

against international terrorism". Since the program's inception in 1984, the United States Government has rewarded over 60 people who provided actionable information that, according to the Department of State, prevented international terrorist attacks or helped convict individuals involved in terrorist attacks.

(3) The program has been credited with providing information in several high-profile cases, including the arrest of Ramzi Yousef, who was convicted in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center, the deaths of Uday and Qusay Hussein, who United States military forces located and killed in Iraq after receiving information about their locations, and the arrests or deaths of several members of the Abu Sayyaf group, believed to be responsible for the kidnappings and deaths of United States citizens and Filipinos in the Philippines.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the rewards program of the Department of State should be expanded in order to—

(1) address the growing threat to important United States interests from transnational criminal activity, such as intellectual property rights piracy, money laundering, trafficking in persons, arms trafficking, and cybercrime; and

(2) target other individuals indicted by international, hybrid, or mixed tribunals for genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity.

SEC. 3. ENHANCED REWARDS AUTHORITY.

Section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting "serious violations of international humanitarian law, transnational organized crime," after "international narcotics trafficking,";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "Attorney General" and inserting "heads of other relevant departments or agencies";

(B) in paragraphs (4) and (5), by striking "paragraph (1), (2), or (3)" both places it appears and inserting "paragraph (1), (2), (3), (8), or (9)";

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) by inserting "or transnational organized crime group" after "terrorist organization"; and

(ii) by striking "or" at the end;

(D) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "including the use by the organization of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking" and inserting "or transnational organized crime group, including the use by such organization or group of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking";

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "or transnational organized crime" after "international terrorism"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting "or transnational organized crime group" after "terrorist organization"; and

(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(8) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual for participating in, primarily outside the United States, transnational organized crime;

"(9) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual conspiring to participate in or attempting to participate in transnational organized crime; or

"(10) the arrest or conviction in any country, or the transfer to or conviction by an international criminal tribunal (including a hybrid or mixed tribunal), of any foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, as defined under the statute of such tribunal.";

(3) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL REWARDS.—Not less than 15 days before publicly announcing that a reward may be offered for a particular foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, which may be submitted in classified form if necessary, setting forth the reasons why the arrest or conviction of such foreign national is in the national interests of the United States.";

and

(4) in subsection (k)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

"(5) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME.—The term 'transnational organized crime' means—

"(A) racketeering activity (as such term is defined in section 1961 of title 18, United States Code) that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States; or

"(B) any other criminal offense punishable by a term of imprisonment of at least four years under Federal, State, or local law that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States and that is intended to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

"(6) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME GROUP.—The term 'transnational organized crime group' means a group of persons that includes one or more citizens of a foreign country, exists for a period of time, and acts in concert with the aim of engaging in transnational organized crime.".

SEC. 4. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 36(e)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended by striking "The Secretary shall authorize a reward of \$50,000,000 for the capture or death or information leading to the capture or death of Osama bin Laden."

SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed as authorizing the use of activity precluded under the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (title II of Public Law 107-206; 22 U.S.C. 7421 et seq.).

SEC. 6. FUNDING.

The Secretary of State shall use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Services account of the Department of State to pay rewards authorized pursuant to this Act and to carry out other activities related to such rewards authorized under section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. 2708).

Mr. MERKLEY. I further ask the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time, and the Senate immediately proceed to a voice vote on passage of the bill as amended.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the bill as amended.

The bill (S. 2318), as amended, was passed.

Mr. MERKLEY. I further ask the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, without any intervening action or debate and any statement be printed in the RECORD.

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

DIGNIFIED BURIAL OF VETERANS ACT OF 2012

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Veterans' Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 3202, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3202) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that deceased veterans with no known next of kin can receive a dignified burial, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask unanimous consent the Murray substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 3407) was agreed to.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text Of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 3202), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

IMPROVING VETERANS ACCESS TO FEDERAL SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. 3698, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3698) to amend title 40, United States Code, to improve veterans service organizations access to federal surplus personal property.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 3698) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3698

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act of 2012" or the "FOR VETS Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. VETERANS ACCESS TO FEDERAL EXCESS AND SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Section 549(c)(3) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (viii), by adding “or” at the end; and

(B) by striking clause (x); and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) for purposes of providing services to veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38), to an organization whose—

“(i) membership comprises substantially veterans; and

“(ii) representatives are recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 5902 of title 38.”.

OBSERVING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ROSA PARKS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 618 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 618) observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, over a half century ago, Rosa Parks sparked a revolution in American race relations when she decided that she would no longer tolerate the humiliation and demoralization of racial segregation on a bus. The strength and spirit of this courageous woman captured the consciousness of not only the American people but the entire world. Her stand on that December day in 1955 was not an isolated incident but part of a lifetime of struggle for equality and justice. Twelve years earlier, in 1943, Rosa Parks had been arrested for violating another one of the city's bus related segregation laws requiring blacks to pay their fares at the front of the bus then get off of the bus and re-board from the rear of the bus. The driver of that bus was the same driver with whom she would have her confrontation years later.

