

CALL TO UGANDA TO REJECT THE PROPOSED ANTI-HOMOSEXUALITY BILL

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 344, S. Res. 409.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 409) calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill," and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 409) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 409

Whereas a bill introduced on October 14, 2009, by a member of Parliament in Uganda would expand penalties for homosexuality to include the death penalty and requires citizens to report information about homosexuality to the police or face imprisonment;

Whereas many countries criminalize homosexuality, and in some countries, such as Iran, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan, the penalty for homosexuality includes the death penalty;

Whereas the United States, in seeking to promote the core American principles of equality and "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness," has long championed the universality of human rights;

Whereas religious leaders in the United States, along with representatives from the Vatican and the Anglican Church, have stated that laws criminalizing homosexuality are unjust; and

Whereas the people and Government of the United States recognize that such laws un-

dermine our commitment to combating HIV/AIDS globally through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) by stigmatizing and criminalizing vulnerable communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the "Anti-Homosexuality Bill" recently proposed in that country;

(2) urges the governments of all countries to reject and repeal similar criminalization laws; and

(3) encourages the Secretary of State to closely monitor human rights abuses that occur because of sexual orientation and to encourage the repeal or reform of laws such as the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill" in Uganda that permit such abuses.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 14; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then observe a moment of silence in solidarity with the people of Poland; that following the moment of silence, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak on the topic of Poland; that following those statements, there be a period of morning business for 1 hour with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the final 30 minutes; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4851, the Continuing Extension Act, as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Before finalizing the end of the day, I would add that in support of this resolution we will discuss tomorrow, in 1991, working for

Ohio State University, I spent some time in Poland working with their government to transition from communism to democracy. And my friend Tomaz, who is a Polish academician, later rose to be the Minister of Culture in Poland. He was on that plane. I miss him. I had not seen him in years. But I miss him and the contribution he made to Poland and to our country in the work we did together on cultural issues, and certainly support this moment of silence and ask that we all remember the terrible thing that happened to so many of the leaders in Poland and what that means for how we have to come together and assist that country as it moves forward in another crisis that the great 38 million people of Poland face day after day.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, when the Senate convenes tomorrow, we will observe a moment of silence to express the Senate's solidarity with the people of Poland.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Continuing Extensions Act. Under a previous order, if a point of order is raised against the pending Baucus amendment, then at 12:30 p.m. the Senate will proceed to a rollcall vote on the motion to waive the applicable point of order.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:12 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.