

health care costs. I am pleased that the National Center for Healthy Housing supports both of these bills and I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation forward.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 431—RECOGNIZING THE IMMEASURABLE BENEFITS OF THE NATIONAL 4-H PROGRAM TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND SUPPORTING THE CAMPAIGN TO EXPAND THE 4-H PROGRAM

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KING, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. ERNST, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 431

Whereas in the late 1800s, 4-H clubs developed in rural communities to promote agricultural education among young people;

Whereas the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) established the cooperative extension services, which resulted in a national 4-H program;

Whereas the 4-H program and pledge are based on the values of community service, public leadership, and healthful living;

Whereas 4-H has played an indispensable role in shaping the lives of young leaders in rural areas of the United States for over 100 years;

Whereas nearly 6,000,000 young people are currently involved in 4-H, 40 percent of whom are from urban and suburban backgrounds;

Whereas the 4-H program has evolved to include opportunities for 4-H youth to become proficient in—

(1) science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and

(2) citizenship and public speaking;

Whereas young people who participate in 4-H are twice as likely as their peers who are not involved in 4-H—

(1) to be civically engaged;

(2) to participate in science, engineering, and computer technology programs outside of school; and

(3) to make healthful life choices;

Whereas the National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference, and Citizenship Washington Focus give hundreds of young people who participate in 4-H the opportunity to exercise leadership skills nationally and to learn about the history and government of the United States; and

Whereas in April 2016, the National 4-H Council launched a “Grow True Leaders” campaign to expand the benefits of 4-H to more communities, with the goal of creating 10,000,000 True Leaders by 2025: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes 4-H as a vital organization for training the next generation for national leadership;

(2) congratulates the National 4-H Council on its “Grow True Leaders” campaign; and

(3) supports the efforts of the National 4-H Council to grow and diversify the 4-H program.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 35—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXERCISE ITS VETO IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN PEACE PROCESS

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 35

Whereas it is long-standing practice of the United States Government that a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties;

Whereas President Barack Obama has stated this longstanding practice at the United Nations General Assembly in 2011, expressing “genuine peace can only be realized between the Israelis and the Palestinians themselves”;

Whereas it is long-standing practice of the United States Government to veto any United Nations Security Council resolution dictating terms, conditions, and timelines on the peace process;

Whereas President Barack Obama also expressed before the United Nations General Assembly in 2011, that “peace will not come through statements and resolutions at the United Nations – if it were that easy, it would have been accomplished by now”;

Whereas Yasser Arafat committed by letter dated September 9, 1993, to then Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, “The PLO commits itself to the Middle East peace process and to the peaceful resolution of the conflict between the two sides and declares that all outstanding issues relating to permanent status will be resolved by negotiation.”;

Whereas the United States has vetoed 42 unconstructive, anti-Israel resolutions in the United Nations Security Council since 1972;

Whereas after the United States voted against a resolution on Palestinian statehood, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, said the proposal was “deeply unbalanced”, had “unconstructive deadlines”, and failed to take “account of Israel’s security concerns”;

Whereas the United Nations is not the appropriate venue and should not be a forum used for seeking unilateral action, recognition, or dictating guidelines on the Israeli-Palestinian peace process;

Whereas in the two most recently completed United Nations General Assembly sessions, 21 of the 25 (68th Session) and 20 of the 23 (69th Session) resolutions attacked Israel;

Whereas the human rights bodies and agencies of the United Nations, such as the United Nations Human Rights Council, have consistently demonstrated unwarranted bias against Israel; and

Whereas since 2006, 7 of the 23 Council’s sessions have focused on Israel and 61 of their 116 condemnations have unfairly singled out and targeted Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a durable resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian peace process can only come

through direct, bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians;

(2) the United Nations cannot be a truly neutral arbiter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and

(3) the United States Government should continue to uphold its practice of vetoing any United Nations Security Council resolution that inserts the Council into the peace process, unilaterally recognizes a Palestinian state, makes declarations concerning Israeli controlled territories, or dictates terms and a timeline for the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3799. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 636, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2016 through 2017, and for other purposes.

SA 3800. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment 3679 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) to the bill H.R. 636, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3799. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 636, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2016 through 2017, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2016 through 2017, and for other purposes.”.

SA 3800. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3679 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) to the bill H.R. 636, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2016 through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ REIMBURSEMENT FOR AIRPORT SECURITY PROJECTS.

Paragraph (3) of section 44923(h) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount made available under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year, up to \$ 50,000,000 shall be used to make discretionary grants, including other transaction agreements for airport security improvement projects, with priority given to small hub airports and nonhub airports.

“(B) REIMBURSEMENT.—For each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2022, of the amount available under paragraph (1), up to \$10,000,000 shall be made available for reimbursement to airports that have incurred eligible costs under section 1604(b)(2) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-53; 121 Stat. 481).”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. ISAKSON. 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 April 19, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled, "Examining the President's FY 2017 budget request for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, "Central America and the Alliance for Prosperity: Identifying U.S. Priorities and Assessing Progress."

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, "Preventing Drug Trafficking through International Mail."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2016, at 2:30 p.m., in room SH-2196 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 19, 2016, at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Coast Guard Fellow, John Ariail, in Senator

COCHRAN's office, be granted floor privileges through the remainder of the 114th Congress.

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

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Marion Wittmann, a fellow in my office, be given floor privileges for the remainder of this session of the Congress.

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

FALLEN HEROES FLAG ACT OF 2016

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Senate Rules and Administration be discharged from further consideration of S. 2755 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2755) to provide Capitol-flown flags to the immediate family of firefighters, law enforcement officers, members of rescue squads or ambulance crews, and public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty.

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

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to support the Fallen Heroes Flag Act of 2016, S. 2755. This bipartisan legislation will create a program to provide Capitol-flown flags to the immediate family members of firefighters, law enforcement officers, members of rescue squads or ambulance crews, and public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty. These flags are provided at no cost to the family and will come with a certificate from the Senate, signed by the providing Member and President pro tempore, which contains our expression of sympathy for the grieving family. Certificates coming from the other body will be signed by the Speaker of the House and the providing House Member and express the sympathy of the House of Representatives.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in support of this legislation. Our first responders make tremendous sacrifices for our communities. If one of them makes the ultimate sacrifice, the least we can do to recognize their life, show our gratitude, and express our sympathy for their family is present them with a flag flown over this building.

Under existing rules, Senate offices may not use official funds to send flags to individuals. This legislation authorizes a new program, administered by the Architect of the Capitol, that will make it possible for families who have lost a loved one in these circumstances to request and receive a Capitol-flown flag at no expense. We are all grateful for the sacrifices these dedicated public servants make every day to serve and protect our communities, and this legislation will make it possible to

present grieving families with a symbol of our gratitude.

This legislation has been endorsed by the National Fraternal Order of Police and the Sergeants Benevolent Association. I ask unanimous consent that their letters of support be printed in the RECORD following my statement.

I would like to thank all my colleagues who cosponsored this legislation, particularly our ranking member of the Rules Committee, Senator SCHUMER. I would also like to thank Congressman PETER KING, who has championed this cause in the other body for many years. This legislation includes some revisions to the previously passed version in the House, but I expect they will be agreeable to the other body.

I hope both bodies will pass this legislation quickly and send it on to the President for his signature.

Thank you.

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

SERGEANTS BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK,

New York, NY, April 7, 2016.

Hon. ROY BLUNT,
Chairman, Committee on Rules,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. CHARLES SCHUMER,
Ranking Member, Committee on Rules,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN AND SENATOR SCHUMER, I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,000 active and retired members of the Sergeants Benevolent Association of the New York City Police Department to advise you of our strong support for the "Fallen Heroes Flag Act." We appreciate your leadership on this legislation to honor those law enforcement officers and other first responders who have lost their lives protecting their fellow citizens.

In the first four months of 2016 alone, thirty federal, state, and local law enforcement officers have fallen in the line of duty. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, sixteen of these officers perished in firearms-related incidents. Statistics such as these are a sobering reminder of the sacrifices that are made daily by our first responders. These men and women, as well as countless others who have lost their lives in the line of duty, have earned the right to be honored for their heroism.

The legislation that you have introduced would provide this opportunity by allowing the surviving family of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or EMT who dies in the line of duty to request that an American flag be flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of their fallen family member. The flag would be provided to the family without cost, and would include a signed certificate with an expression of sympathy for the family involved. It is a simple yet extremely meaningful way to demonstrate to surviving families our recognition of and gratitude for the tremendous sacrifice their loved one made to keep our nation safe.

On behalf of the membership of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, thank you again for your leadership on this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or our Washington Representatives Andrew Siff and Chris Granberg, if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

ED MULLINS,
President.