

(2391) honors the memory of Sergeant Kenneth Casica, 32, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2392) honors the memory of Sergeant Clarence L. Floyd, Jr., 28, of Manhattan, New York, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2393) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Travis L. Nelson, 41, of Anniston, Alabama, who died on December 10, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2394) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Keith A. Bennett, 32, of Holtwood, Pennsylvania, who died on December 11, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2395) honors the memory of Sergeant 1st Class James S. "Shawn" Moudy, 37, of Newark, Delaware, who died on December 11, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2396) honors the memory of Specialist Jared William Kubasak, 25, of Rocky Mount, Virginia, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2397) honors the memory of Staff Sergeant Curtis A. Mitchell, 28, of Evansville, Indiana, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

(2398) honors the memory of Specialist Lex S. Nelson, 21, of Salt Lake City, Utah, who died on December 12, 2005, in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

(2399) will continue to honor the memory of all members of the Armed Forces of the United States who may fall in future service in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

SENATE RESOLUTION 339—URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO WITHDRAW THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AS PASSED IN ITS FIRST READING IN THE STATE DUMA THAT WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF SEVERELY RESTRICTING THE ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES OF DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL, AND FOREIGN NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, OR TO MODIFY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO ENTIRELY REMOVE THESE RESTRICTIONS

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 339

Whereas Russian Federation President Putin has stated that "modern Russia's greatest achievement is the democratic process (and) the achievements of our civil society";

Whereas the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of nongovernmental organizations and a robust civil society free from excessive government control are central and indispensable elements of a democratic society;

Whereas the free and autonomous operations of nongovernmental organizations in any society necessarily encompass activi-

ties, including political activities, that may be contrary to government policies;

Whereas domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations are crucial in assisting the Russian Federation and the Russian people in tackling the many challenges they face, including in such areas as education, infectious diseases, and the establishment of a flourishing democracy;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, including erecting unprecedented barriers to foreign assistance;

Whereas the State Duma of the Russian Federation is considering the first draft of such legislation;

Whereas the restrictions in the first draft of this legislation would impose disabling restraints on the establishment, operations, and activities of nongovernmental organizations and on civil society throughout the Russian Federation, regardless of the stated intent of the Government of the Russian Federation;

Whereas the stated concerns of the Government of the Russian Federation regarding the use of nongovernmental organizations by foreign interests and intelligence agencies to undermine the Government of the Russian Federation and the security of the Russian Federation as a whole can be fully addressed without imposing disabling restraints on nongovernmental organizations and on civil society;

Whereas there is active debate underway in the Russian Federation over concerns regarding such restrictions on nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly play a central role in the system of checks and balances that are prerequisites for a democracy;

Whereas the first draft of the proposed legislation has already passed its first reading in the State Duma;

Whereas President Putin has indicated his desire for changes in the first draft that would "correspond more closely to the principles according to which civil society functions"; and

Whereas Russia's destiny and the interests of her people lie in her assumption of her rightful place as a full and equal member of the international community of democracies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the Senate—

(1) urges the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw the first draft of the proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, or to modify the proposed legislation to entirely remove these restrictions; and

(2) in the event that the first draft of the proposed legislation is not withdrawn, urges the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly to modify the legislation to ensure the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of such nongovernmental organizations in accordance with the practices universally adopted by democracies, including the provisions regarding foreign assistance.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 72—REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION ANNUALLY CALLING UPON THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO OBSERVE GLOBAL FAMILY DAY, ONE DAY OF PEACE AND SHARING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 72

Whereas, in the year 2005, the people of the world suffered many calamitous events, including devastation from tsunami, terror attacks, war, famine, genocide, hurricanes, earthquakes, political and religious conflict, disease, poverty, and rioting, all necessitating global cooperation, compassion, and unity previously unprecedented among diverse cultures, faiths, and economic classes;

Whereas grave global challenges in the year 2006 may require cooperation and innovative problem solving among citizens and nations on an even greater scale;

Whereas, on December 15, 2000, Congress adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 138, expressing the sense of Congress that the President of the United States should issue a proclamation each year calling upon the people of the United States and interested organizations to observe an international day of peace and sharing at the beginning of each year;

Whereas, in 2001, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 56/2, which invited "Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2002, and every year thereafter";

Whereas many foreign heads of state have recognized the importance of establishing Global Family Day, a special day of international unity, peace, and sharing, on the first day of each year;

Whereas Congress desires to express and demonstrate its appreciation to the citizens of the more than 100 countries who offered aid to United States hurricane victims, to make tangible efforts to reverse the growing mistrust of the United States, and to improve relations with others; and

Whereas family is the basic structure of humanity, and we must all look to the stability and love within our individual families to create stability in the global community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress urgently requests the following:

(1) That the President issue a proclamation annually calling upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, a day which is dedicated—

(A) to eradicating violence, hunger, poverty, and suffering; and

(B) to establishing greater trust and fellowship among peace-loving nations and families everywhere.

(2) That the President invite former Presidents of the United States, Nobel laureates, and other notables, including business, labor, faith, and civic leaders of the United States, to join the President in promoting appropriate activities for the people of the United States and in extending appropriate greetings from the families of the United States to families in the rest of the world.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise to submit a Senate Concurrent Resolution