

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 147

To designate the week beginning on the second Saturday in May as National Travel and Tourism Week.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 2009

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

To designate the week beginning on the second Saturday in May as National Travel and Tourism Week.

Whereas business and leisure travel are vital to the United States, enhancing our economic prosperity, healthcare, education, cultural understanding, and public diplomacy;

Whereas the travel industry is the fifth largest employer in the United States, supporting 7.7 million American workers and creating one of every eight non-farm jobs across the country;

Whereas domestic and international travel last year generated an estimated \$740 billion in direct expenditures and \$115 billion in Federal, State and local tax revenues;

Whereas international travel to the United States is a critical tool for enhancing America's image abroad and has significantly benefited the Nation's balance of trade for over 20 years;

Whereas overseas visits to the United States are still 633,000 below pre-September 11 levels;

Whereas the U.S. must keep better pace with the expanding global travel market starting with a nationally coordinated travel promotion program to attract millions of new international visitors;

Whereas meetings, events, and incentive travel programs are core business functions that help companies to strengthen business relationships, align and educate employees and customers, and reward business performance;

Whereas travel and tourism can serve as a catalyst to help stimulate the national economy;

Whereas the Congress designated the first National Tourism Week in 1984 and encouraged celebrations in all 50 States and the Territories; and

Whereas National Tourism Week has been observed and celebrated each May since: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates the week beginning on the sec-
3 ond Saturday in May of each year as National Trav-
4 el and Tourism Week;

5 (2) invites Governors, mayors, and other elected
6 officials from across the country to issue proclama-

1 tions on such week to raise awareness of the value
2 of travel to the welfare of the Nation; and

3 (3) requests that the President issue a procla-
4 mation each year encouraging the people of the
5 United States to observe such week with appropriate
6 ceremonies and activities.

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