

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 250—COMMENDING THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT OF ROMANIAN PRESIDENT ION ILIESCU TO THE UNITED STATES, FOR THE IMPORTANT PROGRESS THEY HAVE MADE WITH RESPECT TO ECONOMIC REFORM AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS FOR THE STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ROMANIA AND THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 250

Whereas, in 1995, Romania joined with the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to provide assistance to the Stabilization Force (SFOR) deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina to support peace, security, and freedom in the western Balkans;

Whereas, in 1999, Romania joined with the United States and NATO member countries to provide assistance for Operation Allied Force to use military force in order to halt the genocide, known as ethnic cleansing, that was taking place in Kosovo;

Whereas, after the conclusion of Operation Allied Force, Romania provided support to democracy activists from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in their successful efforts to end the rule of Yugoslav dictator Slobodan Milosevic, and also provided support to NATO stabilization forces deployed in Kosovo Force (KFOR);

Whereas, following the terrorist attacks upon the United States in September 2001, the Government of Romania immediately expressed its sympathy for Americans and others killed in the attacks and pledged its full support in fighting the war on terror;

Whereas, on September 19, 2001, the Romanian Parliament voted to open Romanian territory and airspace to United States Armed Forces involved in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan;

Whereas thousands of American aircraft flew through Romanian airspace during the combat phase of Operation Enduring Freedom, and continue to do so as part of peace-building efforts;

Whereas, beginning on June 2002, Romanian aircraft flew Romanian soldiers to serve in Afghanistan as part of the forces involved in Operation Enduring Freedom and the International Security Assistance Force, and over 500 elite Romanian soldiers are currently stationed in Afghanistan;

Whereas Romania stood with the United States as a vital member of the international coalition in Operation Iraqi Freedom by offering diplomatic, political, and military support;

Whereas, in a January 31, 2003, letter to President George W. Bush, President Ion Iliescu of Romania stated that "Romania can understand that aggressive dictators cannot be appeased or ignored, but always be opposed. Romanians indeed know the value of freedom and living in peace. They have seen the face of evil embodied in communism and deeply share your conviction, expressed in the State of the Union address, that 'free people will set the course of history'";

Whereas, on February 12, 2003, the Romanian Parliament voted to open Romanian

territory and airspace to United States Armed Forces carrying out Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas hundreds of American aircraft flew through Romanian airspace and landed at Romanian airfields during the combat phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom from May to July 2003;

Whereas thousands of United States soldiers were stationed and transported into the Iraq theatre of operations from Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, and the neighboring Black Sea port of Constantza was also used in the fall of 2002 and spring of 2003 for rotating United States Armed Forces and equipment in and out of the Balkans;

Whereas, beginning on March 12, 2003, Romania began deploying military forces to Iraq to assist in building security, peace, and democracy, and over 750 Romanian soldiers are currently stationed in Iraq;

Whereas the Government of Romania has spent more than \$160,000,000 during the past two years to fund its participation in SFOR, KFOR, Operation Enduring Freedom, the International Security Assistance Force, and Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas, together with Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, and Slovenia, Romania successfully achieved the military, economic, and political reforms necessary to be invited, at the November 2002 summit meeting in Prague of the North Atlantic Council, to join the NATO alliance;

Whereas, in his historic address at Piata Revolutiei on November 23, 2002, President Bush told the Romanian people that "Romania has made a historic journey. Instead of hatred, you have chosen tolerance. Instead of destructive rivalry with your neighbors, you have chosen reconciliation. Instead of state control, you have chosen free markets and the rule of law. And instead of dictatorship, you have built a proud and working democracy."; and

Whereas, on May 8, 2003, the Senate voted 96 to 0 to approve the resolution of advice and consent to the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) appreciates the support expressed by the people of Romania for strong and vibrant relations between the United States and Romania;

(2) recognizes the steps the Government of Romania has taken and continues to take in economic, political, and social reforms, including reforms to improve protections of the rights of minorities and to promote awareness and understanding of the Holocaust;

(3) commends Romania for its leadership and commitment in promoting regional peace and security in the Balkan and Black Sea regions;

(4) values the participation of a significant number of Romanian troops and civilian experts in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the permission granted by the Government of Romania for the United States to use Romanian airspace and territory, and the deployment of Romanian military forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, all of which have been important contributions to the global war on terror and serve as a tangible and ongoing demonstration of Romania's commitment as an ally of the United States;

(5) supports further cooperation between the United States and Romania in the process of stabilizing and reconstructing Iraq, including the utilization of Romania's experience emerging from a Communist dictator-

ship and creating a functioning democracy and free market economy; and

(6) welcomes Romanian President Ion Iliescu to the United States and looks forward to expanded political, diplomatic, economic, and military cooperation between Romania and the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 251—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 27, 2003, AS "INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY"

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BAYH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LOTT, Mr. KOHL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas the people of the United States enjoy and respect the freedom of religion and believe that the fundamental rights of all individuals shall be recognized;

Whereas fundamental human rights, including the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion, are protected in numerous international agreements and declarations;

Whereas religious freedom is an absolute human right and all people are entitled to do with their own souls as they choose;

