

**SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS.**

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall, within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue for public notice and comment a proposed rule for uniform testing English language ability of candidates for naturalization, based upon the principles that—

(1) all citizens should be able to read and understand generally the English language text of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the laws of the United States which are made in pursuance thereof; and

(2) any exceptions to this standard should be limited to extraordinary circumstances, such as asylum.

**SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by sections 3 and 4 shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BURR, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. COBURN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ENZI, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 992. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the national language of the Government of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 992

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “National Language Act of 2009”.

**SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO TITLE 4.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 4, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“CHAPTER 6—LANGUAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT**

“Sec.

“161. Declaration of national language.

“162. Preserving and enhancing the role of the national language.

“163. Use of language other than English.

**“§ 161. Declaration of national language**

“English shall be the national language of the Government of the United States.

**“§ 162. Preserving and enhancing the role of the national language**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Government of the United States shall preserve and enhance the role of English as the national language of the United States of America.

“(b) EXCEPTION.—Unless specifically provided by statute, no person has a right, entitlement, or claim to have the Government of the United States or any of its officials or representatives act, communicate, perform or provide services, or provide materials in any language other than English. If an exception is made with respect to the use of a language other than English, the exception does not create a legal entitlement to additional services in that language or any language other than English.

“(c) FORMS.—If any form is issued by the Federal Government in a language other

than English (or such form is completed in a language other than English), the English language version of the form is the sole authority for all legal purposes.

**“§ 163. Use of language other than English**

“Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the use of a language other than English.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for title 4, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“6. Language of the Government ..... 161”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

**SENATE RESOLUTION 132—COM- MENDING THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE FIGHTING THE FLOODS IN NORTH DAKOTA**

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

S. RES. 132

Whereas 47 of the 53 counties in North Dakota have been declared Federal disaster areas;

Whereas wide swaths of North Dakota have faced unprecedented flooding crises, including cities along the Des Lacs, Heart, James, Knife, Missouri, Little Missouri, Park, Pembina, Red, Sheyenne, Souris, and Wild Rice Rivers and Beaver Creek;

Whereas the people of North Dakota have suffered tremendous damage to their homes, livelihoods, and communities;

Whereas the ranchers of North Dakota are estimated to have lost nearly 100,000 head of livestock;

Whereas many of the roads and bridges, and much of the other infrastructure, in North Dakota are in need of repair;

Whereas, despite terrible conditions, the people of North Dakota have shown the strength of their shared bond, coming together in large numbers to save their cities, towns, businesses, farms, and ranches;

Whereas stories of exceptional efforts abound, from people filling millions of sandbags on short notice, to people saving lives and effecting rapid emergency evacuations;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials have provided outstanding leadership and effective service throughout the crisis in North Dakota; and

Whereas the response of the people of North Dakota to the disaster has shown the world how communities can unite, fight, and win in a crisis: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the people of North Dakota for their heroic efforts in fighting the floods in North Dakota;

(2) commends the many people from around the United States who assisted the people of North Dakota during this time of need;

(3) expresses appreciation to the officials of the numerous Federal agencies working on the ground in North Dakota for their consistently rapid, efficient, and effective response to the disaster; and

(4) continues to stand with the communities of North Dakota in the efforts to recover from the flooding during 2009, and to improve protections against flooding in the future.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 133—DESIG- NATING MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 7, 2009, AS “NATIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT WEEK”**

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 133

Whereas childhood obesity has reached epidemic proportions in the United States;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services estimates that, by 2010, 20 percent of children in the United States will be obese;

Whereas a decline in physical activity has contributed to the unprecedented epidemic of childhood obesity;

Whereas regular physical activity is necessary to support normal and healthy growth in children;

Whereas overweight adolescents have a 70 to 80 percent chance of becoming overweight adults, increasing their risk for chronic disease, disability, and death;

Whereas Type II diabetes can no longer be referred to as “late in life” or “adult onset” diabetes because it occurs in children as young as 10 years old;

Whereas the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommend that children engage in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on most, and preferably all, days of the week;

Whereas children spend many of their waking hours at school and therefore need to be active during the school day to meet the recommendations of the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans;

Whereas teaching children about physical education and sports not only ensures that they are physically active during the school day, but also educates them on how to be physically active and its importance;

Whereas only 3.8 percent of elementary schools, 7.9 percent of middle schools, and 2.1 percent of high schools provide daily physical education or its equivalent for the entire school year, and 22 percent of schools do not require students to take any physical education at all;

