

providing consumers in the United States and abroad with a dependable supply of safe, affordable, high-quality food, fiber, and related products;

Whereas farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives also help meet the energy needs of the United States, including through the production and marketing of renewable fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel;

Whereas there are nearly 3,000 farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives located throughout the United States with a combined membership representing a majority of the nearly 2 million farmers and ranchers in the United States; and

Whereas farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives also contribute significantly to the economic well being of rural America as well as the overall economy, including accounting for as many as 250,000 jobs: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the Sense of the Congress that public policy should continue to protect and strengthen the ability of farmers and ranchers to join together in cooperative self-help efforts—

(1) to improve their income from the marketplace and their economic well-being;

(2) to capitalize on new market opportunities; and

(3) to help meet the food and fiber needs of consumers, provide for increased energy production, promote rural development, maintain and create needed jobs, and contribute to a growing United States economy.

#### ADOPTION AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT OF 1997

The resolution (S. Res. 547) recognizing and supporting the successes of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 in increasing adoption, observing the efforts that the act has spurred, including National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month, and encouraging citizens of the United States to consider adoption throughout the year was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 547), with its preamble, reads as follows:

##### S. RES. 547

Whereas, since the passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1305 note; Public Law 105-89), the number of children adopted from the foster care system has increased significantly, with approximately 51,000 children adopted from the foster care system in fiscal year 2004 alone;

Whereas, despite that remarkable progress, approximately 118,000 children in the foster care system of the United States are waiting to be adopted, and 49 percent of those children are at least 9 years old;

Whereas adoptive families make an important difference in the lives of the children they adopt by providing a stable, nurturing environment for those children;

Whereas National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to find permanent, loving families for children in the foster care system;

Whereas both National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month occur in November;

Whereas, in 2002, the Department of Health and Human Services launched a series of public service announcements promoting the adoption of children aged 8 and older;

Whereas more than 6,000 children have been placed into adoptive homes since the Department of Health and Human Services launched [www.adoptuskids.org](http://www.adoptuskids.org), a national

photo listing service for children awaiting adoption across the United States;

Whereas, in 2005, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies, and child advocates in 45 States and the District of Columbia participated in 227 events in conjunction with National Adoption Day; and

Whereas those events finalized the adoptions of more than 3,300 children from the foster care system: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) recognizes and supports—

(A) the success of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1305 note; Public Law 105-89) and the efforts that the Act has spurred; and

(B) the goals and ideals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month; and

(2) encourages the citizens of the United States to consider adoption throughout the year.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING AFRICAN DESCENDANTS OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 175) acknowledging African descendants of the transatlantic slave trade in all of the Americas with an emphasis on descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean, recognizing the injustices suffered by these African descendants, and recommending the United States and the international community work to improve the situation of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America and the Caribbean was considered and agreed to.

#### CONDEMNING THE REPRESSION OF THE IRANIAN BAHAI COMMUNITY

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 101) condemning the repression of the Iranian Baha'i community and calling for the emancipation of Iranian Baha'is.

The amendment (No. 5193) was agreed to, as follows:

##### AMENDMENT NO. 5193

On page 3, lines 3 and 4, strike "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" and insert "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights".

The concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 101), as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

##### S. CON. RES. 101

Whereas in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, and 2000, Congress, by concurrent resolution, declared that it deplores the religious persecution by the Government of Iran of the Baha'i community and holds the Government of Iran responsible for upholding the rights of all Iranian nationals, including members of the Baha'i Faith;

Whereas on March 20, 2006, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Ms. Asma Jahangir, revealed the existence of a confidential letter dated October 29, 2005, from the Chairman of the Command Headquarters of Iran's Armed Forces to the Ministry of Information, the Revolutionary Guard, and the Police Force, stating that the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, had instructed the Command

Headquarters to identify members of the Baha'i Faith in Iran and monitor their activities;

Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur expressed "grave concern and apprehension" about the implications of this letter for the safety of the Baha'i community;

Whereas in 2005 the Iranian Government initiated a new wave of assaults, homes raids, harassment, and detentions against Baha'is, and in December 2005, Mr. Zabihullah Mahrami died after 10 years of imprisonment on charges of apostasy due to his membership in the Baha'i Faith; and

Whereas beginning in October 2005, an anti-Baha'i campaign has been conducted in the state-sponsored Kayhan newspaper and in broadcast media: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) condemns the Government of Iran for the October 29, 2005 letter, calls on the Government of Iran to immediately cease such activities and all activities aimed at the repression of the Iranian Baha'i community, and continues to hold the Government of Iran responsible for upholding all the rights of its nationals, including members of the Baha'i community; and

(2) requests the President to—

(A) call for the Government of Iran to emancipate the Baha'i community by granting those rights guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international covenants on human rights;

(B) emphasize that the United States regards the human rights practices of the Government of Iran, including its treatment of the Baha'i community and other religious minorities, as a significant factor in the foreign policy of the United States Government regarding Iran; and

(C) initiate an active and consistent dialogue with other governments and the European Union in order to persuade the Government of Iran to rectify its human rights practices.

#### DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY

The resolution (S. Res. 618) designating November 26, 2006, as "Drive Safer Sunday" was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 618), with its preamble, reads as follows:

##### S. RES. 618

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas everyone on the roads and highways needs to drive more safely to reduce deaths and injuries resulting from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas the death of almost 43,000 people a year in more than 6 million highway crashes in the United States has been called an epidemic by Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta;

Whereas according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saved 15,434 lives in 2004 and 15,632 lives in 2005; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide

educational campaigns to urge students to be careful about safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely during the heaviest traffic day of the year, and to publicize the importance of the day using Citizen's band (CB) radios and in truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive particularly safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) everyone to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 26, 2006, as "Drive Safer Sunday".

