

Whereas the Hamas terror organization's charter calls for the destruction of the state of Israel;

Whereas Palestinian terrorists of the Islamic Jihad and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, recently have fired hundreds of rockets at civilian targets in southern Israel, ending a 6-month ceasefire with Israel, in declaration and in deed;

Whereas, during the 6-month "state of calm", the Government of Israel allowed the entry of approximately 17,000 truckloads of humanitarian aid supplies into the Gaza Strip, while Palestinian terrorists launched 538 rockets and mortars into Israel;

Whereas the latest terrorist attacks on Israel took place only days after the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1850, which unanimously declared support for the peace process between the Palestinians and Israelis;

Whereas, since the most recent terrorist attacks and its military operation that began on December 27, 2008, the Government of Israel has allowed the entry of hundreds of truckloads of humanitarian aid supplies into the Gaza Strip, in full coordination with donor Arab countries and international aid organizations, including the Red Cross, out of respect for human rights and human life and in an effort to minimize the hardship and suffering of the Palestinian people;

Whereas the military operations of the Government of Israel constitute an effort to defend the people of Israel, which is the Government's moral duty in response to the unspeakable horrors of ongoing, indiscriminate terrorism, and are aimed only at dismantling the terrorist infrastructure; and

Whereas hundreds of innocent Israeli and Palestinian civilians tragically have been killed on account of ongoing escalations of violence initiated by Palestinian terrorist organizations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands in solidarity with the Government of Israel as it takes necessary steps to provide security to its people;

(2) remains committed to Israel's right to self-defense and supports additional assistance from the United States to help Israel defend itself;

(3) condemns the end of the ceasefire by Hamas;

(4) condemns the firing of rockets into civilian areas by the terrorist groups of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad;

(5) urges all Arab states to declare strong opposition to terrorism and terrorist attacks on civilians;

(6) urges all parties in the Middle East to pursue lasting peace in the region; and

(7) expresses its commitment to working to promote economic relations, bilateral trade, and partnerships in technology and alternative energy between the United States and Israel in order to stimulate the economies of both the United States and Israel in this time of crisis.

SENATE RESOLUTION 7—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS "NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY MONTH"

Mr. INOUE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 7

Whereas military families, through their sacrifices and their dedication to the United States and its values, represent the bedrock upon which the United States was founded and upon which the country continues to

rely in these perilous and challenging times: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that the month of November should be designated as "National Military Family Month"; and

(2) the Senate encourages the people of the United States to observe National Military Family Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I rise to honor all our military families by introducing a resolution to designate November as National Military Family Month. As we all know, memories fade, and the hardships experienced by our military families are easily forgotten unless they touch our own immediate family.

Today, we have our men and women deployed all over the world, engaged in this war on terrorism. These far-ranging military deployments are extremely difficult on the families who bear this heavy burden.

To honor these families, the Armed Services YMCA has sponsored Military Family Week in late November since 1996. However, due to frequent "short week" conflicts around the Thanksgiving holidays, the designated week has not always afforded enough time to schedule observances on and near our military bases.

I believe a month long observation will allow greater opportunity to plan events. Moreover, it will provide a greater opportunity to stimulate media support.

A concurrent Resolution will help pave the way for this effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this tribute to our military families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 8—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE CLAIBORNE DE BORDA PELL, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Ne-

braska, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 8

Whereas Claiborne Pell represented the people of Rhode Island with distinction for 36 years in the United States Senate, from 1961 to 1997, and was the longest-serving Senator in Rhode Island's history;

Whereas Claiborne Pell served in the United States Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Reserve, beginning in 1941 and retiring in 1978 with the rank of Captain;

Whereas Claiborne Pell participated in the 1945 United Nations Conference on International Organization that established the United Nations, and was a champion of the United Nations throughout his life;

Whereas Claiborne Pell served as a Foreign Service Officer from 1945 to 1952;

Whereas Claiborne Pell sponsored the legislation that, in 1965, created the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities and, in 1966, created the National Sea Grant College and Program;

Whereas Claiborne Pell's vision led to the creation of an improved passenger rail system in the Northeast and across the United States;

Whereas Claiborne Pell believed that economic means should not be a barrier to a higher education and sponsored legislation creating the Basic Educational Opportunity Grants in 1972, which were renamed "Pell Grants" in 1980;

Whereas Pell Grants have helped 54,000,000 people in the United States secure a higher education;

Whereas Claiborne Pell sought to expand educational opportunities throughout his tenure as a member and as Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities;

Whereas Claiborne Pell served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in the 100th through 103rd Congresses;

Whereas Claiborne Pell was a champion of human rights who devoted himself to promoting a peaceful resolution to international conflict and the elimination of the threat of nuclear weapons; and

Whereas the hallmarks of Claiborne Pell's public service were unsurpassed respect, decency, and civility: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Claiborne Pell, former member of the United States Senate;

(2) the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased; and

(3) that when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Claiborne Pell.