

S. RES. 387

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 387, a resolution commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

S. RES. 389

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 389, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to prostate cancer information.

S. RES. 392

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 392, a resolution conveying the sympathy of the Senate to the families of the young women murdered in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, and encouraging increased United States involvement in bringing an end to these crimes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 2609. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend and improve national dairy market loss payments; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I am pleased to help lead the effort to put the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program on equal footing with other counter-cyclical income support programs in the farm bill.

The MILC program provides critical support to dairy farmers when prices are low. When dairy prices rebound, as they have in recent months, it makes no payments to dairy farmers and the government spends nothing.

For thousands of family-sized dairy operations across the nation, the MILC program has meant the difference between bankruptcy and survival. Unfortunately, the program as authorized in the last farm bill will come to an end in September, 2005.

As many of my colleagues will recall, the MILC program was established after an extremely painful debate over dairy compacts. I remain resolutely opposed to dairy compacts or any scheme that further exacerbates regional discontent in dairy. Extending the MILC program to the 2007 Farm Bill—rather than reopening rancorous regional warfare over dairy—seems the only prudent course of action.

This proposal is a bipartisan and national approach that will provide stability and predictability in an otherwise volatile industry. I encourage my colleagues to support this effort.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 398—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON PROMOTING INITIATIVES TO DEVELOP AN HIV VACCINE

Mr. LUGAR submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 398

Whereas more than 20,000,000 people have died of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (hereinafter referred to as "AIDS") between 1984 and 2004;

Whereas AIDS claimed the lives of more than 3,000,000 people in 2003, and nearly 8,500 people die each day from AIDS;

Whereas an estimated 40,000,000 people around the world are living with the human immunodeficiency virus (hereinafter referred to as "HIV") or AIDS;

Whereas an estimated 14,000 people become infected with HIV every day;

Whereas there will be 45,000,000 new infections by 2010 and nearly 70,000,000 deaths by 2020;

Whereas an estimated 14,000,000 children have lost 1 or both parents to AIDS, and this number is expected to increase to 25,000,000 by 2010;

Whereas a child loses a parent to AIDS every 14 seconds;

Whereas more than 90 percent of the people infected with HIV live in the developing world;

Whereas more than 70 percent of the people infected with HIV live in sub-Saharan Africa;

Whereas communities and countries are struggling with the devastating human and economic toll that HIV and AIDS has taken on them;

Whereas the HIV/AIDS pandemic threatens political and regional stability and has contributed to broader economic and social problems, including food insecurity, labor shortages, and the orphaning of generations of children;

Whereas the United States is leading global efforts to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic through its \$15,000,000,000 Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and its commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

Whereas, through the World Health Organization, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the international community is cooperating multilaterally to combat HIV/AIDS;

Whereas developing an HIV vaccine is especially challenging due to the complicated nature of the virus;

Whereas many biotechnology companies have not invested in the development of HIV vaccines;

Whereas during 2001–2002, only 7 HIV vaccine candidates entered clinical trials, and only 1 of those candidates entered advanced human testing, but it proved ineffective;

Whereas the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) has been a very effective and positive force in the development of an HIV vaccine and has been instrumental in laying the groundwork for developing an HIV vaccine;

Whereas the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and other public and private organizations are pursuing a variety of initiatives to develop an HIV vaccine, including establishing BIO Ventures for Global Health to help small biotechnology companies address the problems

they confront in developing new medical products for poor countries;

Whereas the members of the Group of Eight (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) met in Sea Island, Georgia in June 2004 and reaffirmed their commitment to combat the global HIV/AIDS pandemic by accelerating and coordinating efforts to develop an HIV vaccine;

Whereas at the meeting in Sea Island, Georgia, the President encouraged the Group of Eight to endorse the establishment of a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, a virtual consortium to accelerate HIV vaccine development by enhancing coordination, information sharing, and collaboration globally;

Whereas the United States currently has an HIV vaccine research and development center at the National Institutes of Health, and the President announced plans to establish a second HIV vaccine research and development center in the United States; and

Whereas an HIV vaccine has the potential to prevent new HIV and AIDS cases, which would save millions of lives and dramatically reduce the negative economic consequences of HIV and AIDS: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN HIV VACCINE.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President should seek to build on the initiative of the members of the Group of Eight (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) to develop a vaccine to curtail the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus (hereinafter referred to as "HIV") and should mobilize necessary economic and scientific support to establish a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, as described in section 2;

(2) the President should continue to urge the members of the Group of Eight and other countries to garner support from their own economic, scientific, and philanthropic communities for the development of an HIV vaccine;

(3) the President should establish a second vaccine research and development center in the United States, as he announced in June 2004;

(4) the members of the Group of Eight should follow-up the June 2004 meeting in Sea Island, Georgia with official and private meetings, conferences, and other events to further explore and implement initiatives concerning the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise;

(5) the members of the Group of Eight should leverage financial contributions from the international philanthropic community to provide funding, including funding to the private sector, to promote the development of an HIV vaccine;

(6) the members of the Group of Eight should include the scientific and political leadership of those countries most affected by the pandemic of HIV and the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (hereinafter referred to as "AIDS"); and

(7) the members of the Group of Eight should develop a specific plan for furthering its efforts towards this goal by the June 2005 meeting in the United Kingdom.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHING A GLOBAL HIV VACCINE ENTERPRISE.

The Senate urges the President to continue the efforts of the United States to generate global support for the establishment of a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise by carrying out an initiative that—

(1) is in coordination and partnership with the members of the Group of Eight, the private sector, and other countries, especially