

the bombings at the Boston Marathon in Boston, Massachusetts, and to accidents such as the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas;

Whereas law enforcement officers selflessly risk their personal safety in the interest of public safety;

Whereas Peace Officers Memorial Day honors law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty;

Whereas Peace Officers Memorial Day this year honors 143 law enforcement officers recently killed in the line of duty, including Randall L. Benoit, Brandon Joseph Nielson, Jeremy Michael Triche, Ricky Ray Issac, Jr., Howard Evans Jr., Raymundo Dominguez, Steven C. D. Green Sr., David W. Riddlesperger, Scott J. Ward, William H. Coleman, James D. Lister, David W. Wargo Jr., Barbara A. Ester, Robert L. Paris Jr., Kenyon M. Youngstrom, Jeremy S. Bitner, James J. Davies, Leide W. DeFusco, Celena C. Hollis, Mary K. Ricard, Matthew R. Tyner, William H. Dyer III, Michael K. Erickson, Barbara A. Pill, Christopher A. Schaub, Bruce E. St. Laurent, Ruben H. Thomas III, David A. White, Sean L. Callahan, Robert W. Crapse Sr., Elgin L. Daniel, Richard J. Halford, Shawn A. Smiley, Larry L. Stell, Gail D. Thomas, Garret C. Davis, Eric C. Fontes, Chad M. Morimoto, Nikkii Bostic-Jones, Kyle W. Deatherage, Lamont C. Reid, Timothy A. Betts, Britney R. Meux, Robert L. Atherly, Davis S. Gogian, Herbert D. Proffitt, Carl A. Rakes, Mark A. Taulbee, Charles B. Licato, Adrian A. Morris, William D. Talbert, Forrest E. Taylor, Teresa L. Testerman, Kevin E. Ambrose, Peter J. Kneeland, Jose Torres, Ryan Tvelia, Joseph T. Candie, Patrick J. O'Rourke, Thomas E. Decker, Michael J. Walter, William M. Mudd, Christopher R. Parsons, George F. Ross Sr., Tracy A. Hardin, Denny Lawrence, Michael P. Maloney, James G. Hoopes III, Christopher W. Reeves, Robert A. Potter, Amanda D. Anna, Fermin S. Archer Jr., Michael J. Chiapperini, Arthur Lopez, Joseph P. Olivieri Jr., Christopher M. Pupo, Bobby G. DeMuth Jr., Jeremiah M. Goodson Jr., Dwayne C. Hester, William R. Mast Jr., Edward A. Pounds, Randall S. Thomas, William L. Wright, Jason E. Gresko, Frank D. Mancini, William C. Coen, Brian E. Hayden, Jeffrey M. McCoy, Blake T. Coble, Bradley M. Fox, Avery E. Freeman, Brian J. Lorenzo, Moses Walker Jr., Maxwell R. Dorley, Sandra E. Rogers, David C. Gann, Martoiya V. Lang, Justin D. Maples, Javier Arana Jr., Brian D. Bachmann, Angel Garcia, Paul Hernandez, Joshua S. Mitchell, Jonathan K. Molina, Edrees Mukhtar, Jimmie D. Norman, Jamie D. Padron, Michael R. Smith, Joshua S. Williams, Aaron R. Beesley, Jard D. Francom, Morton M. Ford III, Andrew D. Fox, Michael C. Walzier, Chris Yung, Tony V. Radulescu, Marshall L. Bailey, Michael T. May, Eric M. Workman, Sergio Aleman, Jennifer L. Sebens, Margaret A. Anderson, Merrill A. Bruguier, Leopoldo Cavazos Jr., David R. Delaney, James R. Dominguez, Terrell Horne III, Nicholas J. Ivie, Julio D. La Rosa, Preston B. Parnell, Jeffrey Ramirez, Abimael Castro-Bercoales, Pedro R. Cora-Rivera, Noel D. Cordero-Guzman, Francis A. Crespo-Mandry, Carlos R. Lozada Vergara, Isaac J. Pizarro-Piazarro, Wilfredo Ramos-Nieves, Ivan G. Romas-Matos, Victor M. Soto-Velez, and Colvin T. Georges; and

Whereas more than 35 law enforcement officers across the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice during the first 4 months of 2013, including Officer Sean Collier of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Police Department: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 12 through May 18, 2013 as “National Police Week”;

(2) expresses strong support for law enforcement officers across the United States for their efforts to build safer and more secure communities;

(3) recognizes the need to ensure that law enforcement officers have the equipment, training, and resources necessary to protect their health and safety while they are protecting the public;

(4) recognizes the members of the law enforcement community for their selfless acts of bravery;

(5) acknowledges that police officers and other law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice should be remembered and honored; and

(6) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Police Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the vital role of law enforcement officers in building safer and more secure communities across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 147—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, AND ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO IMPLEMENT POLICY TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 147

Whereas National Foster Care Month was established more than 20 years ago to—

(1) bring foster care issues to the forefront of public consciousness;

(2) highlight the importance of permanency for every child; and

(3) recognize the essential role that foster parents, social workers, and advocates have in the lives of children in foster care throughout the United States;

Whereas all children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home;

Whereas the primary goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety and well-being of children while working to provide a safe, loving, and permanent home for each child;

Whereas approximately 400,000 children are living in foster care;

Whereas approximately 252,000 youth entered the foster care system in 2011, while more than 104,000 youth were eligible for and awaiting adoption at the end of 2011;

