

June 14 as Flag Day. In 1987, Congress designated John Philip Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever" as the national march. Congress also has established detailed rules for the design and the proper display of the flag. Today, we have an opportunity to add one more important gesture of support for our national symbol, to pass an amendment that prohibits the physical desecration of the Flag of the United States.

Since 1990, 49 states have passed memorializing resolutions calling on Congress to pass a flag desecration amendment for consideration by the states.

Public opinion surveys have consistently shown that nearly 80 percent of all Americans support a constitutional amendment to prohibit flag desecration and do not believe that freedom of speech is jeopardized by this protection. Among the grassroots groups that endorse this legislation is the Citizens Flag Alliance, an alliance comprised of 119 civic, patriotic and veterans organizations, including The American Legion, AMVETS, the Knights of Columbus, the National Grange, the Grand Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, and the African-American Women's Clergy Association.

This amendment, grants Congress and the states the power to prohibit physical desecration of the flag, but does not amend the First Amendment.

If we want to embrace the will of the American people, if we want to reserve the flag's unique status as our nation's most revered and profound symbol, and if we believe the flag is important enough to protect from physical desecration, then we should pass this Constitutional amendment.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this amendment.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise as an original cosponsor of a proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

I have fought to achieve Constitutional protection for the flag ever since the Supreme Court first legitimized flag burning in the case of *Texas v. Johnson* in 1989. To date, we have not been successful in our efforts to pass a Constitutional amendment by the required two-thirds majority.

However, we have come close, and, most importantly, we have refused to quit. Last year, the House passed the amendment with the necessary votes, and I am very hopeful that we will follow suit in the Senate this year.

Some say that burning or defacing the American flag is not widespread enough or important enough for a constitutional amendment. I could not disagree more.

Since the birth of the Republic, the flag has been our most recognizable and revered symbol of democracy. It represents our Nation, our national ideals, and our proud heritage.

Men and women of our Armed Forces have put their lives on the line to defend the principles and ideals that the

flag represents. Soldiers have risked and even lost their lives to prevent the flag from falling.

To say that the flag is not important enough to protect is to say that the values that hold us together as a Nation are not worth defending.

Flag burning may be rare, but even it is, it is not acceptable—I repeat, it is not acceptable. It is not tolerable. I hate to see anyone burn or deface the flag to make some statement. Why should society let even one person wrap themselves around some absolute interpretation of the First Amendment to protect indefensible speech? Have we focused so much on the rights of the individual that we have forgotten the rights of the people?

It is clear that the American public strongly favors this amendment. Opinion polls register overwhelming support. Every state except one has passed resolutions calling for a Constitutional amendment to protect the flag. It is a feeling of great pride to know of the sincere national patriotism that this support represents.

The House has already acted. It is now our turn in the Senate. We have a profound responsibility to pass this constitutional amendment as quickly as possible so that it can go to the States for ratification.

I urge my colleagues in the strongest terms to join us in this great effort to restore protection for the American flag. The flag of the United States, the symbol of freedom and democracy, must always be protected, and forever wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 375

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) were added as cosponsors of S. 375, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

S. 427

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 427, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the deduction for lobbying expenses in connection with State legislation.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) were added as cosponsors of S. 657, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive military retired pay con-

currently with veterans' disability compensation.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 800, a bill to create a tax cut reserve fund to protect revenues generated by economic growth.

S. 1180

At the request of Mr. KEMPTHORNE, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1180, a bill to reauthorize the Endangered Species Act.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, a bill to prohibit spending Federal education funds on national testing.

S. 1316

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1316, a bill to dismantle the Department of Commerce.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1365

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1365, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 1422

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1422, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to promote competition in the market for delivery of multichannel video programming and for other purposes.

S. 1563

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1563, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a 24-month pilot program permitting certain aliens to be admitted into the

United States to provide temporary or seasonal agricultural services pursuant to a labor condition attestation.

S. 1575

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), and the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1575, a bill to rename the Washington National Airport located in the District of Columbia and Virginia as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport."

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1580, a bill to amend the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to place an 18-month moratorium on the prohibition of payment under the medicare program for home health services consisting of venipuncture solely for the purpose of obtaining a blood sample, and to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to study potential fraud and abuse under such program with respect to such services.

S. 1599

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1599, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer technology for purposes of human cloning.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 65

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 65, a concurrent resolution calling for a United States effort to end restriction on the freedoms and human rights of the enslaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 71

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 71, a concurrent resolution condemning Iraq's threat to international peace and security.

SENATE RESOLUTION 170

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 170, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biomedical research should be increased by \$2,000,000,000 in fiscal year 1999.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 72—RELATIVE TO THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was re-

ferred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. CON. RES. 72

Whereas in 1898, the "Father of Basketball", Dr. James Naismith, became the first basketball coach at the University of Kansas;

Whereas Dr. Forrest "Phog" Allen, considered one of college basketball's most successful coaches, succeeded Dr. James Naismith, winning 746 games, 24 conference championships, 2 Helms Foundation National Championships, and 1 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this resolution as "NCAA") Championship;

Whereas Dr. Allen was influential in forming the National Association of Basketball Coaches, lobbied to make basketball an Olympic sport, and was a key individual in the formation of the NCAA Basketball Tournament;

Whereas University of Kansas graduates who played basketball under Dr. Allen, including Adolph Rupp, Dean Smith, Ralph Miller, and Dutch Lonborg, went on to achieve unparalleled success as college basketball coaches;

Whereas 13 University of Kansas alumni, including Wilt Chamberlain and Clyde Lovellette, are members of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame;

Whereas the jerseys of Danny Manning, Charlie Black, B.H. Born, Paul Endacott, Wilt Chamberlain, and Ray Evans were retired by the University of Kansas because of their achievements on the basketball floor as University of Kansas Jayhawks;

Whereas the University of Kansas men's basketball tradition includes more than 1,650 victories, 44 conference championships, 10 NCAA Championship Final Four appearances, 2 Helms Foundation National Championships, 2 NCAA Championships, in 1952 and 1988, and 10 Consensus All-American players; and

Whereas Allen Field House in Lawrence, Kansas, maintains a spirited atmosphere that provides the University of Kansas Jayhawks an immeasurable advantage in their games; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress recognize and honor—

(1) the 100 years of basketball history at the University of Kansas; and

(2) the players, coaches, alumni, and fans of the University of Kansas Jayhawks who have participated in the basketball program throughout the years.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, it is my privilege to submit a Senate concurrent resolution today commending the centennial celebration of college basketball played at the University of Kansas.

This weekend former Jayhawk players and coaches, along with fans from all over the country, will gather for a reunion weekend in Lawrence, Kansas. Festivities include a legends game, banquet, and culminate with the Missouri game on Sunday afternoon. They will celebrate and honor a tradition that is second to none.

College basketball history contains many milestones and accomplishments achieved by the Kansas Jayhawks. Since KU's first team in 1898-99 the Jayhawks have had more than 1,650 victories, second only to North Carolina and Kentucky. Kansas has played in the NCAA Tournament 26 times, made 10 final four appearances and won or shared 44 conference titles. Not only

can Kansas lay claim to college basketball's greatest coaches, but it has ties to both its inventor and one of its dominant players.

In 1898 Dr. James Naismith, only seven years removed from nailing two peach baskets on the wall in Springfield, Massachusetts YMCA, became KU's first basketball coach. Ironically, Dr. Naismith was the only Jayhawk coach to retire with a losing record. Although Dr. Naismith's record does not reflect his ingenuity for inventing basketball, he is fondly remembered at KU.

Ten years later, Forest "Phog" Allen took over the reins from Naismith. Allen, a KU basketball letterman learned the game from his playing days under Dr. Naismith and refined them so much so that he is referred to as the "father of basketball coaching." Off the court, Allen joined in the creation of the National Basketball Coaches Association, led the international effort making basketball an Olympic sport, and assisted in the formation of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament. Allen compiled a record of 590-219 in 39 years as the Jayhawks head coach. This includes 24 conference championships and one NCAA Championship. All totaled Allen won 746 games, a record twice since broken by his former players.

One of the outstanding games in the Jayhawks 100 year history is the 1952 NCAA championship game played in Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium. The Allen-coached Jayhawks won the game over St. John's with Basketball Hall of Fame member Clyde Lovellette contributing 33 points. Another future Hall of Famer saw limited action that night, Dean Smith.

Also in the fifties, the Kansas Jayhawks added more to the history and legacy of college basketball. In 1957 Wilt Chamberlin led the Jayhawks to a 24-3 record and a spot in the NCAA finals where Kansas was defeated by North Carolina, 54-53 in three overtimes in what is considered one of the most exciting games in NCAA Tournament history. Despite the loss, Chamberlin was selected tournament MVP and was a two-time All-American. Chamberlin went on to achieve great success in the NBA setting a single game scoring record of 100 points while with the Philadelphia Warriors.

In recent years, Kansas Jayhawks on the court continued to add more history. Danny Manning and his all-stars persevered in their underdog effort that culminated in the Jayhawks 1988 victory over Big Eight Conference rival Oklahoma and once again being crowned national champions.

Even after reaching the pinnacle of being a national champion in 1988, the Jayhawks are still regarded as one of the top teams in the nation. In his nine seasons as the Jayhawks head coach, Roy Williams has led the Hawks to two Final Fours and five conference championships. Like all his coaching predecessors, Williams' teams excel on the