

rural schools than any other community type.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to establish an Office of Rural Education Policy in the Department of Education; and

(2) to provide input to the Secretary of Education regarding the impact of proposed changes in law, regulations, policies, rules, and budgets on rural schools and communities.

**SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF RURAL EDUCATION POLICY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3411 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 221. OFFICE OF RURAL EDUCATION POLICY.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be, in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Department, an Office of Rural Education Policy (referred to in this section as the ‘Office’).

“(b) DIRECTOR; DUTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed by a Director, who shall advise the Secretary on the characteristics and needs of rural schools and the effects of current policies and proposed statutory, regulatory, administrative, and budgetary changes on State educational agencies, and local educational agencies, that serve schools with a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—In addition to advising the Secretary with respect to the matters described in paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Rural Education Policy (referred to in this section as the ‘Director’), through the Office, shall—

“(A) establish and maintain a clearinghouse for collecting and disseminating information on—

“(i) teacher and principal recruitment and retention at rural elementary schools and rural secondary schools;

“(ii) access to, and implementation and use of, technology and distance learning at such schools;

“(iii) rigorous coursework delivery through distance learning at such schools;

“(iv) student achievement at such schools, including the achievement of low-income and minority students;

“(v) innovative approaches in rural education to increase student achievement;

“(vi) higher education and career readiness and secondary school completion of students enrolled in such schools;

“(vii) access to, and quality of, early childhood development for children located in rural areas;

“(viii) access to, or partnerships with, community-based organizations in rural areas;

“(ix) the availability of professional development opportunities for rural teachers and principals;

“(x) the availability of Federal and other grants and assistance that are specifically geared or applicable to rural schools; and

“(xi) the financing of such schools;

“(B) identify innovative research and demonstration projects on topics of importance to rural elementary schools and rural secondary schools, including gaps in such research, and recommend such topics for study by the Institute of Education Sciences and other research agencies;

“(C) coordinate the activities within the Department that relate to rural education;

“(D) provide information to the Secretary and others in the Department with respect to the activities of other Federal departments and agencies that relate to rural edu-

cation, including activities relating to rural housing, rural agricultural services, rural transportation, rural economic development, rural career and technical training, rural health care, rural disability services, and rural mental health;

“(E) coordinate with the Bureau of Indian Education, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Interior, and the schools administered by such agencies regarding rural education;

“(F) provide, directly or through grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts, technical assistance and other activities as necessary to support activities related to improving education in rural areas; and

“(G) produce an annual report on the condition of rural education that is delivered to the members of the Education and the Workforce Committee of the House of Representatives and the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee of the Senate and published on the Department’s Web site.

“(c) IMPACT ANALYSES OF RULES AND REGULATIONS ON RURAL SCHOOLS.—

“(1) PROPOSED RULEMAKING.—Whenever the Secretary publishes a general notice of proposed rulemaking for any rule or regulation that may have a significant impact on State educational agencies or local educational agencies serving schools with a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary (acting through the Director) shall prepare and make available for public comment an initial regulatory impact analysis. Such analysis shall describe the impact of the proposed rule or regulation on such State educational agencies and local educational agencies and shall set forth, with respect to such agencies, the matters required under section 603 of title 5, United States Code, to be set forth with respect to small entities. The initial regulatory impact analysis (or a summary) shall be published in the Federal Register at the time of the publication of general notice of proposed rulemaking for the rule or regulation.

“(2) FINAL RULE.—Whenever the Secretary promulgates a final version of a rule or regulation with respect to which an initial regulatory impact analysis is required by paragraph (1), the Secretary (acting through the Director) shall prepare a final regulatory impact analysis with respect to the final version of such rule or regulation. Such analysis shall set forth, with respect to State educational agencies and local educational agencies serving schools with a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary, the matters required under section 604 of title 5, United States Code, to be set forth with respect to small entities. The Secretary shall make copies of the final regulatory impact analysis available to the public and shall publish, in the Federal Register at the time of publication of the final version of the rule or regulation, a statement describing how a member of the public may obtain a copy of such analysis.

“(3) REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.—If a regulatory flexibility analysis is required by chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, for a rule or regulation to which this subsection applies, such analysis shall specifically address the impact of the rule or regulation on State educational agencies and local educational agencies serving schools with a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 221(c) of the Department of Education Organization Act, as added by subsection (a), shall apply to regulations proposed more than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 159—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONDEMNING THE TARGETING OF TEA PARTY GROUPS BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AND CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION

Mr. PAUL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 159

Whereas it is a well-founded principle that the power to tax involves the power to destroy;

Whereas employees of the Internal Revenue Service (commonly known as the “IRS”) have publicly admitted that the IRS targeted Tea Party groups in a manner that infringes on the free association rights and free speech rights of those groups;

Whereas the IRS admitted that employees of the IRS engaged in politically discriminatory actions;

Whereas the IRS used the taxing power as a political tool to intimidate Tea Party groups from engaging in free speech;

Whereas, according to media reports, as early as in 2010, the IRS was targeting Tea Party groups;

Whereas President Obama is aware that a Federal agency under his control has admitted to targeting Tea Party groups;

Whereas, according to media reports, a report by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration indicates that some Tea Party groups withdrew applications for tax-exempt status as a result of the discriminatory actions of the IRS;

Whereas, according to the Washington Post, in late June 2011, employees of the IRS discussed giving special attention to case files in which groups made statements that “criticize[d] how the country is being run” and educated the people of the United States “on the Constitution and Bill of Rights” and targeting groups interested in limiting government; and

Whereas the discriminatory actions of the IRS impacted the free speech rights of the groups targeted by the IRS: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Internal Revenue Service engaged in discriminatory behavior;

(2) Congress should use existing authority—

(A) to investigate potential criminal wrongdoing by individuals who authorized or were involved in targeting people of the United States based on their political views; and

(B) to determine if other entities in the administration of President Obama were involved in or were aware of the discrimination and did not take action to stop the actions of the Internal Revenue Service;

(3) President Obama should terminate the individuals responsible for targeting and willfully discriminating against Tea Party groups and other conservative groups; and

(4) the Senate condemns the actions of all individuals and entities involved in the infringement of the First Amendment rights of members of the Tea Party and other affected groups.

SENATE RESOLUTION 160—RELATIVE TO THE MEMORIAL OBSERVANCES OF THE HONORABLE FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, LATE A SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. REID of Nevada submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 160

Whereas, The Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, late a Senator from the State of New Jersey: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the memorial observances of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, late a Senator from the State of New Jersey be held in the Senate Chamber on Thursday, June 6, 2013, beginning at 2:00 p.m., and that the Senate attend the same.

*Resolved*, That paragraph 1 of Rule IV of the Rules for the Regulation of the Senate Wing of the United States Capitol (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) be temporarily suspended for the sole and specific purpose of permitting the Senate Photographic Studio to photograph this memorial observance.

*Resolved*, That the Sergeant at Arms be directed to make necessary and appropriate arrangements in connection with the memorial observances in the Senate Chamber.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives, transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased, and invite the House of Representatives and the family of the deceased to attend the memorial observances in the Senate Chamber.

*Resolved*, That invitations be extended to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, and the members of the Cabinet, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Diplomatic Corps (through the Secretary of State), the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations of the Navy, the Major General Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Commandant of the Coast Guard to attend the memorial observances in the Senate Chamber.

SENATE RESOLUTION 161—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COWAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms.

KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 161

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg served the people of the State of New Jersey for over 28 years in the United States Senate;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg was the longest serving United States Senator from the State of New Jersey;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg cast 9,267 roll call votes—more than any other United States Senator from the State of New Jersey and the 40th most in United States Senate history;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg served on multiple Committees in the Senate including the Committee on the Environment and Public Works; the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and the Committee on Appropriations; and served as Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Superfund, Toxics, and Environmental Health; the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security; the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation; and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 18 and served in the European Theater during World War II;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg was able to attend Columbia University as a result of G.I. Bill benefits following his military service;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg co-founded the company Automatic Data Processing (ADP) and worked as its Chief Executive Officer, helping it become one of America's most successful companies;

Whereas the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg dedicated his Senate career to improving the environment and public health, strengthening our nation's transportation systems, and working tirelessly on behalf of the people of New Jersey: 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 Frank R. Lautenberg, Senator from the State of New Jersey;

(2) the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit this resolution to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased; and

(3) when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

SENATE RESOLUTION 162—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO CHILDHOOD STROKE AND RECOGNIZING MAY 2013 AS “NATIONAL PEDIATRIC STROKE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 162

Whereas a stroke, also known as cerebrovascular disease, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas stroke occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live births, and has an overall annual incidence of 4.6 per 100,000 children age 19 and under;

Whereas a stroke can occur before birth;

Whereas stroke is among the top 12 causes of death for children between the ages of 1 and 14 in the United States;

Whereas 20 to 40 percent of children who have suffered a stroke die as a result;

Whereas stroke recurs within 5 years in 10 percent of children who have had an ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke;

Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all child age groups;

Whereas there are no approved therapies for the treatment of acute stroke in infants and children;

Whereas approximately 60 percent of infants and children who have a pediatric stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, and attention, learning, and behavioral difficulties;

Whereas those disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries;

Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact on children, families, and society;

Whereas not enough is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of pediatric stroke;

Whereas medical research is the only means by which the people of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for pediatric stroke; and

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 2013 as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”;

(2) urges the people of the United States to support the efforts, programs, services, and organizations that work to enhance public awareness of pediatric stroke;

(3) supports the work of the National Institutes of Health in pursuit of medical progress on the matter of pediatric stroke; and

(4) urges continued coordination and cooperation between the Federal Government, State and local governments, researchers, families, and the public to improve treatments and prognoses for children who suffer strokes.