Whereas children of minority races and ethnicities are more likely to stay in the foster care system for longer periods of time and are less likely to be reunited with their biological families;

Whereas foster parents—

(1) are the front-line caregivers for children who cannot safely remain with their biological parents;

(2) provide physical care, emotional support, and education advocacy to the children in their care; and

(3) are the largest single source of families providing permanent homes for children transitioning from foster care to adoption;

Whereas children in foster care who are placed with relatives, compared to children

placed with nonrelatives, have more stability, including fewer changes in placements, have more positive perceptions of their placements, are more likely to be placed with their siblings, and demonstrate fewer behavioral problems;

Whereas some relative caregivers receive less financial assistance and support services than foster caregivers;

Whereas recent studies show foster children enrolled in Medicaid were prescribed antipsychotic medications at nearly 9 times the rate of other children receiving Medicaid;

Whereas youth in foster care are much more likely to face educational instability, with 65 percent of former foster children experiencing at least 7 school changes while in foster care;

Whereas an increased emphasis on prevention and reunification services is necessary to reduce the number of children who are forced to remain in the foster care system;

Whereas more than 26,200 youth “age out” of foster care annually without a legal permanent connection to an adult or family;

Whereas the number of youth who age out of foster care has increased during the past decade;

Whereas foster care is intended to be a temporary placement, but children remain in the foster care system for an average of 2 years;

Whereas children in foster care experience an average of 3 different placements, which often leads to disruption of routines and the need to change schools and move away from siblings, extended families, and familiar surroundings;

Whereas children entering foster care often confront the widespread misperception that children in foster care are disruptive, unruly, and dangerous, even though placement in foster care is based on the actions of a parent or guardian, not the child;

Whereas children who age out of foster care lack the security and support of a biological or adoptive family and frequently struggle to secure affordable housing, obtain health insurance, pursue higher education, and acquire adequate employment;

Whereas States, localities, and communities should be encouraged to invest resources in preventative and reunification services and postpermanency programs to ensure that more children in foster care are provided with safe, loving, and permanent placements;

Whereas Federal legislation during the past 3 decades, including the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-272), the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-89), the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-351), and the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-34) provided new investments and services to improve the outcomes of children in the foster care system;

Whereas May 2013 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Foster Care Month” to provide an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of the child-welfare workforce, foster parents, the advocacy community, and mentors for their dedication, accomplishments, and positive impact on the lives of children; and

Whereas much remains to be done to ensure that all children have a safe, loving, nurturing, and permanent family, regardless of age or special needs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 2013 as “National Foster Care Month”;

(2) recognizes National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about

the challenges that children face in the foster care system;

(3) encourages Congress to implement policies to improve the lives of children in the foster care system;

(4) acknowledges the special needs of children in the foster care system;

(5) recognizes youth in foster care throughout the United States for their ongoing tenacity, courage, and resilience while facing life challenges;

(6) acknowledges the exceptional alumni of the foster care system who serve as advocates and role models for youth who remain in care;

(7) honors the commitment and dedication of the individuals who work tirelessly to provide assistance and services to children in the foster care system; and

(8) reaffirms the need to continue working to improve the outcomes of all children in the foster care system through parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and other programs designed to—

(A) support vulnerable families;

(B) invest in prevention and reunification services;

(C) promote adoption in cases where reunification is not in the best interests of the child;

(D) adequately serve children brought into the foster care system; and

(E) facilitate the successful transition into adulthood for children who “age out” of the foster care system.

SENATE RESOLUTION 148—DESIGNATING MAY 18, 2013, AS “NATIONAL KIDS TO PARKS DAY”

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 148

Whereas the third annual National Kids to Parks Day will be celebrated on May 18, 2013;

Whereas the goal of National Kids to Parks Day is to empower young people and encourage families to get outdoors and visit the parks of the United States;

Whereas, on National Kids to Parks Day, individuals from rural and urban areas of the United States can be reintroduced to the splendid National Parks and State and neighborhood parks that are located in their communities;

Whereas communities across the United States offer a variety of natural resources and public land, often with free access, to individuals seeking outdoor recreation;

Whereas the people of the United States should encourage young people to lead a more active lifestyle, as too many young people in the United States are overweight or obese;

Whereas National Kids to Parks Day is an opportunity for families to take a break from their busy lives and come together for a day of wholesome fun; and

Whereas National Kids to Parks Day aims to broaden the appreciation of young people for nature and the outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 18, 2013, as “National Kids to Parks Day”;

(2) recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation and the preservation of open spaces to the health of the young people of the United States; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 16—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR THE UNVEILING OF A STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 16

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

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR THE UNVEILING OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS STATUE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on June 19, 2013, to unveil a statue of Frederick Douglass.

(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.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a meeting of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has been scheduled to discuss natural gas issues. The meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide a forum to explore what the next applications are for natural gas and how this new demand will be met. The environmental impacts of shale gas development and best practices will be specific points of interest.

Because of the limited time available for the forum, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to lauren_goldschmidt@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Todd Wooten at (202) 224-4971 or Lauren Goldschmidt at (202) 224-5488.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 10 a.m.,

in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 12 p.m., in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., in SD-G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to continue its executive business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. in room 428A Russell Senate Office building to conduct a roundtable entitled “The Impact of Mandatory E-Verify on America’s Small Businesses.”

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND SPACE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Science and Space of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 16, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

FREEDOM TO FISH ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 982, introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 982) to prohibit the Corps of Engineers from taking certain actions to establish a restricted area prohibiting public access to waters downstream of a dam, and for other purposes.

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