

I would like to begin by telling you a little bit about this dedicated public servant, someone with a unique and distinguished biography.

Born and raised in Piedmont CA, Ambassador Stevens graduated from Piedmont High School before receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkley in 1982 and a J.D. from the University of California's Hastings College of Law in 1989.

Before he joined the Foreign Service in 1991, he was an international trade lawyer in Washington, DC, and from 1983 to 1985 he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco.

His overseas postings were consequential and showed he was an effective Foreign Service officer. He served as the deputy principal officer and political section chief in Jerusalem, a political officer in Damascus, a consular/political officer in Cairo, and a consular/economic officer in Riyadh.

In addition to his service abroad, Ambassador Stevens was the director of the Office of Multilateral Nuclear and Security Affairs, a Pearson Fellow with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, special assistant to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, Iran desk officer, and staff assistant in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs.

He also served twice in Libya before becoming Ambassador: as deputy chief of mission at our Embassy in Tripoli from 2007 to 2009 and special representative to the Libyan Transitional Council from March 2011 to November 2011.

In May 2012, he became the first U.S. Ambassador to Libya following the fall of Qadhafi.

As you can see, he had a long and distinguished career as one of our top diplomats, someone who learned the language and culture of a region of the world critical to U.S. national security interests.

Clearly, this was someone who was committed to helping the Libyan people achieve their goal of a free and democratic country after decades of brutal dictatorship.

As Ambassador, he immediately went to work to help Libya build a new future, engaging government officials, academics, businessmen, and civil society leaders on a daily basis.

Sadly, his term as Ambassador and his service to his country ended far too soon.

This attack and the assault on our Embassy in Cairo serve as sobering reminders that we must continue to pay attention to the events in the countries involved in the Arab Spring.

While in some countries like Egypt and Libya autocrats have fallen and the people have elected new leadership, tensions remain high and uncertainty about the future abounds.

There is still a lot of work to be done to ensure that these countries fully embrace democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

It is critical that those responsible for these acts are brought to justice. And I call on the Governments of Libya

and Egypt to work closely with the administration to ensure that this does not happen again.

Ambassador Stevens was one of our best. He will be sorely missed.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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, that all Senators be added as cosponsors to the resolution, and all statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 551) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 551

Whereas on September 11, 2012, 4 American public servants, including United States Ambassador to Libya, John Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, were killed in a reprehensible and vicious attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens—

(1) was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States;

(2) had spent 21 years in the Foreign Service;

(3) was deeply passionate about representing the United States through his diplomatic service; and

(4) was an ardent friend of the Libyan people;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens was a dear friend of the Senate, having served on the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in 2006 and 2007 as a distinguished Pearson Fellow;

Whereas Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith—

(1) was a husband and a father of 2 children;

(2) joined the Department of State 10 years ago; and

(3) had served in the Foreign Service, before arriving in Benghazi, in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and The Hague;

Whereas the 2 other individuals from Ambassador Stevens' team who perished in the attack made great sacrifices and showed bravery in taking on a difficult post in Libya;

Whereas the violence in Benghazi coincided with an attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, which was also swarmed by an angry mob of protesters on September 11, 2012;

Whereas on a daily basis, United States diplomats, military personnel, and other public servants risk their lives to serve the American people; and

Whereas throughout this Nation's history, thousands of Americans have sacrificed their lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of the 4 American public servants, including Ambassador John Christopher Stevens and Sean Smith, in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;

(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;

(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;

(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and

(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicable attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 552.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 552) recognizing the month of October 2012 as "National Principals Month."

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that 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 resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 552) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 552

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National Association of Elementary School Principals have declared the month of October 2012 to be "National Principals Month";

Whereas principals are educational visionaries, instructional and assessment leaders, disciplinarians, community builders, budget analysts, facilities managers, and administrators of legal and contractual obligations;

Whereas principals work collaboratively with teachers and parents to develop and implement a clear mission, high curriculum standards, and performance goals;

Whereas principals create school environments that facilitate great teaching and learning and continuous school improvement;

Whereas the vision, actions, and dedication of principals provide the mobilizing force behind any school reform effort; and

Whereas the celebration of National Principals Month would honor elementary school, middle school, and high school principals, and recognize the importance of principals in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of October 2012 as "National Principals Month"; and

(2) honors the contribution of principals in the elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools of the United States by supporting the goals and ideals of National Principals Month.

NATIONAL FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Res. 553, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 533) designating September 22, 2012, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day” to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 533) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 553

Whereas older adults, 65 years of age and older, are the fastest-growing segment of the population in the United States, and the number of older adults in the United States will increase from 35,000,000 in 2000 to 72,100,000 in 2030;

Whereas 1 out of 3 older adults in the United States falls each year;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of injury, death, and hospital admissions for traumatic injuries among older adults;

Whereas, in 2010, approximately 2,300,000 older adults were treated in hospital emergency departments for fall-related injuries, and more than 650,000 were subsequently hospitalized;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2008, more than 20,000 older adults died from injuries related to unintentional falls;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the total cost

of fall-related injuries for older adults is \$80,900,000,000, including more than \$28,300,000,000 in direct medical costs;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of increase in falls is not slowed, the annual cost under the Medicare program will reach \$59,600,000,000 by 2020; and

Whereas evidence-based programs show promise in reducing falls and facilitating cost-effective interventions, such as comprehensive clinical assessments, exercise programs to improve balance and health, management of medications, correction of vision, and reduction of home hazards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 22, 2012, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day”;

(2) commends the Falls Free Coalition and the falls prevention coalitions in 43 States and the District of Columbia for their efforts to work together to increase education and awareness about the prevention of falls among older adults;

(3) encourages businesses, individuals, Federal, State, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to promote the awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults in the United States;

(4) urges the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to continue developing and evaluating strategies to prevent falls among older adults that will translate into effective fall prevention interventions, including community-based programs;

(5) encourages State health departments, which provide significant leadership in reducing injuries and injury-related health care costs by collaborating with colleagues and a variety of organizations and individuals, to reduce falls among older adults; and

(6) recognizes proven, cost-effective falls prevention programs and policies and encourages experts in the field to share their best practices so that their success can be replicated by others.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it ad-

journal until 10 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, September 13, 2012; that following the prayer and 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 I be recognized and the first hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans the final half.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this evening I filed cloture on the substitute amendment to S. 3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act and on the underlying bill. As a result, the filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the substitute amendment and S. 3457 is 1 p.m. tomorrow.

Under the rule, the cloture votes in relation to the Veterans Jobs Corps Act will occur on Friday. I talked about it earlier this evening, and we will decide what time we are going to do that tomorrow. We hope we can reach an agreement to have the vote or votes tomorrow. If not, if all time is used, we will be voting this weekend, including tomorrow, late at night.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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 9:38 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 10 a.m.