Whereas the right to freedom of religion is expressed in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 36/55 of November 22, 1981; the Helsinki Accords; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, done at New York on December 16, 1966, and entered into force March 23, 1976; the United Nations Charter; and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 217(A)(III) of December 10, 1948;

Whereas the freedom for all individuals to adopt, believe, worship, observe, teach, and practice a religion individually or collectively has been explicitly articulated in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 18(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

Whereas religious persecution is not confined to a country, a region, or a regime; but whereas all governments should provide and protect religious liberty;

Whereas nearly half of the people in the world are continually denied or restricted in the right to believe or practice their faith;

Whereas religious persecution often includes confinement, separation, humiliation, rape, enslavement, forced conversion, imprisonment, torture, and death;

Whereas October 27, 2003, marks the 5th anniversary of the signing of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.), creating the Office of International Religious Freedom in the Department of State and the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom and resulting in a greater awareness of religious persecution both in the United States and abroad; and

Whereas the United States recognizes the need for additional domestic and international attention and action to promote religious liberty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 27, 2003, as "International Religious Freedom Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation—

(A) calling for a renewed commitment to eliminating violations of the internationally recognized right to freedom of religion and protecting fundamental human rights; and

(B) calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups and organizations to observe International Religious Freedom Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 252—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2004 AS "NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION MONTH"

Mr. HOLLINGS submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 252

Whereas cancer is one of the most prevalent and devastating diseases to face society in the United States, taking over 550,000 lives in the United States every year;

Whereas early detection of some cancers can prevent the disease from reaching an advanced, potentially fatal stage;

Whereas recent advances in molecular biology have begun to explain the basic origins of cancer;

Whereas these research advances have opened new opportunities for cancer prevention research, giving increased optimism for effective cancer control;

Whereas the people of the United States need to be aware of these research advances and early detection opportunities so that they can better understand how to prevent cancer in themselves and their families; and

Whereas the people of the United States also need to recognize and be reminded that they can help prevent cancer through lifestyle changes, including modification of diet, cessation of smoking, and regular exercise: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 2004 as "National Cancer Prevention Month"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 75—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT A COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP SHOULD BE ISSUED TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF DOWN SYNDROME

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 75

Whereas Down syndrome affects people of all races and economic levels;

Whereas Down syndrome is the most frequently occurring chromosomal abnormality;

Whereas 1 in every 800 to 1,000 children is born with Down syndrome;

Whereas more than 350,000 people in the United States have Down syndrome;

Whereas 5,000 children with Down syndrome are born each year;

Whereas as the mortality rate associated with Down syndrome in the United States decreases, the prevalence of individuals with Down syndrome in the United States will increase;

Whereas some experts project that the number of people with Down syndrome will double by 2013;

Whereas individuals with Down syndrome are becoming increasingly integrated into society and community organizations, such as school, health care systems, work forces, and social and recreational activities;

Whereas more and more people in the United States interact with individuals with Down syndrome, increasing the need for widespread public acceptance and education; and

Whereas a greater understanding of Down syndrome and advancements in treatment of Down syndrome-related health problems have allowed people with Down syndrome to enjoy fuller and more active lives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States Postal Service should issue a commemorative postage stamp to promote public awareness of Down syndrome; and

(2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to submit a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative United States postage stamp should be issued to promote public awareness of Down syndrome and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued. I am honored to be joined by Senator CORNYN, Senator BAYH, Senator BINGAMAN, Senator FEINGOLD, and Senator INOUE in this effort.

Down syndrome is a genetic condition usually caused by an error in cell division called non-disjunction. Regardless of the type of Down syndrome a person may have, all people with Down syndrome have an extra, critical portion of the number 21 chromosome present in all, or some, of their cells. This additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with the syndrome.

Down syndrome affects people of all races and economic levels. It is the most frequently occurring chromosomal abnormality, occurring once out of every 800 to 1,000 births. In the United States, more than 350,000 people have Down syndrome. Nearly 5,000 children with Down syndrome are born each year. Because the mortality rate connected with Down syndrome is decreasing, the number of individuals with Down syndrome in our society is increasing. Some experts predict that the prevalence of individuals with Down syndrome will double in the next 10 years, further increasing the need for public acceptance and education about this genetic condition.

October is designated as Down Syndrome Awareness Month, so this is an

appropriate time to demonstrate support for people with Down syndrome and encourage greater inclusion and acceptance in our society. I encourage my colleagues to co-sponsor this meaningful resolution and assist our efforts to convince the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to recommend the issuance of a postage stamp promoting public awareness of Down syndrome.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1899. Mr. SHELBY (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2989, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

SA 1900. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DODD, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2989, supra.

SA 1901. Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. ROBERTS) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1900 proposed by Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DODD, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DURBIN) to the bill H.R. 2989, supra.

SA 1902. Mr. BAYH (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1903. Mr. DORGAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1904. Mr. FEINGOLD proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2989, supra.

SA 1905. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2989, supra.

SA 1906. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1907. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1908. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. BUNNING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1909. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1910. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1911. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2989, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

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SA 1913. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to