

apply only if the applications for issuance of immigrant visas or the applications for adjustment of status are filed with appropriate fees within 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) **REDUCTION OF IMMIGRANT VISA NUMBER.**—Upon the granting of an immigrant visa or permanent residence to Suchada Kwong, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by one, during the current or next following fiscal year, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act or, if applicable, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 202(e) of such Act.

S. 452

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Belinda McGregor shall be held and considered to have been selected for a diversity immigrant visa for fiscal year 2000 as of the date of the enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fee.

(b) **ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.**—If Belinda McGregor, or any child (as defined in section 101(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act) of Belinda McGregor, enters the United States before the date of the enactment of this Act, he or she shall be considered to have entered and remained lawfully and shall, if otherwise eligible, be eligible for adjustment of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS.

Upon the granting of permanent residence to Belinda McGregor as provided in this Act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by one number during the current fiscal year the total number of immigrant visas available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(c)).

RELIEF OF VOVA MALOFIENKO, OLGA MATSKO,
AND ALEXANDER MALOFIENKO

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I am extremely pleased that the Senate has passed legislation that will provide permanent residency in the United States for 15-year-old Vova Malofienko and his family.

In order to understand the importance of this legislation, you need to know more about Vova. He was born in Chernigov, Ukraine, just 30 miles from the Chernobyl nuclear reactor. In 1986, when he was just two, the reactor exploded and he was exposed to high levels of radiation. He was diagnosed with leukemia in June 1990, shortly before his sixth birthday.

Through the efforts of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, Vova and his mother came to the United States with seven other children to attend Paul Newman's "Hole in the Wall" camp in Connecticut. While in this country, Vova was able to receive extensive cancer treatment and chemotherapy. In November of 1992, his cancer went into remission.

Regrettably, the other children from Chernobyl were not as fortunate. They returned to the Ukraine and they died one by one because of inadequate cancer treatment. Not a child survived.

The air, food, and water in the Ukraine are still contaminated with radiation and are perilous to those like Vova who have a weakened immune system. Additionally, cancer treatment available in the Ukraine is not as sophisticated as treatment available in the United States. Although Vova completed his chemotherapy in 1992, he continues to need medical follow-up on a consistent basis, including physical examinations, lab work and radiological examinations to assure early detection and prompt and appropriate therapy in the unfortunate event the leukemia recurs.

Because of his perilous medical condition, Vova and his family have done everything possible to remain in the United States. I tried to help by supporting their visa applications to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and by sponsoring this legislation. The passage of this measure is the culmination of many years of hard work by Vova, his family, and members of the Millburn community.

Throughout all of these struggles, Vova has been an inspiration to all. An honors student at Milburn Middle School, he has been an eloquent spokesperson for children with cancer. He has rallied the community and helped bring out the best in everyone. His dedication, grace, and dignity provide an outstanding example, not just to young people, but to all Americans.

I am pleased to have been able to help Vova and his family. I want to thank the House sponsors of this legislation, Representatives ROTHMAN and FRANKS, for their efforts in support of this legislation. I also want to thank Senators ABRAHAM, HATCH, LEAHY, and KENNEDY for moving this bill through the legislative process. It has been an honor to work on Vova's behalf, and I hope that he and his family enjoy great success and much happiness in the years ahead.

RETURN OF ZACHARY BAUMEL, A U.S. CITIZEN, AND OTHER ISRAELI SOLDIERS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 187, H.R. 1175.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1175) to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a United States citizen, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment on page 4, line 5, to insert the word "credible".

H.R. 1175

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) Zachary Baumel, a United States citizen serving in the Israeli military forces, has been missing in action since June 1982 when he was captured by forces affiliated with the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) following a tank battle with Syrian forces at Sultan Ya'akub in Lebanon;

(2) Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman, Israeli citizens serving in the Israeli military forces, have been missing in action since June 1982 when they were also captured by these same forces in a tank battle with Syrian forces at Sultan Ya'akub in Lebanon;

(3) these three soldiers were last known to be in the hands of a Palestinian faction splintered from the PLO and operating in Syrian-controlled territory, thus making this a matter within the responsibility of the Government of Syria;

(4) diplomatic efforts to secure the release of these individuals have been unsuccessful, although PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat delivered one-half of Zachary Baumel's dog tag to Israeli Government authorities; and

(5) in the Gaza-Jericho agreement between the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel of May 4, 1994, Palestinian officials agreed to cooperate with Israel in locating and working for the return of Israeli soldiers missing in action.

SEC. 2. ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO MISSING SOLDIERS.

(a) **CONTINUING COMMUNICATION WITH CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS.**—The Secretary of State shall continue to raise the matter of Zachary Baumel, Yehuda Katz, and Zvi Feldman on an urgent basis with appropriate government officials of Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, and with other governments in the region and elsewhere that, in the determination of the Secretary, may be helpful in locating and securing the return of these soldiers.

(b) **PROVISION OF ECONOMIC AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS.**—In deciding whether or not to provide United States economic and other forms of assistance to Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, and other governments in the region, and in deciding United States policy toward these governments and authorities, the President should take into consideration the willingness of these governments and authorities to assist in locating and securing the return of the soldiers described in subsection (a).

SEC. 3. REPORTS BY SECRETARY OF STATE.

(a) **INITIAL REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall prepare and submit to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a written report that describes the efforts of the Secretary pursuant to section 2(a) and United States policies affected pursuant to section 2(b).

(b) **SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.**—Not later than 15 days after receiving from any source any additional *credible* information relating to the individuals described in section 2(a), the Secretary of State shall prepare and submit to the committees described in subsection (a) a written report that contains such additional information.

(c) **FORM OF REPORTS.**—A report submitted under subsection (a) or (b) shall be made available to the public and may include a classified annex.

AMENDMENT NO. 1620

(Purpose: To amend H.R. 1175, a bill to assist in locating and securing the return of Zachary Baumel, a United States citizen, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action)

Mr. BROWNBACk. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACk) for Mr. LEAHY proposes an amendment numbered 1620.

In H.R. 1175, replace subsection (b) of SEC. 2 with:

On page 3 strike lines 11-20 and insert the following:

(b) PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS.—In deciding whether or not to provide United States assistance to any government or authority which the Secretary of State believes has information concerning the whereabouts of the soldiers described in subsection (a), and in formulating United States policy towards such government or authority, the President should take into consideration the willingness of the government or authority to assist in locating and securing the return of such soldiers.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I strongly support this Resolution, which seeks to hasten the return of Zachary Baumel, a United States citizen, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

My staff met with Mr. Baumel's mother, and she described a heart-wrenching account of over 17 years of trying to obtain information about her son, Zachary, who in 1982, while serving in the Israeli military, was captured after a tank battle with Syrian forces in Lebanon. He has not been heard from since, and the only evidence she has recovered is half of Mr. Baumel's dog tag which was delivered by Yasser Arafat to the Israeli Government.

According to the Department of State, the Palestinian Authority has provided information which could lead to locating and securing the return of Mr. Baumel. This contrasts with the total lack of cooperation from either Syrian or Lebanese authorities. The fact remains that Mr. Baumel's whereabouts remains a mystery.

I hope this Resolution gives some solace to the families of Mr. Baumel and the two other Israeli soldiers who are missing. Their disappearance is unquestionably a matter of deep concern to the Congress. It is unconscionable that these families have yet to be told of the fate of their loved ones.

The amendment I have offered, which modifies one provision in HR 1175 that is of particular interest to the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of which I am Ranking Member, has been approved by both the House and Senate sponsors of the bill and the family of Mr. Baumel, and is supported by the State Department. It was drafted in a sincere effort to make it more likely that this Resolution leads to the result that the families intend, and to preserve the role of the United States Government as an honest broker in the Middle East peace process.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I urge my colleagues to support passage of the pending legislation, H.R. 1175, a bill to help locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a citizen of the United States, and two other Israeli soldiers who have been missing in action for more than sixteen years. I introduced the Senate version of this legislation, S. 676, which has gathered the support of 34 Senate cosponsors, and in June, the House passed H.R. 1175 by a recorded vote of 415-5.

Although information concerning the whereabouts of Sgt. Baumel and his comrades has been reported since their disappearance after a battle in Northern Lebanon in 1982, Palestinian cooperation on this situation has come to a halt as no new information has been forthcoming. This legislation requires the State Department to raise this issue with the Palestinian Authority and the Syrian government and requires cooperation on this issue to be considered in future aid to the Palestinian Authority.

Mr. President, I thank Senator HELMS, the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for his leadership in moving this legislation to the full Senate. The passage of this legislation is a critical step in helping the families of these soldiers who have been forced to live with the pain and uncertainty of this loss for more than 16 years. Resolving the issue of these Israeli MIAs can only strengthen American efforts to make Middle East peace into a reality.

I urge my colleagues to support final passage of this important piece of legislation.

Mr. BROWNBACk. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be agreed to, the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1620) was agreed to.

The bill (H.R. 1175), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

Mr. BROWNBACk. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 261, S. 620.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 620) to grant a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BROWNBACk. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the mo-

tion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 620) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 620

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GRANT OF FEDERAL CHARTER TO KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED.

(a) GRANT OF CHARTER.—Part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the following:

“CHAPTER 1201—[RESERVED]”;

and

(2) by inserting the following:

“CHAPTER 1201—KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

“Sec.

“120101. Organization.

“120102. Purposes.

“120103. Membership.

“120104. Governing body.

“120105. Powers.

“120106. Restrictions.

“120107. Duty to maintain corporate and tax-exempt status.

“120108. Records and inspection.

“120109. Service of process.

“120110. Liability for acts of officers and agents.

“120111. Annual report.

“§ 120101. Organization

“(a) FEDERAL CHARTER.—Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated (in this chapter, the ‘corporation’), incorporated in the State of New York, is a federally chartered corporation.

“(b) EXPIRATION OF CHARTER.—If the corporation does not comply with the provisions of this chapter, the charter granted by subsection (a) expires.

“§ 120102. Purposes

“The purposes of the corporation are as provided in its articles of incorporation and include—

“(1) organizing, promoting, and maintaining for benevolent and charitable purposes an association of persons who have seen honorable service in the Armed Forces during the Korean War, and of certain other persons;

“(2) providing a means of contact and communication among members of the corporation;

“(3) promoting the establishment of, and establishing, war and other memorials commemorative of persons who served in the Armed Forces during the Korean War; and

“(4) aiding needy members of the corporation, their wives and children, and the widows and children of persons who were members of the corporation at the time of their death.

“§ 120103. Membership

“Eligibility for membership in the corporation, and the rights and privileges of members of the corporation, are as provided in the bylaws of the corporation.

“§ 120104. Governing body

“(a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The board of directors of the corporation, and the responsibilities of the board of directors, are as provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation.

“(b) OFFICERS.—The officers of the corporation, and the election of the officers of the corporation, are as provided in the articles of incorporation.