

Whereas in September 2013, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, the United States launched a coordinated multilateral effort encouraging countries to stand with civil society and push back against growing restrictions on CSOs;

Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association stands on the front lines of civil society protection, documenting extensive global threats to civil society and strengthening international norms; and

Whereas the United States remains committed to its stand with civil society by developing new mechanisms to combat restrictions on civil society and bolster civil society's efforts to support democracy around the world; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of the International Day of Democracy;

(2) recognizes the importance of civil society to the healthy development of nations;

(3) celebrates the invaluable contributions civil society has made to the creation, strength, and preservation of vibrant democracies and democratic institutions;

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to the protection, advancement, health, and sustainability of democracy throughout the world;

(5) condemns the use of restrictions, coercion, threats, or force to impede the activities of civil society organizations;

(6) recognizes the important multilateral work of the Community of Democracies, the "Lifeline: Embattled Civil Society Organizations Fund", the Open Government Partnership, and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association to protect global civil society;

(7) recognizes the important role diplomacy plays in defending global civil society and creating new openings for civic space;

(8) emphasizes the value of programs of the United States Government in protecting civil society and defending civic space, including the work by the Senior Advisor for Civil Society and Emerging Democracies and the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the United States Department of State, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID);

(9) calls on private sector partners and other governments to develop new tools and leverage existing technologies to support the efforts of civil society; and

(10) encourages the people of the United States and the world to observe the International Day of Democracy, September 15, 2014, with appropriate programs and activities.

HONORING THE LIFE, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND LEGACY OF LOUIS ZAMPERINI

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 531 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. 531) honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Louis Zamperini and expressing condolences on his passing.

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Feinstein amendment which is at the desk be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The amendment (No. 3971) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the resolving clause)

The resolving clause is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "and" and inserting a period; and

(3) by striking paragraph (3).

The resolution (S. Res. 531), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 531

Whereas Louis Silvie "Lou" Zamperini was born on January 26, 1917, to Anthony and Louise Zamperini, in Olean, New York;

Whereas Louis Zamperini represented the United States in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin as a distance runner;

Whereas Louis Zamperini graduated from the University of Southern California in 1940 and enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps in 1941, earning the rank of lieutenant;

Whereas in May 1943, Louis Zamperini's B-24 bomber malfunctioned and crashed during a search-and-rescue mission over the Pacific Ocean, leaving him and 2 other individuals stranded;

Whereas Louis Zamperini survived for 47 days adrift in a life raft with Second Lieutenant Russell Phillips before being captured by Japanese forces and placed in a prisoner of war camp;

Whereas for more than 2 years, during his imprisonment, Louis Zamperini endured brutal treatment and forced labor with courage and resilience;

Whereas upon the conclusion of World War II, Louis Zamperini was released from the prisoner of war camp in September 1945;

Whereas Louis Zamperini was promoted to captain and awarded multiple distinguishing military honors, including the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Prisoner of War Medal;

Whereas Louis Zamperini was given the honor of carrying the Olympic flame in 1984, 1996, and 1998;

Whereas in the years after World War II, Louis Zamperini traveled as an inspirational public speaker, using his experiences to inspire a message of forgiveness;

Whereas the airport in Torrance, California, was named "Zamperini Field" in honor of Louis Zamperini; and

Whereas Louis Zamperini leaves a legacy as a national hero and an inspiration to future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Louis Zamperini; and

(2) extends heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the family of Louis Zamperini.

NATIONAL PHENYLKETONURIA AWARENESS DAY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from

further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 585.

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. 585) designating December 3, 2014, as "National Phenylketonuria Awareness Day."

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 585) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of November 20, 2014, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 593, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 593) designating December 13, 2014, as "Wreaths Across America Day."

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague Senator KING in submitting S. Res. 593 to designate December 13, 2014, as Wreaths Across America Day. Since its inception 23 years ago, the Wreaths Across America project has become an annual tradition of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir remembrance wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at veterans' cemeteries and memorials in every State and overseas. In the program's first 23 years, more than 1.7 million wreaths have been placed in honor of those who have served our country.

On this December 13, thousands of volunteers across the river in Arlington, throughout our nation, at such overseas locations as Normandy, and on our Navy ships at sea, will carry out the mission of Wreaths Across America to "Remember, Honor, Teach." This will be the culmination of a week-long procession between Maine and Virginia, with stops along the way to spread a message about the importance

of remembering and honoring those who serve, and teaching the people of the United States about the sacrifices made by Veterans and their families.

This year, as in years past, the Patriot Guard Riders, along with other patriotic groups and Maine's First Lady Ann LePage, will escort the tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery. America's trucking industry will continue to support Wreaths Across America by providing drivers, equipment, fuel, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the country to more than 1,000 locations.

In recent years, Wreaths Across America has provided some 130,000 wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. To mark Arlington's 150th anniversary, the goal this year is to decorate each of the 230,000 Veterans' graves and memorials on that hallowed ground. Thanks to the generosity and gratitude of the American people, this goal will surely be achieved.

The origin of Wreaths Across America is an inspiring example of that generosity and gratitude. During the Christmas season in 1991, Morrill and Karen Worcester took time during their busiest season to donate and deliver 5,000 wreaths from their company in Harrington, ME, to Arlington National Cemetery to honor the heroes who lie at rest there. At first, a small band of volunteers laid the wreaths quietly and with little notice. In recent years, however, the Arlington Wreath Project has grown to become a national phenomenon. The people of Maine are proud that this heartfelt gesture of America's gratitude began in our state.

Wreaths Across America honors our departed heroes, but it does even more. It tells the Veterans still with us that we honor their service. It tells our men and women in uniform today that we are grateful for their courage and devotion to duty. It tells the families of those serving our country that they are in our thoughts and prayers. And it tells the families of the fallen that we share their grief.

Throughout human history, the ever-green wreath has been offered as a tribute to heroes. On December 13, we will again offer this enduring symbol of valor and sacrifice. In this season of giving, we will pay tribute to those who have given us the most precious gift of all, our freedom.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 593) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its businesses today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 4, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume executive session and consideration of the Orr nomination, with the time until 10 a.m. equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, there will be up to five rollcall votes at 10 a.m. on confirmation of the Orr and Hezir nominations and cloture on the Stivers, Leeson, and Griggsby nominations. Another series of up to six rollcall votes will occur at 1:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. 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 7:44 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, December 4, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ROBERT B. O. ALLEN
CATHERINE A. BONHOFF
BRAD C. BORDS
JEREMY L. BRASWELL
JEFFREY S. CHAPERON
ANTHONY W. CRANE
BRENT J. CUNNINGHAM
STELLA E. V. GARCIA
MIGUEL A. GUEVARA
ANDREW A. HERMAN
CHARLES S. HUGHES
DAVID HUINKER
NATHAN T. KELLETT
JENNIFER M. LAVERGNE
DONALD E. LOFTON, JR.
SEAN E. MARSHALL
LUZ A. MAYA
ALEXANDER L. MILLMAN
AIMEE L. MORALES
LAURA A. PATZ
JUSTICE M. SAKYI
TRACIE R. TIPPINS
ERNESTINA E. VAN LEER
KEITH M. VOLLENWEIDER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

RICHARD Y. BAIRD
MICHAEL S. BOGAARD
TIMOTHY J. BONJOUR
BRYAN DAVID BONZO
GOLDIE R. E. BOONE
COLIN M. BURCHFIELD
JACQUELINE E. BVLGARI

ANTHONY J. CAGLE
CATHERINE M. CALLENDER
JENNIFER R. CAREY
JOHN F. CARGIOLI
RICHARD C. T. CASABAR
TROY D. CHINEVERE
JOANNE S. CLARK
JEFFREY S. COLLINS
PAUL M. CONROY
HJALMAR CONTRERAS
KELLY L. CZEISZPERGER
JON K. EHRENFRIED
CARL S. ERICKSON
BRIAN C. EVERITT
RICHARD C. EVORS
STEPHANIE A. FORSYTHE
NICOLE D. GARRIS
DAVID R. GILLIAM, JR.
STEVEN B. GRAVES
ALAN C. HALE
MIRANDA L. HANCOCK
BENJAMIN R. HANDO
JESSICA D. HUGHES
TARA M. JAYNE
CHELSEA D. JOHNSON
JULIE M. JOHNSON
JONELLE J. KNAPP
JAY S. KOST
JEANE M. LAMBRECHT
BRIAN J. LANGFORD
COURTNEY M. LEE
ROGER A. LEE
DENISE M. LENNON
FE LOBOMENENDEZ
HANS J. MEISSNEST
ARTHUR L. MILLER
ERIC J. OGLESBEE
CRYSTAL E. PRICE
BRANDI A. RITTER
KATHRYN B. SHAW
STEPHEN C. SIMPSON
JEREMY SKABELUND
MICHAEL A. SKINNER
SCOTT W. STEIGERWALD
RANDALL L. STEVENS
TIMOTHY W. STOUT
DANIEL D. SWEENEY
JENNIFER A. TAY
JUSTIN L. THEISS
JEROME L. VINLUAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RICHARD M. BURGON
JOSHUA N. SCOTT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ALLYSON M. YAMAKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

AARON J. AGIRRE
ERIK B. ANDERSON
TANYA P. BERG
JONATHAN F. BRAGASSA
JONATHAN R. CARDON
TIMOTHY A. CARLSON
ANTHONY J. CARTER
ALLEN CHAN
WILLIAM R. CONE, JR.
JOSEPH G. CURTIS
AMBER D. DAILEY
J. SEPH ANTHONY DEMEO
FRANCINE A. DRUMMOND
HENRY A. FORSTER
CHRISTOPHER J. FRIES
FRANCISCO F. GALLARDO, JR.
BRETT M. GERMAIN
NATALIE FAITH GERMAIN
CHELSE L. GRITZMACHER
JEFFERY Y. HENDERSON
ALEXANDRA E. HERNANDEZ
ELISE L. HICKERSON
RYAN S. HOLBROOK
MELISSA C. HOLT
SHANE A. JENKS
JASON F. KOESTERS
JONATHAN P. KRUIZE
KEVIN R. KUNZ
KAREN R. LAPHAM
LISA K. U. LE
DEBBIE R. LEE
JIEUN LEE
KATHERINE MALDONADO ALFANDARI
MARICRUZ S. MARTINEZ
JARED D. MASON
EGYPT RAH Y. MCADOO
ERIN M. MCNAMARA
MANDY M. MILLER
HOON MIN
HELENA M. MINYE
NIKKI L. MOCHKO
JUNHYUNG PARK
CHRISTINA A. PFLIPSEN
KIMBERLY C. QUILAO
KEVIN D. RASMUSSEN
ASHLEY J. REYES
MARY UM ROBINSON