

States to another country through all appropriate means, consistent with the Hague Abduction Convention, and through extradition, when appropriate, and facilitate access by the left-behind parent if the child is not returned;

(B) take all appropriate measures to ensure that a child abducted to a country that is a party to the Hague Abduction Convention is returned to the country of habitual residence of the child in compliance with the provisions of the Hague Abduction Convention;

(C) continue to use diplomacy to encourage other countries to accede to or ratify the Hague Abduction Convention and to take the necessary steps to effectively fulfill their responsibilities under the Hague Abduction Convention;

(D) use diplomacy to encourage countries that have not acceded to or ratified the Hague Abduction Convention to develop an institutionalized mechanism to transparently and expeditiously resolve current and future cases of international child abduction that occur before those countries accede to or ratify the Hague Abduction Convention; and

(E) review the advisory services made available to United States citizens by the United States Department of State, the United States Department of Justice, and other United States Government agencies—

(i) to improve the prevention of international parental child abduction from the United States; and

(ii) to ensure that effective and timely assistance is provided to United States citizens who are parents of children abducted from the United States and taken to foreign countries.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 544—CONGRATULATING THE NAVY DENTAL CORPS ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 544

Whereas on August 22, 1912, Congress passed an Act recognizing Navy dentistry as a distinct branch among naval medical professions;

Whereas in the last century, the Navy Dental Corps has supported the Navy by sustaining Sailor and Marine readiness and providing routine and emergency dental care, ashore and afloat, in peace and in war;

Whereas the Navy Dental Corps works continuously to improve the health of Sailors, Marines, and their families by supporting individual and community prevention initiatives, good oral hygiene practices, and treatment;

Whereas the Navy Dental Corps endeavors to improve oral health worldwide by participating in the spectrum of military combat, peacekeeping, and humanitarian operations and exercises;

Whereas the Navy Dental Corps, in collaboration with national and international dental organizations, promotes dental professionalism and quality of care;

Whereas the Navy Dental Corps supports the mission of the Federal dental research program and endorses improved dental technologies and therapies through research and adherence to sound scientific principles; and

Whereas the Navy Dental Corps recognizes the importance of continuing professional dental education, requiring and supporting specialty dental education and postgraduate residencies and fellowships for its members: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Navy Dental Corps on its 100th anniversary;

(2) commends the Navy Dental Corps for working to sustain the dental readiness and the oral health of a superb fighting force; and

(3) recognizes the thousands of dentists who have served in the Navy Dental Corps over the last 100 years, providing dental care to millions of members of the Armed Forces and their families.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 545—COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF AIR FORCE WEATHER

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

S. RES. 545

Whereas the United States Army Air Corps assumed responsibility for military weather services on July 1, 1937, beginning a legacy of superior service to Army and Air Force commanders for the next 75 years;

Whereas the United States Army Air Forces activated the Weather Wing on April 14, 1943, in time to provide General Dwight D. Eisenhower with reports and forecasts vital to the success of Operation Overlord, the reentry of the Allies into Europe against resistance from German occupation forces, and subsequent operations in Europe and the Pacific;

Whereas 68 personnel from the Weather Wing lost their lives in World War II;

Whereas the Weather Wing was redesignated as the Army Air Forces Weather Service in 1945, and the Air Weather Service in 1946;

Whereas, in July of 1947, the Air Weather Service became a part of the newly formed United States Air Force with a mission to support both the Army and Air Force;

Whereas, in 1948, the Air Weather Service issued its first tornado warning;

Whereas the Air Weather Service provided critical reports and forecasts to commanders, planners, and aircrews in support of the Berlin Airlift, enabling the successful efforts to stare down Premier of the Soviet Union Joseph Stalin in the first major confrontation of the Cold War;

Whereas the Air Weather Service has participated in every military operation from operations in Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas the Air Weather Service was reorganized into a field operating agency on April 1, 1991, reporting directly to the Air Staff;

Whereas, on October 15, 1997, the Air Weather Service was redesignated as the Air Force Weather Agency and subsequently headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska;

Whereas, in June 2008, construction was completed on a new 188,000-square-foot headquarters building for the Air Force Weather Agency at Offutt Air Force Base;

Whereas the civilian community surrounding Offutt Air Force Base fully recognizes the tremendous dedication and contributions of the personnel stationed at Offutt Air Force Base to the global fighting force, and likewise, base personnel express constant praise and appreciation to the civilian community for its outstanding support;

Whereas, in close cooperation with the National Weather Service, Air Force Weather has supported a wide variety of missions from its base in Nebraska, including space launches and solar observation; and

Whereas Air Force Weather has continued to produce timely, accurate, and continuous weather information to locate targets in any battle around the world or in space: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of Air Force Weather and its prominent role in national security;

(2) remembers the immeasurable contributions of Air Force Weather in protecting the lives of members of the Armed Forces and citizens of the United States through timely and accurate reporting and forecasting; and

(3) honors the 1,200 personnel who currently serve within Air Force Weather and those who have carried on its tradition of excellence through their continued service at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 546—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2012, AS "NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK"

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 546

Whereas the National Assessment of Adult Literacy reports that 90,000,000 adults lack the literacy, numeracy, or English-language skills necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the United States' economy and position in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of a child's parents and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in a child's education is a key predictor of a child's success, and the level of parental involvement in a child's education increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in their children's education and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and their success in the classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers their lives and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job to provide for their families, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills, and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure each and every citizen has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 10, 2012 as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist those in need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls upon public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 547—HONORING THE LIFE OF PIONEERING ASTRONAUT DR. SALLY RIDE AND EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON HER DEATH

