

political commitments based on a broad understanding of security;

Whereas the OSCE is active in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation;

Whereas Russia and Georgia agreed at the 1999 OSCE Summit in Istanbul on specific steps regarding the withdrawal from Georgia of Russian forces, including military equipment limited by the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), and committed to resolve other key issues relating to the status and duration of the Russian military presence in Georgia;

Whereas Russia has completed some of the withdrawal from Georgia of military equipment limited by the CFE Treaty in excess of agreed levels, but has yet to agree with Georgia on the status of Russian forces at the Gudauata base and the duration of the Russian presence at the Akhalkalaki and Batumi bases;

Whereas Russia completed the withdrawal from Moldova of its declared military equipment limited by the CFE Treaty, but has yet to withdraw all its military forces from Moldova, as Russia committed to do at the 1999 OSCE Summit in Istanbul;

Whereas Russia made virtually no progress in 2004 toward its commitment to withdraw its military forces from Moldova;

Whereas Moldova has called for a genuinely international peacekeeping force to replace the Russian forces, and insists on the implementation by Russia of its commitment to withdraw its remaining military forces from Moldova;

Whereas Secretary of State Colin Powell stated at the December 2004 OSCE Ministerial in Sofia, Bulgaria, that "Russia's commitments to withdraw its military forces from Moldova, and to agree with Georgia on the duration of the Russian military presence there, remain unfulfilled. A core principle of the CFE Treaty is host country agreement to the stationing of forces. The United States remains committed to moving ahead with ratification of the Adapted CFE Treaty, but we will only do so after all the Istanbul commitments on Georgia and Moldova have been met. And we stand ready to assist with reasonable costs associated with the implementation of those commitments.";

Whereas since June 2004, Russia has called for the closure of the OSCE Border Monitoring Operation (BMO), the sole source of objective reporting on border crossings along the border between Georgia and with the Russian republics of Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetia;

Whereas OSCE border monitors took up their mission in Georgia in May 2000, and prior to the failure to extend the mandate for the BMO in December 2004, OSCE border monitors, who are unarmed, were deployed at nine locations along that border;

Whereas the current rotation of the BMO includes 65 border monitors from 23 countries, including Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States;

Whereas at the December 2004 OSCE Ministerial, Russia blocked renewal of the mandate for the BMO in Georgia;

Whereas Russia has stated that the BMO has accomplished nothing, but it has in fact accomplished a great deal, including observing 746 unarmed and 61 armed border crossings in 2004 and serving as a counterweight to inflammatory press reports;

Whereas in response to Russian complaints about the cost-effectiveness of the BMO, the OSCE agreed in December 2004 to cut the

number of monitors and thereby reduce the cost of the BMO by almost half;

Whereas the BMO began shutting down on January 1, 2005;

Whereas the staff of the BMO is now dismantling facilities and is not performing its mission;

Whereas the shutdown of the BMO will become irreversible in the second half of March 2005 and is currently scheduled to be completed by May 2005;

Whereas the United States has reiterated its disappointment over the failure of the Permanent Council of the OSCE to reach consensus on renewing the mandate of the BMO, despite request of Georgia, the host country of the BMO, that the OSCE continue the border monitoring operation, and the consensus of all states but one to extend the mandate for the BMO; and

Whereas United States Ambassador to the United States Mission to the OSCE, Stephan M. Minikes, said in a statement to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on January 19, 2005, that "we believe that the closure of the BMO would remove a key source of peaceful relations and of objective reporting on events at the sensitive border and increase the likelihood of heightened Russia-Georgia tensions."; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should—

(1) urge Russia to live up to its commitments at the 1999 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Summit in Istanbul regarding Georgia and Moldova;

(2) in cooperation with its European allies, maintain strong diplomatic pressure to permit the OSCE Border Monitoring Operation (BMO) in Georgia to continue; and

(3) if the BMO ceases to exist, seek, in cooperation with its European allies, an international presence to monitor objectively border crossings along the border between Georgia and the Russian republics of Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetia.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today I submit a resolution expressing the United States Senate's concern about Russia's actions in Georgia and Moldova.

At the Organization for Security & Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE) 1999 conference in Istanbul, Russia signed commitments to withdraw troops from both Georgia and Moldova. While Russia has fulfilled some aspects of those agreements, Russian troops and military bases remain in both countries. In my resolution, I urge Russia to live up to its 1999 Istanbul Commitments.

The resolution also addresses concerns about the OSCE's Border Monitoring Operation (BMO) in Georgia. The BMO, which took up its mission in Georgia in 2000, is the sole source of objective reporting on border crossings along Georgia's border with the Russian republics of Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetia.

Since last June, Russia has called for the closure of the BMO in Georgia. In December, Russia blocked renewal of the mandate for the BMO, stating that it had accomplished nothing. I am disappointed that the OSCE was unable to renew the BMO's mandate. The BMO started shutting down in January and is expected to be fully closed by May.

The future of the BMO mission is uncertain. The United States, in cooperation with its European allies, should work to preserve the BMO in Georgia.

But if the BMO is not revived, my resolution calls upon the United States and its European allies to seek an international presence to monitor objectively crossings along Georgia's border.

I am concerned that if Russia does not fulfill its commitments to withdraw troops from Georgia and Moldova, and if the Border Monitoring Operation in Georgia shuts down, the security situation in the region could further deteriorate. The United States must provide strong leadership on these issues.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 70—COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. REID, and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 70

Whereas March 7, 2005, marks the 40th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the day on which some 600 civil rights marchers were demonstrating for African American voting rights;

Whereas Jimmy Lee Jackson was killed February 26, 1965, 2 weeks prior to Bloody Sunday, at a civil rights demonstration while trying to protect his mother and grandfather from a law enforcement officer;

Whereas Congressman John Lewis and the late Hosea Williams led these marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama where they were attacked with billy clubs and tear gas by State and local lawmen;

Whereas the circumstances leading to Selma's Bloody Sunday represented a set of grave injustices for African Americans which included—

(1) the murder of Herbert Lee of Liberty, Mississippi for attending voter education classes;

(2) the cutting off of Federal food relief by State authorities in 2 of the poorest counties in Mississippi in order to intimidate residents from registering to vote; and

(3) the loss of jobs or refusal of credit to registered black voters at local banks and stores;

Whereas during the march on Bloody Sunday Congressman Lewis was beaten unconscious, leaving him with a concussion and countless other injuries;

Whereas footage of the events on Bloody Sunday was broadcast on national television that night and burned its way into the Nation's conscience;

Whereas the courage, discipline, and sacrifice of these marchers caused the Nation to respond quickly and positively; and

Whereas the citizens of the United States must not only remember this historic event, but also commemorate its role in the creation of a more just society and appreciate the ways in which it has inspired other movements around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Congress commemorates the 40th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

SENATE RESOLUTION 71—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 13, 2005 AS "NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK"

Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr.