

Bill adequately met the needs of those earning their living in agriculture. I disagree. The Farm Bill provides economic assistance, but not weather related disaster assistance.

In fact, it does not help farmers "when times are tough," and the drought conditions of the past several years indicate that these are indeed very difficult times. The very reason I am requesting drought assistance is precisely because this farm bill does not sufficiently meet the needs of those farmers who have suffered loss due to natural conditions during the past 4 years. I believe the farmers in the most extreme situations are the very ones we should be helping.

I am committed to working with my colleagues to get this much-needed assistance out to our rural areas, to the places that need it the most. I am also committed to doing this in the most responsible way possible. I believe we can reach an agreement and find a realistic amount that helps producers, yet is fiscally responsible.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 305—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 15, 2002, AS "NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK"

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

S. RES. 305

Whereas there are 105 historically black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas black colleges and universities provide the quality education so essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in American history;

Whereas black colleges and universities have allowed many underprivileged students to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK.

The Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 15, 2002, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week"; and

(2) requests that the President of the United States issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically black colleges and universities in the United States.

Mr. THURMOND. Madam President, I rise to submit a resolution recognizing the week of September 15–21, 2002 as National Historically Black Colleges

and Universities Week. This resolution is an appropriate tribute to the countless academic contributions these institutions of higher education have made throughout this fine Nation and the State of South Carolina.

I am proud to have eight of the 105 Historically Black Colleges located in my home State. They have long provided a quality education that has greatly contributed to our economic and social well-being, and I commend them for a job well done. In addition, these colleges and universities will help lead our country into the future, with programs that prepare their students for our increasingly sophisticated economy. The alumni of these institutions have made many contributions to our Nation and I hope this resolution serves to recognize their achievements as well.

The passage of this resolution reaffirms our support for these institutions. The Resolution requests the President of the United States to issue an appropriate proclamation and calls on the people of the United States to observe the week with ceremonies, activities and programs to demonstrate support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities throughout this Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 306—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING THE CONTINUOUS REPRESSION OF FREEDOMS WITHIN IRAN AND OF INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO WOMEN

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 306

Whereas the people of the United States respect the Iranian people and value the contributions that Iran's culture has made to world civilization for over 3 millennia;

Whereas the Iranian people aspire to democracy, civil, political, and religious rights, and the rule of law, as evidenced by increasingly frequent antigovernment and anti-Khatami demonstrations within Iran and by statements of numerous Iranian expatriates and dissidents;

Whereas Iran is an ideological dictatorship presided over by an unelected Supreme Leader with limitless veto power, an unelected Expediency Council and Council of Guardians capable of eviscerating any reforms, and a President elected only after the aforementioned disqualified 234 other candidates for being too liberal, reformist, or secular;

Whereas the United States recognizes the Iranian peoples' concerns that President Muhammad Khatami's rhetoric has not been matched by his actions;

Whereas President Khatami clearly lacks the ability and inclination to change the behavior of the State of Iran either toward the vast majority of Iranians who seek freedom or toward the international community;

Whereas political repression, newspaper censorship, corruption, vigilante intima-

tion, arbitrary imprisonment of students, and public executions have increased since President Khatami's inauguration in 1997;

Whereas men and women are not equal under the laws of Iran and women are legally deprived of their basic rights;

Whereas the Iranian government shipped 50-tons of sophisticated weaponry to the Palestinian Authority despite Chairman Arafat's cease-fire agreement, consistently seeks to undermine the Middle East peace process, provides safe-haven to al-Qa'ida and Taliban terrorists, allows transit of arms for guerrillas seeking to undermine our ally Turkey, provides transit of terrorists seeking to destabilize the United States-protected safe-haven in Iraq, and develops weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and despite rhetorical protestations to the contrary, the Government of Iran has actively and repeatedly sought to undermine the United States war on terror;

Whereas there is a broad-based movement for change in Iran that represents all sectors of Iranian society, including youth, women, student bodies, military personnel, and even religious figures, that is pro-democratic, believes in secular government, and is yearning to live in freedom;

Whereas following the tragedies of September 11, 2001, tens of thousands of Iranians filled the streets spontaneously and in solidarity with the United States and the victims of the terrorist attacks; and

Whereas the people of Iran deserve the support of the American people: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) legitimizing the regime in Iran stifles the growth of the genuine democratic forces in Iran and does not serve the national security interest of the United States;

(2) positive gestures of the United States toward Iran should be directed toward the people of Iran, and not political figures whose survival depends upon preservation of the current regime; and

(3) it should be the policy of the United States to seek a genuine democratic government in Iran that will restore freedom to the Iranian people, abandon terrorism, and live in peace and security with the international community.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, today we are resolved to see a new, rational foreign policy toward Iran, a policy that will engage the proud people of that nation and support their aspirations to be free of the theocratic state that abuses and oppresses them.

It is time that we recognized that the forces of extremist clerics and their allies have so completely dominated the government of Iran that there is no means to achieve political liberalization within the current system. While President Khatami has often spoken of liberalization, the last 5 years show that either he is unwilling or unable to effect any democratic change.

In fact, the record of his administration has been increasing censorship, religious vigilantes and intimidation, and wide-spread political repression. The State Department has identified systematic abuses including summary executions, disappearances, and wide-spread use of torture and other forms of degradation.

Student dissidents within Iran have become increasingly better organized, and have been faced with greater repression. The frequent demonstrations