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 547

Whereas Dr. Sally Ride was born on May 26, 1951, in Los Angeles, California;

Whereas Dr. Ride graduated high school from Westlake School for Girls in Los Angeles in 1968, and received from Stanford University a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1973, a Master of Science in 1975, and a doctorate degree in physics in 1978;

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this preamble as “NASA”) selected Dr. Ride as an astronaut candidate in January of 1978;

Whereas Dr. Ride worked on the ground as a communications officer for the second and third NASA space shuttle missions (STS-2 and STS-3) and helped develop the robot arm used by shuttle crews;

Whereas, on June 18, 1983, Dr. Ride became the first woman from the United States to travel in space when she served as a mission specialist for space shuttle mission STS-7;

Whereas Dr. Ride also served as a mission specialist on space shuttle mission STS 41-G, which launched into space from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, on October 5, 1984;

Whereas, in June of 1985, Dr. Ride was assigned to the crew of STS 61-M for which mission training terminated in January of

1986, following the space shuttle Challenger accident;

Whereas Dr. Ride served as a member of the Presidential Commission investigating the space shuttle Challenger accident and, upon completing that investigation, was assigned to NASA Headquarters as a Special Assistant to the Administrator for long-range and strategic planning;

Whereas, in 1989, Dr. Ride joined the faculty at the University of California, San Diego, as a Professor of Physics and Director of the California Space Institute, a research unit at the University of California;

Whereas, following her passion of motivating girls and young women to pursue careers in science, math, and technology, Dr. Ride founded her own company, known as Sally Ride Science, in 2001, to create entertaining science programs and publications for upper elementary and middle school students, as well as their parents and teachers;

Whereas, as a long-time advocate for improved science education, Dr. Ride initiated and directed education projects designed to fuel the fascination of middle school students with science and wrote 5 science books for children, entitled: *To Space and Back*, *The Mystery of Mars*, *Voyager: An Adventure to the Edge of the Solar System*, *Exploring Our Solar System*, and *The Third Planet: Exploring the Earth from Space*;

Whereas Dr. Ride served as a member of the President's Counsel of Advisors on Science and Technology, the Space Studies Board, and the Pacific Council on International Policy;

Whereas Dr. Ride was a fellow of the American Physical Society and also served on the boards of the Office of Technology Assessment, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the National Collegiate Athletic Association Foundation, the Aerospace Corporation, and the California Institute of Technology;

Whereas Dr. Ride was the only person to have served on commissions investigating both the space shuttle Challenger and Columbia accidents; and

Whereas Dr. Ride has received numerous honors and awards, including induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Astronaut Hall of Fame, the Jefferson Award for Public Service, the Wernher von Braun Memorial Award of the National Space Society, the Lindbergh Eagle Award, the Theodore Roosevelt Award of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and 2 NASA Space Flight Medals: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Sally Ride on her death;

(2) mourns the loss of Dr. Ride, a trailblazing pioneer who inspired millions of individuals, especially women and girls, to reach for the stars; and

(3) appreciates all of the contributions of Dr. Ride to science, physics, education, and human spaceflight.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce a resolution on the importance of quality data from the Census Bureau, including the American Community Survey. I am proud to introduce this resolution as a companion to the similar House legislation by my distinguished colleague, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY. The Congresswoman has shown real leadership on this issue and I am eager to work with her to highlight the importance and significance of quality data for good government oversight and management, as well as helping American businesses.

Each year, more than \$400 billion Federal dollars are distributed to local communities based on the data from the American Community Survey. This survey is the largest data set of its kind, and helps strategically target federal funding for a broad range of programs for health care, transportation and education. The American Community Survey has improves data for the Child Health Insurance Program, CHIP, that means so much to vulnerable children. Another specific and compelling example is how law enforcement uses the data to predict criminal activities like methamphetamine production. Local communities use the survey to choose locations for new schools, hospitals, and fire stations.

The survey is also important to American business. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Retail Federation, and the National Association of Home Builders support investments in this survey. It is the only source of small area estimates on social and demographic characteristics. Manufacturers and service sector firms use the survey to identify the income, education, and occupational skills of local labor markets they serve. Retail businesses use the survey to understand the characteristics of the neighborhoods in which they locate their stores. Homebuilders and realtors understand the housing characteristics and the markets in their communities, thanks to the American Community Survey.

Such a survey of American households has existed in some form since 1850, either as a longer version of or richer supplement to the basic decennial census. The newer American Community Survey provides more timely data. The Census Bureau estimates the ACS is sent to 2.5 percent of homes each year, requiring an average of 38 minutes per household to review instructions and answer questions. At this rate, the typical American would respond to the survey about twice in their lifetime. Census workers are sworn to protect confidentiality, facing prison sentences up to five years for disclosing any personal information and there has no employees are known to have violated the provisions so the privacy questions are unfounded.

In closing, I would like to share a statement by Mr. Lawrence Yun, the Chief Economist of the National Association of Realtors: “Without the data, the nation would essentially be flying blind in relation to important housing market conditions and business decisions. Accurate economic and demographic data inspire business confidence that is so critical to the free enterprise system. We would not be able to provide an accurate estimate of many housing metrics if they cannot be benchmarked against the America Community Survey data.”