United States Government works closely with the Government of the Philippines on humanitarian and disaster relief activities, and in the past has provided prompt assistance to make United States troops, equipment, assets, and disaster relief assistance available;

Whereas the Mutual Defense Board and the Security Engagement Board serve as important platforms for the continuing stability of the long-standing alliance between the Philippines and the United States in a rapidly changing global and regional environment;

Whereas the Bilateral Security Dialogue is an important policy venue for setting the policy direction and providing guidance for all aspects of the alliance relationship;

Whereas Philippines military forces have supported over the years many United Nations peacekeeping operations worldwide;

Whereas the United States ranks as one of the Philippines' top trading partners, with 11 percent of the Philippines' imports coming from the United States and 15 percent of exports from the Philippines delivered to the United States in 2010;

Whereas total United States foreign direct investment in the Philippines was approximately \$7,000,000,000 at the end of 2009;

Whereas the Philippines is one of four countries that has been invited to participate in the new Partnership for Growth Initiative, which promotes broad-based economic growth in emerging markets;

Whereas many Americans and Filipinos have participated in people-to-people programs such as the Peace Corps, the International Visitor Leadership Programs, the Aquino Fellowship, Eisenhower Fellowships, and the Fulbright Scholar Program;

Whereas an estimated 4,000,000 people living in the United States are of Filipino ancestry, over 300,000 United States citizens live in the Philippines, and an estimated 600,000 United States citizens travel to the Philippines each year;

Whereas the U.S.-Philippines Society was recently established to broaden and expand interaction between and understanding of the United States and the Philippines in the

areas of security, trade, investments, tourism, the environment, history, education, and culture;

Whereas the alliance between the United States and the Philippines is founded on core values that aim to promote and preserve democracy, freedom, peace, and justice, and is fortified by the two nations' partnerships in defending these values;

Whereas the Government of the Philippines seeks to improve governance, strengthen the rule of law, and further develop accountable, democratic institutions that can better safeguard human rights, secure justice, and promote equitable economic development;

Whereas His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, is scheduled to visit the United States in June 2012; and

Whereas Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta met with their Philippine counterparts in Washington, D.C. on April 30, 2012, and reaffirmed that the United States and the Philippines are longstanding allies, that the United States Government is fully committed to honoring mutual obligations with the Philippines, and that the alliance continues to serve as a pillar of the Philippines-United States relationship and a source of stability in the region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty and the vitality of the overall bilateral relationship;

(B) confirms the alliance's centrality and enduring value as one of the key pillars of peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and as a key tool in addressing the emerging security environment in the region; and

(C) encourages both countries to continue high-level consultations; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the United States Government should use the U.S.-Philippines Bilateral Security Dialogue and the Mutual Defense Board and Security Engagement Board to promote greater alliance cooperation and enhance bilateral security ties, including support for Philippine defense modernization, for the rotational presence of United States Armed Forces in the Philippines and for increased humanitarian and disaster relief preparedness activities;

(B) the United States Government should redouble efforts to expand and deepen the economic relationship with the Government of the Philippines toward achieving broad-based economic development in that country, including by working on new bilateral initiatives that support the efforts of the Government of the Philippines to reform its economy and enhance its competitiveness, and through trade-capacity building;

(C) the Government of the Philippines should continue its efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions to fight corruption, curtail politically motivated violence and extrajudicial killings, expand economic opportunity, and tackle internal security challenges;

(D) after close consultation with the Government of the Philippines, the United States Government should designate an appropriate United States entity to be responsible for making necessary arrangements to ensure ongoing maintenance of Clark Veterans Cemetery in the Philippines; and

(E) the United States Government should continue efforts to assist the Government of the Philippines in the areas of maritime security, maritime domain awareness, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and related communications infrastructure to en-

able enhanced information-sharing and overall military professionalization.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 45—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL, COLLECTIVELY, TO THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

Mrs. HAGAN (for herself and Mr. BURR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 45

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

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on June 27, 2012, to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

(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.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 10 a.m. in SD-106 Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Equality At Work: The Employment Non-Discrimination Act."

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Dan Goldberg of the committee staff on (202) 224-5441.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in executive session on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 10 a.m. in SD-430 Dirksen Senate Office Building to consider pending nominations cleared for action.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the committee on (202) 224-5375.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONTRACTING OVERSIGHT

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 5, 2012, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Veterans Employment and Government Contractors."