

solution, a solution that most other institutions that rely on the work of academic experts have already implemented. The solution is to simply ask witnesses who come before the Senate to disclose any potential conflicts of interest up front.

Our colleagues in the House of Representatives are already requiring witnesses to do this and there is no reason why we shouldn't require the same level of transparency from witnesses who come before the Senate.

That is why today I am submitting the Witness Sunshine resolution. This resolution will make the Senate committee hearings more transparent and thus more credible and valuable to the legislative process. It achieves this goal by requiring each witness that appears before any Senate committee to submit a form disclosing outside affiliations and financial interests in any organizations, including government entities, that are directly related to the topic of the committee hearing.

In August, I was happy to learn that the administration is supportive of this idea. In an August 4 letter, Secretary Sebelius wrote me saying, "Should the Senate Finance Committee or any other Congressional Committee choose to [require witnesses to submit financial disclosure forms in advance of an appearance before the Committee], I would certainly encourage HHS contractors to fully comply with [that requirement]."

So adopting this rule should be an easy decision for the Senate. Our colleagues in the House of Representatives have been requiring this level of transparency for over a decade and now we know that the administration supports the idea as well. The House tells me that their witnesses are not overburdened or discouraged to offer testimony because of this requirement. I have carefully drafted this resolution so that the requirement for transparency similarly does not burden Senate witnesses.

It is time for this body to meet the standards for transparency set by the House and followed in so many other institutions across the country. Supporting my resolution will help ensure that future testimony can be given its proper weight, and end the uncertainty of unknown interests influencing testimony. I urge my colleagues to support my resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 666—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 15, 2010, AS "NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DAY"

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

S. RES. 666

Whereas the United States should reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil and enhance the energy security of the United States by creating a transportation sector that is less dependent on oil;

Whereas the United States should improve the air quality of the United States by reducing emissions from the millions of motor vehicles that operate in the United States;

Whereas the United States should foster national expertise and technological advancement in cleaner, more energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas a robust domestic industry for alternative fuels and alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles will create jobs and increase the competitiveness of the United States in the international community;

Whereas the people of the United States need more options for clean and energy-efficient transportation;

Whereas the mainstream adoption of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles will produce benefits at the local, national, and international levels;

Whereas consumers and businesses require a better understanding of the benefits of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas first responders require proper and comprehensive training to become fully prepared for any precautionary measures that the first responders may need to take during incidents and extrications that involve alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas the Federal Government can lead the way toward a cleaner and more efficient transportation sector by choosing alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles for the fleets of the Federal Government; and

Whereas Federal support for the adoption of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles can accelerate greater energy independence for the United States, improve the environmental security of the United States, and address global climate change: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 15, 2010, as "National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day";

(2) supports National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day as a day to promote programs and activities that will lead to the greater use of cleaner, more efficient transportation that uses new sources of energy; and

(3) urges the people of the United States—

(A) to increase the personal and commercial use of clean, energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

(B) to promote public sector adoption of clean, energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles; and

(C) to encourage the adoption of Federal policies to reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil through the advancement and adoption of alternative, advanced, and emerging vehicle and fuel technologies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 667—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GREGG, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 667

Whereas, in 2010, the Coastal States Organization (referred to in this preamble as the "CSO") is celebrating its 40th anniversary of representing the Governors of the 35 coastal States, commonwealths, and territories of the United States on issues relating to the sound management of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes resources;

Whereas the CSO was created in 1969 by a resolution, which was endorsed unanimously, of the National Governors Association;

Whereas, in January 1970, the first meeting of the CSO was held in Savannah, Georgia;

Whereas, in October 2010, the CSO will celebrate its 40th anniversary in Monterey, California;

Whereas the CSO has been empowered to contribute to the development and operation of the national coastal zone management program, which was established by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.);

Whereas the CSO is a nonpartisan organization comprised of economically, environmentally, geographically, and socially diverse States, territories, and commonwealths;

Whereas the CSO serves as a means for the Governors of the member States, territories, and commonwealths to communicate with Congress and the executive branch on coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes policies, programs, and affairs; and

Whereas the member States, territories, and commonwealths of the CSO have a responsibility to work with the Federal Government to manage and conserve the public trust in coastal and ocean ecosystems as well as the quality of life in coastal communities for the benefit of current and future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Coastal States Organization; and

(2) supports the role of States, territories, and commonwealths in the stewardship of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION 668—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 20, 2010, AS THE "NATIONAL DAY ON WRITING"

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 668

Whereas people in the 21st century are writing more than ever before for personal, professional, and civic purposes;

Whereas the social nature of writing invites people of every age, profession, and walk of life to create meaning through composing;

Whereas more and more people in every occupation deem writing as essential and influential in their work;

Whereas writers continue to learn how to write for different purposes, audiences, and occasions throughout their lifetimes;

Whereas developing digital technologies expand the possibilities for composing in multiple media at a faster pace than ever before;

Whereas young people are leading the way in developing new forms of composing by using different forms of digital media;

Whereas effective communication contributes to building a global economy and a global community;

Whereas the National Council of Teachers of English, in conjunction with its many national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of writing through the National Day on Writing;

Whereas the National Day on Writing celebrates the foundational place of writing in the personal, professional, and civic lives of the people of the United States;

Whereas the National Day on Writing provides an opportunity for individuals across