Rosa Parks, by her quiet courage, symbolizes all that is vital about non-violent protest, as she endured threats of death and persisted as an advocate for the simple, basic lessons she taught the Nation and from which the Nation has benefitted immeasurably. The bus boycott which Rosa Parks began was the beginning of an American revolution that elevated the status of African Americans nationwide and introduced to the world a young leader who would one day have a national holiday declared in his honor, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

February 4, 2013, marks the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Rosa Parks. In recognition of this occasion, I am immensely proud to be joined by 56 bipartisan cosponsors of S. Res. 618, which was just adopted unanimously by the

Senate, observing the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy. I am especially pleased to have had the input of Senators STABENOW, SESSIONS, and ALEXANDER in the crafting of this resolution, which is befitting one who so significantly contributed to the breaking down the barriers of legal discrimination against African Americans, and equality for us all.

Although Rosa Parks will be forever associated with one day in Montgomery, AL, she lived most of her life in my home state of Michigan, and we proudly claim her as our own. She continued to dedicate her life to advancing equal opportunity and to educating our youth about the past struggles for freedom, from slavery up to the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

In 1987, Rosa Parks and Elaine Steele co-founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development. Its primary focus has been working with young people from across the country and the world as part of the “Pathways to Freedom” program. With the work of the Institute, we can truly say that in addition to having played a major role in shaping America's past and present, Rosa Parks is continuing to help shape America's future.

In the spirit of the enormous contributions of Rosa Parks to this Nation, the Henry Ford Museum of Dearborn, MI will commemorate the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks by calling for a national day of courage; and sponsoring a program that highlights her contributions to the civil rights movement. The activities will include a day-long celebration, with both virtual and on-site activities featuring nationally-recognized speakers, musical and dramatic interpretative performances, a panel presentation of “Rosa's Story” and a reading of the tale “Quiet Strength,” and will feature the actual bus on which Rosa Parks sat as the centerpiece in commemorating Rosa Parks' extraordinary life and accomplishments, and affording everyone the opportunity to board the bus and sit in the seat that Rosa Parks refused to give up.

Mr. President, in November of 2005, upon her passing, Rosa Parks became the first woman in the history of the United States to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda. And, a few years earlier on June 15, 1999, Rosa Parks was presented with the highest honor of Congress, the Congressional Gold Medal, of which I was pleased to co-author. I was also pleased to be a part of the effort in directing the Architect of the Capitol to commission a statue of Rosa Parks, which will soon be placed in the U.S. Capitol, making her the second African American woman to receive such an honor.

Mr. President, the cosponsors of the resolution are: Senators STABENOW, SESSIONS, ALEXANDER, LANDRIEU, COCHRAN, HARKIN, SHELBY, CORNYN, BOXER, MURRAY, COBURN, KERRY, HUTCHISON, GILLIBRAND, MR. LEAHY, SANDERS,

REID, MIKULSKI, DURBIN, PRYOR, NELSON of Florida, BROWN of Ohio, LIEBERMAN, Mr. CONRAD, LAUTENBERG, KOHL, CANTWELL, MCCASKILL, WYDEN, COONS, BAUCUS, WHITEHOUSE, MANCHIN, BENNET, CARDIN, HAGAN, CASEY, BEGICH, MENENDEZ, WARNER, UDALL of New Mexico, KLOBUCHAR, INOUE, CORKER, JOHNSON of South Dakota, FRANKEN, ROCKEFELLER, UDALL of Colorado, BLUMENTHAL, AKAKA, REED, SHAHEEN, WEBB, MCCAIN, LUGAR, and GRASSLEY.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate will agree to S. Res. 618, a resolution observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks, and commemorating her legacy. It is hard to believe that 57 years have passed since Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus, a heroic act for a young woman from Tuskegee, AL, who joined so many in the fight for civil rights. I am proud of the progress this country has made toward equality for all, in large part thanks to the work and inspiration of leaders like Rosa Parks, although we as a Nation have more work to do.

Rosa's brave act of defiance inspired a city-wide boycott and national movement, and she remains an important symbol of the civil rights movement to this day. Her legacy reminds Vermonters and Americans all over the country that one brave voice or action can shine a light on injustice and challenge society to accept nothing less than freedom and equality for all mankind.

In 2006 I was proud to work to reauthorize one of the most important civil rights laws in our history and to have that voting rights legislation bare Rosa Parks' name. Unfortunately, some are trying to overturn that protective and important law despite the continuing threat to the right to vote. As we commemorate her birth 100 years ago, I hope we can all agree that threats to civil rights are not a relic of the past. To honor Rosa Parks' memory, we must continue to fight to ensure that all Americans can vote and have their vote counted. I thank Senator LEVIN for submitting this resolution and am proud to join him in commemorating the legacy of Rosa Parks.

Mr. MERKLEY. 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, and any statements be placed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 618) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 618

Whereas Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama, the first child of James and Leona (Edwards) McCauley;

Whereas Rosa Parks dedicated her life to the cause of universal human rights and truly embodied the love of humanity and freedom;

Whereas Rosa Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, for