

SENATE RESOLUTION 91—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS

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

S. RES. 91

Whereas, the Office of the Inspector General of the United States Department of Justice has requested that the Select Committee on Intelligence provide it with copies of committee records relevant to the Office's pending review of matters related to allegations of Central Intelligence Agency involvement in crack cocaine trafficking with supporters of the Nicaraguan Contras;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that documents, papers, and records under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, acting jointly, we authorized to provide to the Office of Inspector General of the United States Department of Justice or to other government investigators, under appropriate security procedures, copies of committee records related to allegations of Central Intelligence Agency involvement in crack cocaine trafficking with supporters of the Nicaraguan Contras.

SEC. 2. That the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of any other committee of the Senate, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to the Office of Inspector General of the United States Department of Justice or to other government investigators, under appropriate security procedures, copies of records held by their committee related to allegations of Central Intelligence Agency involvement in crack cocaine trafficking with supporters of the Nicaraguan Contras.

SENATE RESOLUTION 92—RELATIVE TO NATIONAL LITERACY DAY

Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted a resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 92

Whereas 44,000,000 United States citizens today read at a level that is less than the level necessary for full survival needs;

Whereas there are 40,000,000 adults in the United States who cannot read, whose resources are left untapped, and who are unable to make a full contribution to society;

Whereas illiteracy is growing rapidly, as 2,500,000 persons, including as many as 1,300,000 immigrants, 1,500,000 high school dropouts, and 100,000 refugees, are added to the pool of illiterate persons annually;

Whereas the annual cost of illiteracy to the United States in terms of welfare expenditures, crime, prison expenses, lost revenues, and industrial and military accidents has been estimated at \$230,000,000,000;

Whereas the competitiveness of the United States is eroded by the presence in the workplace of millions of Americans who are functionally or technologically illiterate;

Whereas there is a direct correlation between the number of illiterate adults who

are unable to perform at the standard necessary for available employment and the money allocated to child welfare and unemployment compensation;

Whereas the percentage of illiterate persons in proportion to population percentage is higher for African Americans and Hispanics, resulting in increased economic and social discrimination against these minorities;

Whereas the prison population represents the highest concentration of adult illiteracy;

Whereas 1,000,000 children in the United States between the ages of 12 and 17 years old cannot read above a third grade level, 13 percent of all 17-year-olds are functionally illiterate, and 15 percent of graduates of urban high schools read at less than a sixth grade level;

Whereas 85 percent of the juveniles who appear in criminal court are functionally illiterate;

Whereas the 47 percent illiteracy rate among African American youths is expected to increase;

Whereas ½ of all heads of households cannot read above an eighth grade level and ½ of all mothers on welfare are functionally illiterate;

Whereas the cycle of illiteracy continues because the children of illiterate parents are often illiterate themselves due to the lack of support the children receive from their home environment;

Whereas Federal, State, municipal, and private literacy programs have been able to reach only 5 percent of the total illiterate population;

Whereas it is vital to call attention to the problem of illiteracy, to understand the severity of the illiteracy problem and the detrimental effects of illiteracy on our society, and to reach those who are illiterate and unaware of the free services and help available to them; and

Whereas it is necessary to recognize and thank the thousands of volunteers who are working to promote literacy and provide support to the millions of illiterate persons in need of assistance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 2, 1997, and July 2, 1998, as "National Literacy Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe "National Literacy Day" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today I rise to submit a resolution establishing July 2 of this year and the next as National Literacy Day.

Mr. President, the ability to read is something most of us often take for granted. For most of us, it is difficult to imagine not being able to read a menu, street sign, magazine or phone book. But for many of our citizens, these seemingly simple activities are impossible. This is so because they are illiterate. I am submitting this resolution to draw attention to the issue of illiteracy by establishing July 2, 1997 and the following year as National Literacy Day. I hope my colleagues will cosponsor this resolution.

All of us should be more aware of the problem of illiteracy. A recent study found that over 44 million adults cannot read. An additional 35 million read below the level needed to function successfully in society. These numbers alone are alarming and warrant our special attention. But even more dis-

turbing are the personal hardships people must face each day due to their inability to read. The embarrassment parents face when they cannot read to their children. The discouragement able workers feel when they cannot fill out a basic job application. The disappointment we all endure as the ranks of the illiterate grow annually by over 2 million adults.

Mr. President, the 18th Century writer, Joseph Addison, once wrote "Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body." I could not agree more. Reading enriches our lives in countless ways. But there are far too many of our citizens who cannot read the instructions on a doctor's prescription bottle, let alone share the experience of reading one of Addison's great poems. This needs to change.

Therefore, we must focus our attention on the problem of illiteracy. All of us should make sure we do our part to ensure that citizens who need help know where services are available. We need to recognize the detrimental effects illiteracy has on our society. Most important, more of us need to enlist in the battle to close the book on illiteracy.

Mr. President, for these reasons, I am submitting a resolution to designate July 2, 1997 and July 2, 1998 as National Literacy Day. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 93—RELATIVE TO NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

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

S. RES. 93

Whereas the family is the basic strength of any free and orderly society;

Whereas it is appropriate to honor the family unit as essential to the continued well-being of the United States; and

Whereas it is fitting that official recognition be given to the importance of family loyalties and ties: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the week beginning on November 23, 1997 and the week beginning on November 24, 1997, as "National Family Week". The Senate requests the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe each week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come before you today to submit a resolution which would designate the week beginning November 23, 1997, and the week beginning November 22, 1998, as "National Family Week." This legislation has been passed in each Congress and signed into public law every year since 1976. I am pleased to be able to contribute to this longstanding tradition, of recognizing the importance of family, by again introducing this legislation.

As we all know, the family is the most basic element of our society, and the tie that binds us to one another. It is the strength of any free and orderly society and it is appropriate to honor