

use cluster grants to build on the strengths of their particular regions by utilizing the skills and knowledge base of local businesses, economic developers, colleges and universities, scientists, nonprofits, and the public sector.

In order to secure the future of America's economy we must create new, good-paying jobs here at home. Investing in new technologies and industries will expand our workforce, ensuring America remains competitive in the global economy and putting us on a course toward growth and prosperity for future generations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. BROWN):

S.J. Res. 37. A joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should sign the Declaration of the Oslo Conference on Cluster Munitions and future instruments banning cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my friend from California, Senator FEINSTEIN, in sponsoring this joint resolution calling on the administration to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions when it is open for signature in December.

This treaty is the product of a year of negotiations among many of our closest allies and other nations that came together to prohibit the use of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

I regret that the United States did not participate in the negotiations. The Pentagon continues to insist that cluster munitions are necessary, but the country with the world's most powerful military should not be on the sidelines while others are trying to protect the lives and limbs of civilians in war.

Any weapon, whether cluster munitions, landmines or even poison gas, has some military utility. But anyone who has seen the indiscriminate devastation cluster munitions cause over a wide area understands the unacceptable threat they pose for civilians. These are not the laser guided weapons that were shown destroying their targets during the invasion of Baghdad.

And there is the insidious problem of cluster munitions that do not explode as designed, and remain as active duds, like landmines, until they are triggered by whoever comes into contact with them. Often it is an unsuspecting child, or a farmer.

This resolution follows an amendment I sponsored which prohibits U.S. sales and exports of cluster munitions that do not meet strict criteria, which became law as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008. These criteria are no different from what the Pentagon set for itself 7 years ago for new procurements of cluster munitions, applied also to those in existing U.S.

stockpiles. Senator FEINSTEIN and I have also introduced legislation that would apply these same criteria to the use of cluster munitions. That legislation now has 20 cosponsors.

I want to express my appreciation to the Government of Norway for its leadership in initiating the process that led to the agreement on the treaty in Dublin, and to the Cluster Munitions Coalition, a group of some 200 nongovernmental organizations that worked diligently in support of the treaty.

I traveled to Dublin last week to meet with delegates to the negotiations, including the president of the Conference Daithi O'Ceallaigh. He did a masterful job of guiding the discussions to a successful conclusion.

There are some who have dismissed this effort as a "feel good" exercise, since it does not have the support of the United States and other major powers such as Russia, China, Pakistan, India and Israel. These are the same critics of the Ottawa treaty banning antipersonnel landmines, which the U.S. and the other countries I named have also refused to sign. But that treaty has dramatically reduced the number of landmines produced, used, sold and stockpiled, and the number of mine victims has fallen sharply. Any government that contemplates using landmines today does so knowing that it will be condemned by the international community. I suspect it is only a matter of time before the same is true for cluster munitions.

The administration insists that the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, known as the CCW, is the right place to negotiate limits on cluster munitions because all countries are represented. I don't doubt their intentions, but it is what they said about landmines, and nothing happened because Russia and China were opposed. The same is likely for cluster munitions. It is a way to make it appear as if you are doing something, when you are not.

It is important to note that the U.S. today has the technological ability to produce cluster munitions that would not be prohibited by the treaty. What is lacking is the political will to expend the necessary resources. There is no other excuse for continuing to use cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

Finally, I want to thank Senator FEINSTEIN who has shown a real passion for this issue and has sought every opportunity to protect civilians from these weapons.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 581—DESIGNATING JUNE 6, 2008, AS "NATIONAL HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE AWARENESS DAY"

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

S. RES. 581

Whereas Huntington's Disease is a progressive degenerative neurological disease that causes total physical and mental deterioration over a 12 to 15 year period;

Whereas each child of a parent with Huntington's Disease has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the Huntington's Disease gene;

Whereas Huntington's Disease typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 45, though onset may occur as early as the age of 2;

Whereas children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood;

Whereas the average lifespan after onset of Huntington's Disease is 10 to 20 years, and the younger the age of onset, the more rapid the progression of the disease;

Whereas Huntington's Disease affects 30,000 patients and 200,000 genetically "at risk" individuals in the United States;

Whereas, since the discovery of the gene that causes Huntington's Disease in 1993, the pace of Huntington's Disease research has accelerated;

Whereas, although no effective treatment or cure currently exists, scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the Nation are conducting important research projects involving Huntington's Disease; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of Huntington's Disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 6, 2008, as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of Huntington's Disease; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 86—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION, SHOULD USE ALL APPROPRIATION MEASURES TO END COMMERCIAL WHALING IN ALL OF ITS FORMS AND SEEK TO STRENGTHEN MEASURES TO CONSERVE WHALE SPECIES

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

S. CON. RES. 86

Whereas 78 countries have adopted the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, signed at Washington December 2, 1946 (TIAS 1849) (in this preamble referred to as the "Convention"), which established the International Whaling Commission (in this preamble referred to as the "Commission") to provide for the conservation of whale stocks;

