of the United States should solicit cosponsorship for a resolution calling upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to end its human rights abuses in China and Tibet, in compliance with its international obligations; and

(2) the United States Government should take the lead in organizing multilateral support to obtain passage by the Commission of such resolution.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution, along with my colleague Senator WELLSTONE, calling on the Administration to introduce a resolution at the upcoming meeting of the United Nations (U.N.) Human Rights Commission highlighting China's human rights abuses. This Senate resolution makes a simple statement. The U.S.should lead the effort in Geneva to speak for freedom in China, both by introducing a resolution and by garnering the support of key cosponsors.

Mr. President, in a report issued just two days ago, Amnesty International documented the extensive use of torture in China. According to the report, ''Torture is widespread and systemic, committed in the full range of state institutions, from police stations to 'reeducation through labour' camps, as well as in people's homes, workplaces, and in public . . . Victims can be anyone from criminal suspects, political dissidents, workers and innocent bystanders to officials.'' The common occurrence of torture points to a wider trend—China's human rights record is appalling. The Chinese government continues to repress any voice it perceives to be a threat to its power—religious groups, democracy activists, people trying to expose corruption, people trying to use the Internet for the free exchange of ideas—anyone who will not bow to the government. I expect that the State Department's annual report on human rights, which will be issued soon, will once again confirm this trend.

The destruction of places of worship is nothing new in China. But in recent months, scores of churches have been destroyed, in what some experts have described as the most destructive crackdown since the Cultural Revolution. Beginning in November, in counties around Wenzhou, over 700 churches have been destroyed. Over two hundred others have either been banned or taken for other purposes. I am disturbed by this worsening campaign against religious believers in China. The Chinese government has also stepped up its campaign against spiritual movements like the Falun Gong and Zhong Gong, not only imprisoning leaders but also sentencing marginal followers to lengthy terms and penalizing family members of practitioners.

Pro-democracy activists, including Xu Wenli, one of the founders of the China Democracy Party, are still languishing in prison for legally and peacefully expressing their views. Huang Qi, a middle class computer user and an Internet webmaster, is on trial for subverting state power simply because he posted information about topics like the democracy movement and the Tiannanmen Square Massacre. He could face ten years in prison. This attempt to control Internet usage should be of great concern to the international community, especially those who have touted the Internet as a revolutionizing force in China.

Mr. President, all of these human rights abuses point to a much needed response—a resolution at the U.N. Human Rights Commission. There is no more appropriate place for highlighting these abuses in a multilateral setting, because this multilateral forum was established just for this purpose. If we do not use this forum for bringing up obvious abuses, then we undercut its very viability. The U.S. has traditionally led the effort on China's human rights abuses. This year should be no different. China is already intensely lobbying other countries to defeat any such resolution. We must begin as soon as possible to obtain support for a resolution.

I understand that the Administration is in the process of deciding whether to advance a resolution at Geneva. I hope that they will look to the Congress and understand that there is broad support for a Geneva resolution. This Administration has the opportunity to set a tone for its approach to China and all of Asia. If the mistake of the Clinton Administration was bowing to China's demands and centering its efforts in Asia around China, then the Bush Administration has the chance to stand firm, to be skeptical of the Chinese government's offers and promises. I urge the Administration not to look at China's offer of ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, as anything an empty promise—a distraction that will quickly fade away once the Commission meeting is over.

Finally, Mr. President, last year when the Senate and Congress as a whole passed PNTR for China, proponents argued that passage of PNTR in no way signified a diminished concern for human rights. I believe that now is the time to demonstrate this continuing concern for human rights. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 23—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD AWARD THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM POSTHUMOUSLY TO DR. BENJAMIN ELIJAH MAYS IN HONOR OF HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS AN EDUCATOR, CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER, AND PUBLIC THEOLOGIAN

Mr. CLELAND (for himself, Mr. MILLER, and Mr. HOLLINGS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, as follows:

S. RES. 23

Whereas Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays, throughout his distinguished career of more than half a century as an educator, civil and human rights leader, and public theologian, has inspired people of all races throughout the world by his persistent commitment to excellence;

Whereas Benjamin Mays persevered, despite the frustrations inherent in segregation, to begin an illustrious career in education;

Whereas as dean of the School of Religion of Howard University and later as President of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, for 27 years, Benjamin Mays overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles to offer quality education to all Americans, especially African Americans;

Whereas at the commencement of World War II, when most colleges suffered from a lack of available students and the demise of Morehouse College appeared imminent, Benjamin Mays prevented the college from permanently closing its doors by vigorously recruiting potential students and thereby aiding in the development of future generations of African American leaders;

Whereas Benjamin Mays was instrumental in the elimination of segregated public facilities in Atlanta, Georgia, and promoted the cause of nonviolence through peaceful student protests during a time in this Nation that was often marred by racial violence;

Whereas Benjamin Mays received numerous accolades throughout his career, including 56 honorary degrees from universities across the United States and abroad and the naming of 7 schools and academic buildings and a street in his honor; and

Whereas the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the Nation, was established in 1945 to appropriately recognize Americans who have made an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, or cultural or other significant public or private endeavors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should award the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously to Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays in honor of his distinguished career as an educator, civil and human rights leader, and public theologian and his many contributions to the improvement of American society and the world.

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President. I rise today to introduce legislation that would honor Benjamin Elijah Mays for his distinguished career as an educator, civil and human rights leader, and public theologian. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays earned a master's degree and a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Chicago, served as president of Morehouse College and mentored Martin Luther King, Jr., and received numerous awards and honors during his lifetime. In recognition of his many accomplishments and contributions to the citizens of this nation and the world, I believe the President should award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the late Benjamin E. Mays.

Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays' achievements are even more extraordinary given the circumstances and social climate in the United States at the turn of the 20th Century. Dr. Mays, the son of former slaves, encountered prejudice and obstacles at every stage of his early education and pursued his dream

of a college education despite hostile, and sometimes violent, opposition. Although he faced the frustrations inherent in segregation, Dr. Mays finished high school at South Carolina State College in three years and graduated as class valedictorian. Based on his will to learn, his motivation to succeed, and his strong strength of character, Dr. Mays then went on to graduate from Bates College in Maine and received his graduate degrees from the University of Chicago.

As dean of the School of Religion at Howard University and later as President of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia for 27 years, Benjamin Mays overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles to offer quality education to all Americans, especially African-Americans. One of Dr. Mays' own inspirations was Mahatma Gandhi, whom he met in Mysore, India for 90 minutes and who shaped Mays' views on nonviolence as a means of political protest. Dr. Mays greatly influenced his students and, one in particular, Martin Luther King, Jr. sought the advice and counsel of his mentor before and during the civil rights movement. Dr. Mays was instrumental in the elimination of segregated public facilities in Atlanta and promoted the cause of nonviolence through peaceful student protests during a time in this nation that was often marred by racial violence. Another student from Morehouse, Ira Joe Johnson, published a book about Dr. Mays' scholarship program for African-American medical students in the early 1940s.

Dr. Mays once said that ''[e]very man and woman is born into the world to do something unique and something distinctive and if he or she does not do it, it will never be done.'' This nation owes a great debt to the late Dr. Benjamin E. Mays and it is certainly appropriate and timely to honor his achievements and his contributions to the citizens of the United States and the world by awarding him a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

SENATE RESOLUTION 24—HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, as follows:

S. RES. 24

Whereas America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a superior scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools ensure a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 1999–2000 academic year was 2,653,038, the total number of Catholic schools is 8,144, and the student-teacher ratio is 17 to 1;

Whereas Catholic schools provide more than $17,200,000,000 a year in savings to the Nation based on the average public school per pupil cost;

Whereas Catholic schools teach a diverse group of students and over 24 percent of school children enrolled in Catholic schools are minorities;

Whereas the graduation rate of Catholic school students is 95 percent, only 3 percent of Catholic high school students drop out of school, and 83 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development; and

Whereas in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, ''Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives.'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and

(2) congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, at 11 a.m., in closed session to receive a briefing form the navy on the submarine accident near Hawaii.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, to conduct a hearing on ''Establishing an Effective, Modern Framework for Export Controls.''

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, to conduct a hearing on ''Saving Investors Money and Strengthening the SEC.''

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, to hear testimony regarding Education Tax and Savings Incentives.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, February 14, 2001 at 10 a.m. in SD226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. on ICANN Governance.

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

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO MEXICO

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 13 that I submitted earlier.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 13) expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the upcoming trip of President George W. Bush to Mexico to meet with newly elected President Vicente Fox, and with respect to future cooperative efforts between the United States and Mexico.

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

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, we are facing a unique time in the history of U.S.-Mexico relations. Mexico's election and inauguration last year of an opposition candidate as president—Vicente Fox Quesada—has overturned 71 years of executive branch domination by the Institutional Revolutionary Party, PRI. And now, with the inauguration of our new president—George W. Bush—both nations have the unprecedented opportunity to implement positive changes and create lasting progress for our entire Western Hemisphere.

Because of Mexico's critical importance to our nation and hemisphere, it is not at all surprising that President Bush has chosen to travel to Mexico for