

Thurgood Marshall is well known as one of the most significant historical figures of the American civil rights movement. By the time he was 32 he was appointed the chief legal counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. He served at the NAACP a total of twenty-five years and was a key strategist to end racial segregation throughout the United States.

Perhaps the greatest illustration of this effort was his victory before the Supreme Court overturning the Plessy doctrine effectively ending school segregation with the landmark decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, KS*, in 1954. Not only did this case open up educational opportunity and sparked the civil rights movement in this nation, it also marked the beginning of Thurgood Marshall's career, still a young attorney from Baltimore, as one of the greatest legal minds in all the land. This case was just one of the 29 cases he won before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Fittingly, Marshall was the first African American confirmed to the Supreme Court. He was nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967 and served 24 years, until 1991. On the high court, Marshall continued his fight for the Constitutional protection of individual human rights.

But Thurgood Marshall was not always a legal giant. He was once a young boy growing up in West Baltimore. He received the first 6 years of his public education at PS 103. An apocryphal story goes that a young Thurgood Marshall studied the U.S. Constitution in the basement of the building while serving detention. Regardless of whether or not this is true, the building powerfully tells the story of racial segregation in America, PS 103 was a "blacks only" school when Justice Marshall was a student, and marks the academic beginning of one of the country's most brilliant legal thinkers and a pioneer of the civil rights movement.

The building is located at 1315 Division Street in the Upton Neighborhood of Old West Baltimore. The building is part of the Old West Baltimore National Register Historic District, and is listed as a contributing historic resource for the neighborhood. The Old West Baltimore historic district is one of the largest predominately African American historic districts in the country, and its significance is centered on the African American experience in the area.

In Baltimore, we are fortunate to have the National Park Service operate two historical sites, Fort McHenry and the Hampton Mansion. Adding PS 103 is a unique opportunity for the National Park Service to work in Baltimore's inner-city and to reach out and engage people about African American history.

Needless to say, Thurgood Marshall's legacy is one that should be preserved. He was one of our country's greatest legal minds and a prominent historical figure of one chapter of our country's

great history—the civil rights movement. This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of PS 103 to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the building as a unit of the National Park Service. Preserving the building that was Justice Marshall's elementary school will give Americans insight into Justice Marshall's childhood.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 610

*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 "Thurgood Marshall's Elementary School Study Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STUDY AREA.—The term "study area" means—

(A) P.S. 103, the public school located in West Baltimore, Maryland, which Thurgood Marshall attended as a youth; and

(B) any other resources in the neighborhood surrounding P.S. 103 that relate to the early life of Thurgood Marshall.

#### SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a special resource study of the study area.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the study area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the study area by the Federal Government, State or local government entities, or private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with interested Federal agencies, State or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations, or any other interested individuals; and

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 616. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide recruitment and retention incentives for volunteer emergency service workers; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Volunteer Emergency Services Recruitment and Retention Act of 2015. This bill fixes a

long-standing problem with the tax code that harms the ability of volunteer fire departments to recruit and retain both firefighters and emergency service personnel.

For years, local and State governments have provided their volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel with different forms of benefits including Length of Service Award Plans, commonly known as LOSAPs. These are pension-like benefits for volunteer emergency responders.

Unfortunately, the way the tax code handles LOSAPs hinders the ability of departments to administer plans and makes it more difficult for volunteer emergency personnel to receive benefits.

My bill would simplify the taxation of LOSAPs in two steps. First, it would allow an election to treat LOSAPs as deferred compensation plans, and second, it would exempt them from the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. These two changes will improve access to LOSAP benefits for volunteer emergency responders, without increasing Federal spending.

Today, an estimated 180,000 volunteer firefighters across 27 states participate in some form of LOSAP. Many states that do not offer these benefits would be more likely to do so if the Federal tax code were simplified. This, in turn, would help volunteer fire departments to recruit more easily and retain personnel. These men and women, our local first responders, are the foundation of our emergency response capabilities.

These volunteers put their lives on the line to help protect our communities, and their spirit of selflessness and service should be rewarded. I am pleased to introduce this legislation with Senator SCHUMER, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this bill through the Senate and into law.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 92—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 28, 2015, AS "RARE DISEASE DAY"

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 92

Whereas a rare disease or disorder is one that affects a small number of patients—in the United States, typically less than 200,000 individuals annually;

Whereas as of the date of approval of this resolution, nearly 7,000 rare diseases affect approximately 30,000,000 people in the United States and their families;

Whereas children with rare genetic diseases account for more than half of the population affected by rare diseases in the United States;

Whereas many rare diseases are serious, life-threatening, and lack an effective treatment;

Whereas great strides have been made in research and treatment for rare diseases as a result of the Orphan Drug Act (Public Law 97-414);

Whereas the Food and Drug Administration has made great strides in involving the patient in the drug review process as part of its Patient-Focused Drug Development program, an initiative that originated in the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-144);

Whereas although more than 450 drugs and biological products for the treatment of rare diseases have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, millions of people in the United States have a rare disease for which there is no such approved treatment;

Whereas lack of access to effective treatments and difficulty in obtaining reimbursement for life-altering, and even life-saving, treatments still exist and remain significant challenges for people with rare diseases and their families;

Whereas rare diseases and conditions include epidermolysis bullosa, progeria, sickle cell anemia, spinal muscular atrophy, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, Tay-Sachs disease, cystic fibrosis, pulmonary fibrosis, many childhood cancers, and fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva;

Whereas people with rare diseases experience challenges that include difficulty in obtaining accurate diagnoses, limited treatment options, and difficulty finding physicians or treatment centers with expertise in their diseases;

Whereas the rare disease community made great strides during the 113th Congress, including the passage of the National Pediatric Research Network Act (Public Law 113-55), which calls special attention to rare diseases and directs the National Institutes of Health to facilitate greater collaboration among researchers;

Whereas both the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health have established special offices to advocate for rare disease research and treatments;

Whereas the National Organization for Rare Disorders, an organization established in 1983 to provide services to and advocate on behalf of patients with rare diseases, remains a critical public voice for people with rare diseases;

Whereas 2015 marks the 32nd anniversary of the enactment of the Orphan Drug Act and the establishment of the National Organization for Rare Disorders;

Whereas on February 25, 2015, more than 200 rare disease advocates shared their stories on Capitol Hill on behalf of the rare disease community and asked lawmakers to enhance public policy to help rare disease patients;

Whereas the National Organization for Rare Disorders sponsors Rare Disease Day in the United States and partners with many other major rare disease organizations to increase public awareness of rare diseases;

Whereas Rare Disease Day is observed each year on the last day of February;

Whereas Rare Disease Day is a global event, first observed in the United States on February 28, 2009, and observed in 84 countries in 2014; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day is expected to be observed globally for years to come, providing hope and information for rare disease patients around the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 28, 2015, as “Rare Disease Day”;

(2) recognizes the importance of improving awareness and encouraging accurate and

early diagnosis of rare diseases and disorders; and

(3) supports a national and global commitment to improving access to and developing new treatments, diagnostics, and cures for rare diseases and disorders.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 264. Mr. SASSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 265. Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 255 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. SHAHEEN)) to the bill H.R. 240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 266. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 255 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. SHAHEEN)) to the bill H.R. 240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 267. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 268. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 33, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 264.** Mr. SASSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

#### **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . PROHIBITION ON ISSUING SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS PURSUANT TO DEFERRED ACTION POLICIES.**

Section 205(c)(2)(B)(i)(I) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(B)(i)(I)) is amended by inserting “, except that the Commissioner of Social Security shall not issue a social security account number to any alien who is authorized to engage in employment in the United States pursuant only to deferred action policies set forth in the memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled ‘Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children’ dated June 15, 2012, or the memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled ‘Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children and with Respect to Certain Individuals Who Are the Parents of U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents’ dated November 20, 2014 (or any substantially similar policy changes issued or taken on or after the date of the enactment of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015, whether set forth in memorandum, Executive order, regulation, directive, or by other action)” after “engage in such employment”.

**SA 265.** Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment in-

tended to be proposed to amendment SA 255 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. SHAHEEN)) to the bill H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ .** (a) No funds, resources, or fees made available to the Secretary of Homeland Security, or to any other official of a Federal agency, by this Act or any other Act for any fiscal year, including any deposits into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account established under section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)), may be used to implement, administer, enforce, or carry out (including through the issuance of any regulations) any of the policy changes set forth in the following memoranda (or any substantially similar policy changes issued or taken on or after January 9, 2015, whether set forth in memorandum, Executive order, regulation, directive, or by other action):

(1) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Southern Border and Approaches Campaign” dated November 20, 2014.

(2) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Policies for the Apprehension, Detention and Removal of Undocumented Immigrants” dated November 20, 2014.

(3) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Secure Communities” dated November 20, 2014.

(4) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children and with Respect to Certain Individuals Who Are the Parents of U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents” dated November 20, 2014.

(5) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Expansion of the Provisional Waiver Program” dated November 20, 2014.

(6) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Policies Supporting U.S. High-Skilled Businesses and Workers” dated November 20, 2014.

(7) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Families of U.S. Armed Forces Members and Enlistees” dated November 20, 2014.

(8) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Directive to Provide Consistency Regarding Advance Parole” dated November 20, 2014.

(9) The memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled “Policies to Promote and Increase Access to U.S. Citizenship” dated November 20, 2014.

(10) The memorandum from the President entitled “Modernizing and Streamlining the U.S. Immigrant Visa System for the 21st Century” dated November 21, 2014.

(11) The memorandum from the President entitled “Creating Welcoming Communities and Fully Integrating Immigrants and Refugees” dated November 21, 2014.

(b) The memoranda referred to in subsection (a) (or any substantially similar policy changes issued or taken on or after January 9, 2015, whether set forth in memorandum, Executive order, regulation, directive, or by other action) have no statutory or constitutional basis and therefore have no legal effect.

(c) No funds or fees made available to the Secretary of Homeland Security, or to any