Whereas the Commission has adopted a moratorium on commercial whaling in order to conserve and promote the recovery of whale stocks, many of which had been hunted to near extinction by the whaling industry;

Whereas the United States was instrumental in the adoption of the moratorium and has led international efforts to address the threat posed by commercial whaling for more than 3 decades;

Whereas, despite the moratorium, 3 countries that are parties to the Convention continue to kill whales for financial gain, disregarding the protests of other parties;

Whereas those 3 countries have killed more than 25,000 whales since the moratorium entered into force, including more than 11,000 whales killed under the guise of scientific research;

Whereas whaling conducted for scientific purposes has been found to be unnecessary by the majority of the world's cetacean scientists because nonlethal research alternatives exist;

Whereas the parties to the Convention have adopted numerous resolutions opposing and calling for an end to so-called scientific whaling, most recently in 2007 at the annual Commission meeting in Anchorage, Alaska;

Whereas commercial whaling in any form, including special permit whaling and any coastal or community-based whaling, undermines the conservation mandate of the Convention and impairs the Commission's ability to function effectively;

Whereas all coastal whaling is commercial, unless conducted under the aboriginal exemption to the moratorium on commercial whaling; and

Whereas the majority of the people of the United States oppose the killing of whales for commercial purposes and expect the United States to use all available means to end such killing: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring).* That it is the sense of Congress that the United States, through the International Whaling Commission, should—

(1) use all appropriate measures to end commercial whaling in any form, including so-called scientific whaling;

(2) oppose any initiative that would result in any new, Commission-sanctioned coastal or community-based whale hunting, even if the whale hunting is portrayed as noncommercial and including any commercial whaling by coastal communities that does not qualify as aboriginal subsistence whaling; and

(3) seek to strengthen conservation and management measures to facilitate the conservation of whale species.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4822. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3036, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4823. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3036, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4824. Mrs. BOXER (for Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. BURR)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2162, to improve the treatment and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorders, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 4822.** Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3036, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of

greenhouse gases, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike the table that appears on page 162 after line 17 and insert the following:

Calendar year	Percentage for auction for Climate Change Worker Training and Assistance Fund
2012	3
2013	3
2014	3
2015	3
2016	2.5
2017	2.5
2018	2.5
2019	2.5
2020	2.5
2021	3
2022	3
2023	3
2024	3
2025	3
2026	2
2027	2
2028	3
2029	3
2030	3
2031	4
2032	4
2033	4
2034	4
2035	4
2036	4
2037	4
2038	4
2039	3
2040	3
2041	3
2042	3
2043	3
2044	3
2045	3
2046	3
2047	3
2048	3
2049	3
2050	3.

Strike the table that appears on page 193 before line 1 and insert the following:

Calendar year	Percentage for distribution among fossil fuel-fired electricity generators in United States
2012	13
2013	13
2014	13
2015	13
2016	12.75
2017	12.5
2018	12.25
2019	11.25
2020	10
2021	8.5
2022	7.25
2023	6.25
2024	6
2025	5.75
2026	3.75
2027	3.5
2028	3.25
2029	3
2030	2.75.

Beginning on page 196, strike line 18 and all that follows through page 201, line 17.

Strike the table that appears on page 203 after line 2 and insert the following:

Calendar year	Percentage for auction for Climate Change Consumer Assistance Fund
2012	15.25
2013	15.5
2014	15.5
2015	15.75
2016	16
2017	16.25
2018	15.75
2019	16.75
2020	16.75
2021	16.75
2022	16.75
2023	16.75
2024	16.75
2025	16.75
2026	16.75
2027	16.75
2028	16.75
2029	16.75
2030	17.75
2031	18
2032	18
2033	18
2034	19
2035	19
2036	19
2037	19
2038	19
2039	19
2040	19
2041	19
2042	19
2043	19
2044	19
2045	19
2046	19
2047	19
2048	19
2049	19
2050	19.

On page 204, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

#### SEC. 584. USE OF FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 585, of amounts deposited in the Climate Change Consumer Assistance Fund under section 583, the Administrator shall use—

(1) of the proceeds from the auction of the initial 14 percent of the percentage of emission allowances auctioned under section 582 for each calendar year—

(A) not less than 50 percent to provide assistance to low-income households under the program described in subsection (b); and

(B) not less than 50 percent to provide an earned income tax credit in accordance with subsection (c); and

(2) the remaining proceeds from auctions under section 582 to carry out other tax initiatives to protect consumers, especially consumers in greatest need, from increases in energy and other costs as a result of this Act in accordance with subsection (d).

(b) PROGRAM FOR OFFSETTING IMPACTS ON LOWER-INCOME AMERICANS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means—

(i) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; or

(ii) the head of a Federal agency designated by the Administrator for the purposes of this subsection.

(B) ELDERLY OR DISABLED MEMBER.—The term “elderly or disabled member” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2012).