Whereas research shows that fit and active children are more likely to thrive academically;

Whereas participation in sports and physical activity improves self-esteem and body image in children and adults;

Whereas the social and environmental factors affecting children are in the control of the adults and the communities in which they live, and therefore this Nation shares a collective responsibility in reversing the childhood obesity trend; and

Whereas Congress strongly supports efforts to increase physical activity and participation of youth in sports: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 1 through May 7, 2009, as “National Physical Education and Sport Week”;

(2) recognizes “National Physical Education and Sport Week” and the central role of physical education and sports in creating a healthy lifestyle for all children and youth;

(3) calls on school districts to implement local wellness policies as defined by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 that include ambitious goals for physical education, physical activity, and other activities addressing the childhood obesity epidemic and promoting child wellness; and

(4) encourages schools to offer physical education classes to students and work with community partners to provide opportunities and safe spaces for physical activities

before and after school and during the summer months for all children and youth.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 134—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS AT CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND SUPPORTING THE IDEAS AND GOALS OF THE 10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, MAY 3 THROUGH MAY 9, 2009**

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BURR, Mr. GREGG, and Mr. VITTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 134**

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality education and challenge all students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public entity that respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States and promote the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, they are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their financial and other operations;

Whereas 40 States and the District of Columbia have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas approximately 4,700 charter schools are now operating in 40 States and the District of Columbia, serving more than 1,400,000 students;

Whereas, during the last 14 years, Congress has provided more than \$2,478,288,000 in financial assistance to the charter school movement through facilities financing assistance and grants for planning, startup, implementation, and dissemination;

Whereas many charter schools improve the achievements of students and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools must meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools and often set higher and additional individual goals to ensure that charter schools are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas charter schools give parents new freedom to choose public schools, routinely measure parental satisfaction levels, and must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and their communities;

Whereas more than 50 percent of charter schools report having a waiting list, and the total number of students on all such waiting lists is enough to fill more than 1,100 average-sized charter schools;

Whereas the President has called for increased Federal support for replicating and expanding high-performing charter schools to meet the dramatic demand created by the more than 365,000 children on charter school waiting lists; and

Whereas the 10th annual National Charter Schools Week is May 3 through May 9, 2009: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, especially their impressive results in closing the persistent achievement gap in the United States, and improving and strengthening the public school system in the United States;

(2) supports the ideas and goals of the 10th annual National Charter Schools Week, a week-long celebration to be held May 3 through May 9, 2009, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for charter schools.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 135—DESIGNATING MAY 8, 2009, AS “MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY”**

Mr. BURR (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 135**

Whereas the month of May marks National Military Appreciation Month;

Whereas military spouses provide vital support to men and women in the Armed Forces and help to make their service to the Armed Forces possible;

Whereas military spouses have been separated from their loved ones because of deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism and other military missions carried out by the Armed Forces;

Whereas the establishment of Military Spouse Appreciation Day would be an appropriate way to honor the spouses of members of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas May 8, 2009, would be an appropriate date to establish as “Military Spouse Appreciation Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 8, 2009, as “Military Spouse Appreciation Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes the contributions made by spouses of members of the Armed Forces; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Military Spouse Appreciation Day to promote awareness of the contributions of spouses of members of the Armed Forces and the importance of their role in the lives of members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 1044. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, and for other purposes.

SA 1045. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. McCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1046. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1047. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1048. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1049. Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1050. Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1051. Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1052. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1053. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1054. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1055. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, supra.

SA 1056. Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

**TEXT OF AMENDMENTS**

**SA 1044.** Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 59, line 25, strike “(D)” and insert “(E)”.

On page 60, strike line 3 and insert the following:

lowing new subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D):

On page 60, line 4, insert “and submit the report required by subparagraph (D)” after “terminate such acquisition program”.

On page 61, strike like 24 and insert the following:

gram;

“(D) if the program is terminated, submit to Congress a written report setting forth—

“(i) an explanation of the reasons for terminating the program;

“(ii) the alternatives considered to address any problems in the program; and

“(iii) the course the Department plans to pursue to meet any continuing joint military requirements otherwise intended to be met by the program; and”.

**SA 1045.** Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. McCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 69, after line 2, add the following:

**SEC. 207. EARNED VALUE MANAGEMENT.**

(a) ENHANCED TRACKING OF CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics shall review the existing guidance and, as necessary, prescribe additional guidance governing the implementation of the Earned Value Management (EVM) requirements and reporting for contracts to ensure that the Department of Defense—