

of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are the primary Federal lands that foster production, migration, and wintering habitat for waterfowl;

Whereas, since 1934, the sale of the Federal Duck Stamp to outdoor enthusiasts has generated more than \$850,000,000 in funds, which has enabled the purchase or lease of more than 5,500,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas 59 refuges were established specifically to protect imperiled species, and of the more than 1,300 federally listed threatened and endangered species in the United States, 280 species are found on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are cores of conservation for larger landscapes and resources for other agencies of the Federal Government and State governments, private landowners, and organizations in their efforts to secure the wildlife heritage of the United States;

Whereas more than 42,000 volunteers and approximately 220 national wildlife refuge "Friends" organizations contribute nearly 1,600,000 hours annually, the equivalent of 766 full-time employees, and provide an important link to local communities;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide an important opportunity for children to discover and gain a greater appreciation for the natural world;

Whereas, because there are national wildlife refuges located in several urban and suburban areas and 1 refuge located within an hour's drive of every metropolitan area in the United States, national wildlife refuges employ, educate, and engage young people from all backgrounds in exploring, connecting with, and preserving the natural heritage of the United States;

Whereas, since 1995, refuges across the United States have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second full week of October;

Whereas the Fish and Wildlife Service will continue to seek stakeholder input on the implementation of "Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation", an update to the strategic plan of the Fish and Wildlife Service for the future of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas the week beginning on October 14, 2012, has been designated as "National Wildlife Refuge Week" by the Fish and Wildlife Service; and

Whereas the designation of National Wildlife Refuge Week by the Senate would recognize more than a century of conservation in the United States, raise awareness about the importance of wildlife and the National Wildlife Refuge System, and celebrate the myriad recreational opportunities available to enjoy this network of protected lands: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 14, 2012, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week";

(2) encourages the observance of National Wildlife Refuge Week with appropriate events and activities;

(3) acknowledges the importance of national wildlife refuges for their recreational opportunities and contribution to local economies across the United States;

(4) pronounces that national wildlife refuges play a vital role in securing the hunting and fishing heritage of the United States for future generations;

(5) identifies the significance of national wildlife refuges in advancing the traditions of wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

(6) recognizes the importance of national wildlife refuges to wildlife conservation and the protection of imperiled species and ecosystems, as well as compatible uses;

(7) acknowledges the role of national wildlife refuges in conserving waterfowl and waterfowl habitat pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (40 Stat. 755, chapter 128);

(8) reaffirms the support of the Senate for wildlife conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System; and

(9) expresses the intent of the Senate—

(A) to continue working to conserve wildlife; and

(B) to manage the National Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 581—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26, 2012, AS "DAY OF THE DEPLOYED"

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 581

Whereas more than 2,500,000 people serve as members of the United States Armed Forces; Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,300,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to the area of operations of the United States Central Command since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal military personnel who protect our precious heritage through their positive declaration and actions;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;

Whereas the families of members of the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States;

Whereas in 2010, 40 States designated October 26 as "Day of the Deployed" following the first recognition of a "Day of the Deployed" by North Dakota on October 26, 2006; and

Whereas the Senate designated October 26, 2011, as "Day of the Deployed": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the members of the United States Armed Forces who are deployed;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the United States Armed Forces, wherever they serve, past, present, and future;

(3) designates October 26, 2012, as "Day of the Deployed"; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe "Day of the Deployed" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 582—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr.

BEGICH, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REED, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 582

Whereas beginning on September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Census Bureau estimates the Hispanic population in the United States at over 52,000,000 people, making Hispanic Americans the largest racial or ethnic minority group within the United States overall and in 25 individual States;

Whereas Latinos accounted for over 1/2 of all population growth from July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2011;

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States is projected to grow to 132,800,000 by July 1, 2050, at which point the Hispanic population will comprise 30 percent of the total population in the United States;

Whereas nearly 1 in 4 United States public school students is Hispanic, and the total number of Hispanic students enrolled in public schools in the United States is expected to reach 28,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 16.5 percent of all college students between the age of 18 and 24 years old are Hispanics, making Hispanics the largest racial or ethnic minority group on college campuses in the United States, including both 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas the purchasing power of Hispanic Americans was \$1,000,000,000,000 in 2010 and is expected to grow 50 percent to \$1,500,000,000 by 2015;

Whereas there are approximately 2,300,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and greatly contributing to the economic sector, especially retail trade, wholesale trade, food services, and construction;

Whereas as of June 2012, nearly 25,000,000 Hispanic workers represented 16 percent of the total labor force in the United States, with the share of Latino labor force participation expected to grow to 18 percent by 2018;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have bravely fought in every war in the history of the United States;

Whereas as of July 2012, 143,054 Hispanic active duty service members served with distinction in the United States Armed Forces in fiscal year 2012;

Whereas as of June 30, 2012, there were 19,752 Hispanics serving in Afghanistan;

Whereas as of May 7, 2012, 645 United States military fatalities in Iraq and Afghanistan have been Hispanic;

Whereas more than 80,000 Hispanics served in the Vietnam War, representing 5.5 percent of individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in that conflict even though Hispanics comprised only 4.5 percent of the United States population at the time;

Whereas 140,000 Hispanic soldiers served in the Korean War;

Whereas as of September 2012, there are approximately 1,300,000 living Hispanic veterans of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas 44 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an

enemy force that can be bestowed on an individual serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of government, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court, 2 seats in the Senate, 29 seats in the House of Representatives, and 2 seats in the Cabinet; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritage of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that appreciate the cultural contributions of Latinos to American life.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 583—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2012 AS “NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH”

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 583

Whereas a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency could strike any part of the United States at any time;

Whereas natural and manmade emergencies disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives each year, costing lives and causing serious injuries and billions of dollars in property damage;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials, as well as private and nonprofit organizations, are working to mitigate against, prevent, and respond to all types of emergencies;

Whereas the people of the United States can help promote the overall emergency preparedness of the United States by being prepared for all types of emergencies;

Whereas National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of public emergency preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for emergencies at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for emergencies by taking steps, such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, staying informed about possible emergencies, and obtaining reasonable levels of insurance; and

Whereas additional information about public emergency preparedness may be obtained through the Ready Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or the American Red Cross at [www.redcross.org/prepare](http://www.redcross.org/prepare): Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2012 as “National Preparedness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities, along with the people of the United States, to observe National Preparedness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote emergency preparedness.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 584—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 4, 2012, AS “JUMPSTART’S READ FOR THE RECORD DAY”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 584

Whereas Jumpstart, a national early education organization, is working to ensure that every child in the United States enters school prepared to succeed;

Whereas Jumpstart delivers a year-round research-based and cost-effective program by training college students and community volunteers to serve preschool age children in low-income neighborhoods, helping them to develop the language and literacy skills necessary to succeed in school and in life;

Whereas, since 1993, Jumpstart has trained nearly 25,000 college students and community volunteers to transform the lives of more than 42,000 preschool children in communities across the United States;

Whereas Jumpstart’s Read for the Record, presented in partnership with the Pearson Foundation, is a national campaign that culminates in one day of the year when millions of people in the United States come together to celebrate literacy and support Jumpstart in its efforts to promote early childhood education;

Whereas the goals of the campaign are to raise awareness in the United States of the importance of early childhood education, support Jumpstart’s early education programs in preschools in low-income neighborhoods through donations and sponsorship, and celebrate the commencement of Jumpstart’s program year;

Whereas October 4, 2012, is an appropriate date to designate as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day” because it is the date Jumpstart aims to set the world record for the largest shared reading experience; and

Whereas Jumpstart hopes to engage more than 2,200,000 children in reading “Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad” by David Soman and Jacky Davis during this record-breaking celebration of reading and service, all in support of preschool children in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 4, 2012, as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day”;

(2) commends Jumpstart’s Read for the Record on its seventh year;

(3) encourages adults, including grandparents, parents, teachers, and college students—

(A) to join children in creating the world’s largest shared reading experience; and

(B) to show their support for literacy and Jumpstart’s early education programming for young children in low-income communities; and

(4) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Jumpstart, one of the leading nonprofit organizations in the United States in the field of early childhood education.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 585—RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, AND HONORING AND COMMENDING THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO AND ITS PEOPLE ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 585

Whereas New Mexico has a rich heritage and history, dating as far back as 11,000 B.C. when the Clovis people left the earliest evidence of human existence in what is now New Mexico;

Whereas Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico, was established in 1610 and is the oldest capital city in the United States, as well as the highest in elevation at 7,000 feet above sea level;

Whereas, on September 9, 1850, the portion of the Compromise of 1850 (9 Stat. 446) that created the New Mexico Territory was enacted;

Whereas, on January 6, 1912, President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State of the Union;

Whereas the nickname of New Mexico is the “Land of Enchantment” because of its scenic beauty and rich history and culture;

Whereas the natural wonder of New Mexico is preserved by a broad range of national parks, forests, wilderness areas, and wildlife refuge centers;

Whereas the diverse cultural roots of New Mexico come from the many different groups of people who have inhabited the State, notably the strong tribal and Hispanic cultural influences in the State;

Whereas New Mexico has one of the richest indigenous tribal populations in the United States, including 19 Pueblo nations, 2 Apache nations, and the Navajo Nation;

Whereas the Hispanic population of New Mexico has rich and distinct cultural roots in its historic land grants as recognized by the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits, and Settlement between the United States and Mexico, signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo February 2, 1848, and entered into force May 30, 1848 (9 Stat. 922) (commonly referred to as the “Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo”);

Whereas New Mexico continues to derive strength from the new Hispanic communities in the State with roots in Latin America;

Whereas New Mexico has an extensive variety of prehistoric, tribal, and Hispanic archaeological ruins;

Whereas New Mexico has a long tradition of artistic expression inspired by its natural beauty, unique architecture, and diverse people;

Whereas the people of New Mexico have a proud history of military service, predating and continuing after statehood, including the participation of the people of New Mexico in every major war of the United States since the Civil War, with notable participation by the people of New Mexico in Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders, the Navajo Code Talkers, the defense of Bataan and Corregidor, the wars in Korea and Vietnam, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas New Mexico is a center for scientific innovation and laboratory research, serving as the home to the Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories;

Whereas, on July 16, 1945, the United States Army conducted the Trinity test, the first test of a nuclear weapon, which was developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory