

to delay meeting its obligations to resume beef imports from the United States under the understanding reached with the United States on October 23, 2004, the United States Trade Representative should immediately impose retaliatory economic measures against Japan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 88—DESIGNATING APRIL 2005 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. THOMAS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 88

Whereas at the end of 2004, Americans carried 657,000,000 bank credit cards, 228,000,000 debit cards, and 550,000,000 retail credit cards;

Whereas based on the number of total United States households, there are now 6.3 bank credit cards, 2.2 debit cards, and 6.4 retail credit cards per household;

Whereas Americans consumer credit debt continues to increase, and has reached a level of in excess of \$2,100,000,000,000 as of year end 2004, of which \$791,000,000,000 is revolving consumer credit;

Whereas a United States Public Interest Research Group and Consumer Federation of America analysis of Federal Reserve data indicates that the average household with debt carries approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000 in total revolving debt;

Whereas Americans owe \$766,200,000,000 on home equity loans and lines of credit, more than twice as much as in 1998;

Whereas Americans converted \$41,000,000,000 in real estate equity into spendable cash in the third quarter of 2004 alone;

Whereas the current level of personal savings as a percentage of personal income is at one of the lowest levels in history, 2 percent, a decline from 7.5 percent in the early 1980s;

Whereas through November 2004, 1,869,343 individuals filed for bankruptcy;

Whereas a 2002 Retirement Confidence Survey found that only 32 percent of workers surveyed have calculated how much money they will need to save for retirement;

Whereas only 30 percent of those surveyed in a 2003 Employee Benefit Trend Study are confident in their ability to make the right financial decisions for themselves and their families, and 25 percent have done no specific financial planning;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of individual households remain unbanked, i.e., not using mainstream, insured financial institutions;

Whereas expanding access to the mainstream financial system provides individuals with lower cost, safer options for managing their finances and building wealth;

Whereas a greater understanding and familiarity with financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth;

Whereas financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion of an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas the Spring 2004 Student Monitor Financial Services Survey found that 46 percent of college students have a general pur-

pose credit card in their own name and 37 percent carry over a credit card balance from month to month;

Whereas 45 percent of college students are in credit card debt, with the average debt being \$3,066;

Whereas only 26 percent of 13- to 21-year-olds reported that their parents actively taught them how to manage money;

Whereas a 2004 study by the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy found an increase in high school seniors' scores on an exam about credit cards, retirement funds, insurance, and other personal finance basics for the first time since 1997; however, 65 percent of students still failed the exam;

Whereas a 2004 survey of States by the National Council on Economic Education found that 49 States include economics, and 38 States include personal finance, in their elementary and secondary education standards, up from 48 States and 31 States, respectively, in 2002;

Whereas personal financial management skills and life-long habits develop during childhood;

Whereas personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared to manage money, credit, and debt, and become responsible workers, heads of households, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens; and

Whereas Congress found it important enough to ensure coordination of Federal financial literacy efforts and formulate a national strategy that it established the Financial Literacy and Education Commission in 2003 and designated the Office of Financial Education of the Department of the Treasury to provide support for the Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2005 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about the importance of financial education in the United States and the serious consequences that may be associated with a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 89—CONGRATULATING THE MONTANA FFA ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MONTANA FFA MEMBERS

Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 89

Whereas in 2005, the Montana FFA, chartered in 1930, celebrates its 75th anniversary as a premier student development organization where members gain life and leadership skills;

Whereas more than 40,000 Montanans have been FFA members;

Whereas Montana FFA alumni provide outstanding leadership to agriculture and agribusiness at the local, State, and Federal levels;

Whereas the Montana FFA Association is the largest career and technical student organization in the State, with over 2,550 members from 75 chapters;

Whereas the mission of the FFA is to make a positive difference in the lives of students

by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriculture education;

Whereas FFA is an integral component of agriculture education in the public school system; and

Whereas the National FFA Organization is a federally-chartered organization:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Montana FFA on its 75th anniversary; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit to the Montana FFA an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display.

SENATE RESOLUTION 90—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 1, 2005, AS “HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION WEEK”

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CORZINE, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 90

Whereas the year 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust, which was ruthlessly and tragically carried out by Nazi Germany under the leadership of Adolf Hitler and his collaborators;

Whereas the Holocaust involved the murder of millions of innocent Jewish men, women, and children along with millions of others, and an enormity of suffering inflicted on the many survivors through mistreatment, brutalization, violence, torture, slave labor, involuntary medical experimentation, death marches, and numerous other acts of cruelty that have come to be known as “genocide” and “crimes against humanity”; and

Whereas in the past 60 years, the Holocaust has provided the peoples of the world with an object lesson in the importance of compassion, caring, and kindness; an awareness of the dangers inherent in bigotry, racism, intolerance, and prejudice; and an understanding of the importance of an appreciation of the sensitivity to diversity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 1, 2005, as “Holocaust Commemoration Week”;

(2) commemorates the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II and the liberation of the concentration camps; and

(3) encourages all Americans to commemorate the occasion through reflection, acts of compassionate caring, and learning about the terrible consequences and lessons of the Holocaust.

SENATE RESOLUTION 91—URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO MAINTAIN ITS ARMS EXPORT EMBARGO ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KYL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. ALLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 91

Whereas, on June 4, 1989, the Communist Government of the People's Republic of China ordered the People's Liberation Army to carry out an unprovoked, brutal assault

on thousands of peaceful and unarmed demonstrators in Tiananmen Square, resulting in hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries;

Whereas, on June 5, 1989, President George H. W. Bush condemned these actions of the Government of the People's Republic of China, and the United States took several concrete steps to respond to the military assault, including suspending all exports of items on the United States Munitions List to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, on June 27, 1989, the European Union (then called the European Community) imposed an arms embargo on the People's Republic of China in response to the Government of China's brutal repression of protestors calling for democratic and political reform;

Whereas the European Council, in adopting that embargo, "strongly condemn[ed] the brutal repression taking place in China" and "solemnly request[ed] the Chinese authorities to put an end to the repressive actions against those who legitimately claim their democratic rights";

Whereas the poor human rights conditions that precipitated the decisions of the United States and the European Union to impose and maintain their respective embargoes have not improved;

Whereas the Department of State 2004 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices states that, during 2004, "[t]he [Chinese] Government's human rights record remained poor, and the Government continued to commit numerous and serious abuses";

Whereas, according to the same Department of State report, credible sources estimated that hundreds of persons remained in prison in the People's Republic of China for their activities during the June 1989 Tiananmen demonstrations;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to maintain that its crackdown on democracy activists in Tiananmen Square was warranted and remains unapologetic for its brutal actions, as demonstrated by that Government's handling of the recent death of former Premier and Communist Party General Secretary, Zhao Ziyang, who had been under house arrest for 15 years because of his objection to the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown;

Whereas, since December 2003, the European Parliament, the legislative arm of the European Union, has rejected in five separate resolutions the lifting of the European Union arms embargo on the People's Republic of China because of continuing human rights concerns in China;

Whereas the February 24, 2005, resolution passed by the European Parliament stated that the Parliament "believes that unless and until there is a significant improvement in the human rights situation in China, it would be wrong for the EU to envisage any lifting [of] its embargo on arms sales to China, imposed in 1989" and that it "requests that the Commission formally oppose such a move when it is discussed in the [European] Council";

Whereas the governments of a number of European Union member states have individually expressed concern about lifting the European Union arms embargo on the People's Republic of China, and several have passed resolutions of opposition in their national parliaments;

Whereas the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports, as a non-binding set of principles, is insufficient to control European arms exports to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas public statements by some major defense firms in Europe and other indicators suggest that such firms intend to increase military sales to the People's Republic of

China if the European Union lifts its arms embargo on that country;

Whereas the Department of Defense fiscal year 2004 Annual Report on the Military Power of the People's Republic of China found that "[e]fforts underway to lift the European Union (EU) embargo on China will provide additional opportunities to acquire specific technologies from Western suppliers";

Whereas the same Department of Defense report noted that the military modernization and build-up of the People's Republic of China is aimed at increasing the options of the Government of the People's Republic of China to intimidate or attack democratic Taiwan, as well as preventing or disrupting third-party intervention, namely by the United States, in a cross-strait military crisis;

Whereas the June 2004, report to Congress of the congressionally-mandated, bipartisan United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission concluded that "there has been a dramatic change in the military balance between China and Taiwan," and that "[i]n the past few years, China has increasingly developed a quantitative and qualitative advantage over Taiwan";

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.) codifies in United States law the basis for continued relations between the United States and Taiwan, affirmed that the decision of the United States to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China was based on the expectation that the future of Taiwan would be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas the balance of power in the Taiwan Straits and, specifically, the military capabilities of the People's Republic of China, directly affect peace and security in the East Asia and Pacific region;

Whereas the Foreign Minister of Japan, Nobutaka Machimura, recently stated that Japan is opposed to the European Union lifting its embargo against the People's Republic of China and that "[i]t is extremely worrying as this issue concerns peace and security environments not only in Japan but also in East Asia as a whole";

Whereas the United States has numerous security interests in the East Asia and Pacific region, and the United States Armed Forces, which are deployed throughout the region, would be adversely affected by any Chinese military aggression;

Whereas the lifting of the European Union arms embargo on the People's Republic of China would increase the risk that United States troops could face military equipment and technology of Western or United States origin in a cross-strait military conflict;

Whereas this risk would necessitate a reevaluation by the United States Government of procedures for licensing arms and dual-use exports to member states of the European Union in order to attempt to prevent the re-export or retransfer of United States exports from such countries to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the report of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission on the Symposia on Transatlantic Perspectives on Economic and Security Relations with China, held in Brussels, Belgium and Prague, Czech Republic from November 29, 2004, through December 3, 2004, recommended that the United States Government continue to press the European Union to maintain the arms embargo on the People's Republic of China and strengthen its arms export control system, as well as place limitations on United States public and private sector defense cooperation with foreign firms that sell sensitive military technology to China;

Whereas the lax export control practices of the People's Republic of China and the continuing proliferation of technology related to weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles by state-sponsored entities in China remain a serious concern of the Government of the United States;

Whereas the People's Republic of China remains a primary supplier of weapons to countries such as Burma and Sudan where, according to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, the military has played a key role in the oppression of religious and ethnic minorities;

Whereas the most recent Central Intelligence Agency Unclassified Report to Congress on the Acquisition of Technology Relating to Weapons of Mass Destruction and Advanced Conventional Munitions, 1 July Through 31 December 2003, found that "Chinese entities continued to work with Pakistan and Iran on ballistic missile-related projects during the second half of 2003," and that "[d]uring 2003, China remained a primary supplier of advanced conventional weapons to Pakistan, Sudan, and Iran";

Whereas, as recently as December 27, 2004, the Government of the United States determined that seven entities or persons in the People's Republic of China, including several state-owned companies involved in China's military-industrial complex, are subject to sanctions under the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-178; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) for sales to Iran of prohibited equipment or technology;

Whereas the authority under the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000 to impose sanctions on Chinese persons or entities was used 23 times in 2004; and

Whereas the assistance provided by these entities to Iran works directly counter to the efforts of the United States Government and several European governments to curb illicit weapons activities in Iran: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly supports the United States embargo on the People's Republic of China;

(2) strongly urges the European Union to continue its ban on all arms exports to the People's Republic of China;

(3) requests that the President raise United States objections to the potential lifting of the European Union arms embargo against the People's Republic of China in any upcoming meetings with European officials;

(4) encourages the Government of the United States to make clear in discussions with representatives of the national governments of European Union member states that a lifting of the European Union embargo on arms sales to the People's Republic of China would potentially adversely affect transatlantic defense cooperation, including future transfers of United States military technology, services, and equipment to European Union countries;

(5) urges the European Union—

(A) to strengthen, enforce, and maintain its arms embargo on the People's Republic of China and in its Code of Conduct on Arms Exports;

(B) to make its Code of Conduct on Arms Exports legally binding and enforceable in all European Union member states;

(C) to more carefully regulate and monitor the end-use of exports of sensitive military and dual-use technology; and

(D) to increase transparency in its arms and dual-use export control regimes;

(6) deplores the ongoing human rights abuses in the People's Republic of China; and

(7) urges the United States Government and the European Union to cooperatively develop a common strategy to seek—

(A) improvement in the human rights conditions in the People's Republic of China;

(B) an end to the military build-up of the People's Republic of China aimed at Taiwan;

(C) a permanent and verifiable end to the ongoing proliferation by state and non-state owned entities and individuals in the People's Republic of China of munitions, materials, and military equipment and the trade in such items involving countries, such as Burma and Sudan, whose armies have played a role in the perpetration of violations of human rights and of humanitarian law against members of ethnic and religious minorities;

(D) improvement in the administration and enforcement of export controls in the People's Republic of China; and

(E) an end to the ongoing proliferation by state and non-state owned entities and individuals in the People's Republic of China of technology related to conventional weapons, weapons of mass destruction, and ballistic missiles.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 20—EXPRESSING THE NEED FOR ENHANCED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 20

Whereas traumatic brain injury is a leading cause of death and disability among children and young adults in the United States;

Whereas at least 1,400,000 people in the United States sustain a traumatic brain injury each year;

Whereas each year, more than 80,000 people in the United States sustain permanent life-long disabilities from a traumatic brain injury, that can include the serious physical, cognitive, and emotional impairments;

Whereas every 21 seconds, a person in the United States sustains a traumatic brain injury;

Whereas at least 5,300,000 people in the United States currently live with permanent disabilities resulting from a traumatic brain injury;

Whereas most cases of traumatic brain injury are preventable;

Whereas traumatic brain injuries cost the Nation \$56,300,000,000 annually;

Whereas the lack of public awareness is so vast that traumatic brain injury is known in the disability community as the Nation's "silent epidemic";

Whereas the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month will work toward enhancing public awareness of traumatic brain injury; and

Whereas the Brain Injury Association of America has recognized March as Brain Injury Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the life-altering impact traumatic brain injury may have both on people living with the resultant disabilities and on their families;

(2) recognizes the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury;

(3) supports the designation of an appropriate month as National Brain Injury Awareness Month; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Brain Injury Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 21—EXPRESSING THE GRAVE CONCERN OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE RECENT PASSAGE OF THE ANTI-SECESSION LAW BY THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. ALLEN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 21

Whereas on December 9, 2003, President George W. Bush stated it is the policy of the United States to "oppose any unilateral decision, by either China or Taiwan, to change the status quo";

Whereas in the past few years, the Government of the United States has urged both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China to maintain restraint;

Whereas the National People's Congress of People's Republic of China passed its anti-secession law on March 14, 2005, which constitutes a unilateral change to the status quo in the Taiwan Strait;

Whereas the passage of China's anti-secession law escalates tensions between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China and is an impediment to cross-strait dialogue;

Whereas the purpose of China's anti-secession law is to create a legal framework for possible use of force against Taiwan and mandates Chinese military action under certain circumstances, including when "possibilities for a peaceful reunification should be completely exhausted";

Whereas the Department of Defense's Report on the Military Power of the People's Republic of China for Fiscal Year 2004 documents that, as of 2003, the Government of the People's Republic of China had deployed approximately 500 short-range ballistic missiles against Taiwan;

Whereas the escalating arms buildup of missiles and other offensive weapons by the People's Republic of China in areas adjacent to the Taiwan Strait is a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area;

Whereas given the recent positive developments in cross-strait relations, including the Lunar New Year charter flights and new proposals for cross-strait exchanges, it is particularly unfortunate that the National People's Congress adopted this legislation;

Whereas since its enactment in 1979, the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.), which codified in law the basis for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan, has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Strait;

Whereas section 2(b)(2) of the Taiwan Relations Act declares the "peace and stability in the area are in the political, security, and economic interests of the United States, and are matters of international concern";

Whereas, at the time the Taiwan Relations Act was enacted into law, section 2(b)(3) of such Act made clear that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China rested upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan would be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas section 2(b)(4) of the Taiwan Relations Act declares it the policy of the United States to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;

Whereas section 2(b)(6) of the Taiwan Relations Act declares it the policy of the United

States "to maintain the capacity of the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people on Taiwan"; and

Whereas any attempt to determine Taiwan's future by other than peaceful means and other than with the express consent of the people of Taiwan would be considered of grave concern to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) the anti-secession law of the People's Republic of China provides a legal justification for the use of force against Taiwan, altering the status quo in the region, and thus is of grave concern to the United States;

(2) the President of the United States should direct all appropriate officials of the United States Government to reflect the grave concern with which the United States views the passage of China's anti-secession law in particular, and the growing Chinese military threats to Taiwan in general, to their counterpart officials in the Government of the People's Republic of China;

(3) the Government of the United States should reaffirm its policy that the future of Taiwan should be resolved by peaceful means and with the consent of the people of Taiwan; and

(4) the Government of the United States should continue to encourage dialogue between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22—CONGRATULATING BODE MILLER FOR WINNING THE 2004–2005 WORLD CUP OVERALL TITLE IN ALPINE SKIING

Mr. SUNUNU (for himself and Mr. GREGG) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 22

Whereas on March 12, 2005, Bode Miller became the first United States skier in 22 years to win the Alpine skiing World Cup overall title;

Whereas on the previous day Bode Miller won the World Cup super G title for the 2004–2005 season when he tied teammate Daron Rahlves for first place in the final super G race of the season;

Whereas Bode Miller won gold medals in the downhill and super G at the 2005 World Alpine Ski Championships in Bormio, Italy;

Whereas in the 2004–2005 season Bode Miller accomplished what only two other men have done in the history of the Alpine skiing World Cup by leading the overall standings from the season's start to finish;

Whereas Bode Miller finished the 2004–2005 World Cup season with seven victories and became only the second athlete to win in all four disciplines (slalom, giant slalom, super G, and downhill) in a single season;

Whereas Bode Miller was raised in Easton, New Hampshire, began skiing at age 3 at nearby Cannon Mountain, and began competing at age 11;

Whereas in 1990 Bode Miller became a competitive ski racer at Carrabassett Valley Academy in Maine at age 13 and debuted in World Cup competition in 1998, finishing 11th in his first race;

Whereas Bode Miller has skied in every World Cup race over the last three seasons;

Whereas Bode Miller's career accomplishments include the 2003–2004 World Cup giant slalom title, six World Cup victories in 2004, two gold medals and a silver medal at the