#### SENATOR PAUL WELLSTONE

The resolution (S. Res. 619) expressing the sense of the Senate that Senator Paul Wellstone should be remembered for his compassion and leadership on social issues and that Congress should act to end discrimination against citizens of the United States who live with mental illness by making legislation relating to mental health parity a priority for the 110th Congress was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 619), with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 619

Whereas Paul Wellstone served with distinction as a Senator from the State of Minnesota;

Whereas, for more than 20 years, Paul Wellstone inspired the students of Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota;

Whereas Paul Wellstone was a loving father and husband, a loyal citizen of the United States, and a compassionate person;

Whereas Paul Wellstone dedicated his life to bringing equal access to education, economic opportunity, and comprehensive healthcare to all citizens of the United States;

Whereas Paul Wellstone worked tirelessly to advance mental health parity for all citizens of the United States;

Whereas more than 44,000,000 citizens of the United States suffer from some form of a mental health-related condition;

Whereas only 1/3 of those citizens seek or receive treatment for their mental health-related condition;

Whereas 34 States have enacted laws that require some form of access to mental health treatments that is similar to physical health coverage; and

Whereas the tragic and premature death of Paul Wellstone on October 25, 2002, silenced 1 of the leading voices of the Senate who spoke on behalf of the citizens of the United States who live with a mental illness: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) on the fourth anniversary of his passing, Senator Paul Wellstone should be remembered for his compassion and leadership on social issues throughout his career; and

(2) Congress should act to end discrimination against citizens of the United States who live with a mental illness by enacting legislation to provide for coverage of mental health benefits with respect to health insurance coverage.

#### NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The resolution (S. Res. 620) designating November 2006 as "National Lung Cancer Awareness Month" was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 620), with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 620

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cancer killer of both men and women, accounting for nearly 1 in every 3 cancer deaths in the United States;

Whereas lung cancer claims the lives of more people each year than breast, prostate, colon, liver, and kidney cancers combined;

Whereas the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program of the National Cancer Institute estimates that, in 2006, 174,470 new lung cancer cases will be diagnosed and 162,460 individuals will die of lung cancer in the United States;

Whereas both incidence and mortality rates for lung cancer are significantly higher in black males than in the general population of the United States;

Whereas smoking causes 87 percent of lung cancer deaths in the United States;

Whereas the best way to decrease the number of diagnoses and deaths per year from lung cancer is to encourage people in the United States to quit smoking;

Whereas a former smoker's risk of lung cancer does not decrease significantly until 20 years after the individual quit smoking;

Whereas the International Early Lung Cancer Action Program has demonstrated in a 14-year study with 31,567 participants that computer tomography scans can detect lung cancer in Stage I when the cancer can be more easily treated and cured, giving individuals who are diagnosed early a 10-year survival rate of 88 percent;

Whereas there is a need to increase public awareness of statistics, risk factors, and the importance of early diagnosis;

Whereas individuals with cancers that are routinely diagnosed at early stages through screening, such as breast cancer and prostate cancer, have high survival rates of 88 percent and 99 percent, respectively;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for lung cancer in the United States is still only 15 percent, a rate virtually unchanged since the enactment of the National Cancer Act of 1971; and

Whereas designating November 2006 as "National Lung Cancer Awareness Month", as proposed by the Lung Cancer Alliance and the Lung Cancer Alliance of Georgia, will increase public awareness about lung cancer and the need for lung cancer research and early detection: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2006 as "National Lung Cancer Awareness Month"; and

(2) reaffirms the Senate's commitment to—

(A) advancing lung cancer research and early detection, and particularly the Lung Cancer Alliance of Georgia's goal of significantly increasing the 5-year survival rate of individuals diagnosed with lung cancer in the United States to 50 percent within 10 years; and

(B) working with all Federal agencies involved in cancer research to develop a coordinated roadmap for accomplishing that goal.

#### NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK

The resolution (S. Res. 621) designating the week of February 5 through

February 9, 2007, as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week" was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 621), with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 621

Whereas 1 in 3 female teens in a dating relationship have feared for their physical safety;

Whereas 1 in 2 teens in serious relationships have compromised their beliefs to please their partner;

Whereas nearly 1 in 5 teens who have been in a serious relationship said their boyfriend or girlfriend would threaten to hurt themselves or their partner if there was a breakup;

Whereas 1 in 5 teens in a serious relationship report they have been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner;

Whereas more than 1 in 4 teens have been in a relationship where their partner verbally abuses them;

Whereas 13 percent of Hispanic teens reported that hitting a partner was permissible;

Whereas 29 percent of girls who have been in a relationship said they have been pressured to have sex or engage in sex they did not want;

Whereas nearly 50 percent of girls worry that their partner would break up with them if they did not agree to engage in sex;

Whereas Native American women experience higher rates of interpersonal violence than any other population group;

Whereas violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims who are at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult revictimization;

Whereas the severity of violence among intimate partners has been shown to increase if the pattern has been established in adolescence;

Whereas 81 percent of parents surveyed either believe dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is an issue; and

Whereas the establishment of the National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week will benefit schools, communities, and families regardless of socio-economic status, race, or sex: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of February 5 through February 9, 2007, as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States, high schools, law enforcement, State and local officials, and interested groups, to observe National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week with appropriate programs and activities that promote awareness and prevention of the crime of teen dating violence in their communities.

#### PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 496, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows: