

This new method eliminated paper applications for free school meals, and replaced them with a socioeconomic survey based method of determining reimbursement rates and eligibility.

Paper applications are costly, and parents too often fail to return them. The socioeconomic survey based approach was chosen because it reduced administrative overhead costs and is thought to better ensure that all eligible students are accounted for. In addition, by providing Universal Service the stigma associated with receiving a free or reduced price school meal is eliminated. Indeed, during the first year of the Universal Feeding Pilot Program, the Philadelphia School District saw a 14 percent increase in lunch participation in elementary schools, a 45 percent increase in middle schools and a 180 percent increase in high schools. The Philadelphia Universal Feeding Pilot Program has successfully increased student participation in the school meal program. Should this program be ended, as the Department of Agriculture would have it, children in the Philadelphia School District will have their ability to learn undermined by Washington, DC, bureaucrats.

The students and parents in 200 of Philadelphia's poorest schools have not filled out paper applications for free and reduced priced school meals in over seventeen years. It is almost certain that some parents will fail to return paper applications to the school district, resulting in the under-reporting of eligible students. In fact, the Secretary of Agriculture tacitly acknowledges the ineffectiveness of paper applications by offering outreach assistance to the Philadelphia School District.

A decrease in the amount of students claiming free or reduced lunches will lower the Department of Agriculture's reimbursement rate to the Philadelphia School District. Reducing the school meal reimbursement rate will not only cause the Philadelphia School District budgetary problems in relation to the school meals program, but because other grant funding is often based on the percentage of low income students in a district, as determined by participation rates in the school meal program, the District could potentially lose millions of dollars in other state and Federal grant funding. Federal E-rate funding, for example, which is used for educational technology, is based directly on school meal program eligibility percentages.

Congress is expected to take up the Child Nutrition Act reauthorization later this year. Universal Feeding and the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program will be a part of this debate, and this is an appropriate time and place to consider changes to the program. We know from experience that Congressional action is not always as swift as planned, and that the legislative calendar changes from week to week if not from day to day.

Therefore, Senator CASEY and I introduce legislation today to extend the

Philadelphia School District's Universal Feeding Pilot Program through the close of the 2012-2013 school year to ensure that Philadelphia school children receive the necessary nutritional assistance until Congress can enact a new policy.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 168—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2009 NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 168

Whereas on June 2, 2009, for the first time in university history, the University of Washington Women Huskies won the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") national softball championship game with a 3-2 victory over the University of Florida Gators;

Whereas University of Washington pitcher Danielle Lawrie was named the Women's College World Series Most Valuable Player and the USA Softball National Collegiate Player of the Year;

Whereas the Huskies finished the 2009 season with an impressive record of 51-12;

Whereas the members of the 2009 University of Washington softball team are excellent representatives of a university that is 1 of the premier academic institutions in Washington State, producing many outstanding student-athletes and other leaders; and

Whereas the members of the women's softball team have brought great honor to themselves, their families, the University of Washington, and the State of Washington: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Washington softball team for winning the 2009 Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and staff whose hard work and dedication helped the University of Washington win the championship; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Mark A. Emmert, president of the University of Washington;

(B) Scott Woodward, director of athletics of the University of Washington; and

(C) Heather Tarr, head coach of the University of Washington softball team.

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA SHOULD WORK WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROCESS WITH GREECE TO ACHIEVE LONGSTANDING UNITED STATES AND UNITED NATIONS POLICY GOALS OF FINDING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPOSITE NAME, WITH A GEOGRAPHICAL QUALIFIER AND FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL USES FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 169

Whereas, on April 8, 1993, the United Nations General Assembly admitted as a member the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, under the name the "former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia";

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 817 (1993) states that the international dispute over the name must be resolved to maintain peaceful relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and regional stability;

Whereas Greece is a strategic partner and ally of the United States in bringing political stability and economic development to the Balkan region, having invested over \$20,000,000,000 in the countries of the region, thereby creating over 200,000 new jobs, and having contributed over \$750,000,000 in development aid for the region;

Whereas Greece has invested over \$1,000,000,000 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, thereby creating more than 10,000 new jobs and having contributed \$110,000,000 in development aid;

Whereas Senate Resolution 300, introduced in the 110th Congress, urged the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to abstain from hostile activities and stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda";

Whereas NATO's Heads of State and Government unanimously agreed in Bucharest on April 3, 2008, that "... within the framework of the UN, many actors have worked hard to resolve the name issue, but the Alliance has noted with regret that these talks have not produced a successful outcome. Therefore we agreed that an invitation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be extended as soon as a mutually acceptable solution to the name issue has been reached. We encourage the negotiations to be resumed without delay and expect them to be concluded as soon as possible";

Whereas the Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Strasbourg/Kehl on April 4, 2009, reiterated their unanimous support for the agreement at the Bucharest Summit "to extend an invitation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as soon as a mutually acceptable solution to the name issue has been reached within the framework of the UN, and urge intensified efforts towards that goal."; and

Whereas authorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia urged their citizens to boycott Greek investments in the