

from reaching their true potential. Many of those who have fallen off track, suffered losses, and made mistakes can recover. If given the opportunity, they can learn to cope with obstacles and care effectively about themselves, their families, and their communities. YouthBuild helps young people who have lost their way to turn their lives around.

YouthBuild is a uniquely comprehensive program that offers at-risk youth an immediate productive role rebuilding their communities. While attending basic education classes for 50 percent of program time, students also receive job skills training in the construction field, personal counseling from respected mentors, a supportive peer group with positive values, and experience in civic engagement. They build houses for homeless and low-income people while earning their own GED or high school diploma.

YouthBuild is built on success. During the 1960s, YouthBuild's future founder, Dorothy Stoneman, formed the Youth Action Program to rebuild homes in New York City. The successful renovation of an East Harlem tenement led to a citywide coalition and in 1990, led to YouthBuild USA, an organization created to replicate this program around the Nation.

After visiting a YouthBuild site, I introduced legislation in 1992 authorizing Federal funding for YouthBuild through the Department of Housing and Urban Development which was enacted into law as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act. Since then, I have led a coalition of Senators in support of Federal funding for this important program. The \$600 million that has been appropriated through HUD since fiscal year 1993 has leveraged over \$1.5 billion of additional public and private investment at the local level due to the resourcefulness of local leaders and the high demand for YouthBuild programs.

The results have been dramatic. Since 1994, YouthBuild has helped more than 60,000 disadvantaged youth into productive employment, higher education, and civic engagement across the Nation. At the same time, YouthBuild has helped rebuild low- and moderate-income communities by creating more than 15,000 units of affordable housing. Over 1,000 local organizations, in every State, have applied for HUD funds to bring YouthBuild to their communities.

Research on 900 YouthBuild graduates, several years after they had completed the program showed that more than 75 percent of them were either employed at an average wage of \$10 an hour or attending college and were positively contributing to their communities. Of those who had committed felonies, the recidivism rate was a strikingly low 15 percent and all studies to date have shown a recidivism rate below 20 percent strikingly lower than the 60 percent recidivism rate for most prison systems.

Today there are over 226 YouthBuild programs in 43 States engaging 8,000 young adults, and the number of programs could easily be expanded. Last year alone, 260 communities were denied YouthBuild funding. The demand is equally great from young people—in 2003 local programs turned away over 10,000 applicants solely for lack of funds, and in 2004 they turned away 12,000. The 20 percent cut suffered for fiscal year 2006 could cause the closing of 25 local programs; if the funds are restored and expanded, some of these closings can be averted. I am hopeful that the YouthBuild Transfer Act will be enacted into law. However, YouthBuild must continue to receive Federal funds in fiscal year 2007 in order to remain a successful program. President Bush included \$50 million for YouthBuild in his fiscal year 2007 budget request to Congress. Senator DEWINE and I have sent a letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee in support of \$90 million for the program. I look forward to working with the members of the Appropriations Committee to insure that this critical program receives an increase in Federal funding next year.

Increasing Federal funding for YouthBuild will help address critical national problems that cost society dearly. Over 32 percent of America's youth are dropping out of high school with no prospect of becoming gainfully employed, contributing members of society, taxpayers, and in inner-city communities, that percentage rises toward 50. States are spending \$36,000 per year per person to house 365,000 16 to 24 year olds, 65 percent of whom have dropped out of high school. In addition, the construction industry is short 80,000 workers. Furthermore, in the aftermath of Katrina, the need for construction workers is increasing, and YouthBuild programs are a resource in the gulf, sending trained crews to Mississippi to rebuild homes as part of their service to the Nation.

YouthBuild is also on the cutting edge of education reform for dropouts and effective re-entry for offenders. Forty YouthBuild programs have now been chartered by their States or authorized by their superintendent of schools to provide high school diplomas and to receive public funds as successful public schools reclaiming high school dropouts. In several States, the criminal justice departments are now supplementing HUD funds to expand capacity of YouthBuild programs as successful re-entry programs for ex-offenders. To maximize the investment already made in YouthBuild as a resource for education of dropouts and reentry of ex-offenders, it is imperative to keep the foundation of its Federal funding strong.

I ask all of my colleagues to support the YouthBuild Transfer Act to allow the YouthBuild Program to expand this unique comprehensive program to provide at-risk youth an immediately productive role rebuilding their communities.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 514—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN CITY OF EUGENE V. PETER VINCENT CHABAREK

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 514

Whereas, in the case of City of Eugene v. Peter Vincent Chabarek, Citation No. 06-05546, pending in Municipal Court for the City of Eugene, testimony has been requested from Juine Chada, an employee in the office of Senator Ron Wyden;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent an employee of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved that Juine Chada is authorized to testify in the case of City of Eugene v. Peter Vincent Chabarek, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Juine Chada in connection with the testimony authorized in section one of this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4292. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

SA 4293. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4294. Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4295. Mr. WARNER (for Mr. SESSIONS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4296. Mr. WARNER (for Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4297. Mr. WARNER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4298. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4299. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S.

2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4300. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4301. Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4302. Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4303. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4304. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4305. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4306. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4307. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4308. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4309. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4292. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of division A, add the following:
TITLE XV—SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF SENATE ON WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING

SEC. 1501. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have exerted very large demands on the Treasury of the United States and required tremendous sacrifice by the members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

(2) Congress has a constitutional responsibility to ensure comprehensive oversight of the expenditure of United States Government funds.

(3) Waste and corporate abuse of United States Government resources are particularly unacceptable and reprehensible during times of war.

(4) The magnitude of the funds involved in the reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq and the war on terrorism, together with the speed with which these funds have been committed, presents a challenge to the effective performance of the traditional oversight function of Congress and the auditing functions of the executive branch.

(5) The Senate Special Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program, popularly known as the Truman Committee, which was established during World War II, offers a constructive precedent for bipartisan oversight of wartime contracting that can also be extended to wartime and postwar reconstruction activities.

(6) The Truman Committee is credited with an extremely successful investigative effort, performance of a significant public education role, and achievement of fiscal savings measured in the billions of dollars.

(7) The public has a right to expect that taxpayer resources will be carefully disbursed and honestly spent.

SEC. 1502. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING.

There is established a special committee of the Senate to be known as the Special Committee on War and Reconstruction Contracting (hereafter in this title referred to as the "Special Committee").

SEC. 1503. PURPOSE AND DUTIES.

(a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the Special Committee is to investigate the awarding and performance of contracts to conduct military, security, and reconstruction activities in Afghanistan and Iraq and to support the prosecution of the war on terrorism.

(b) **DUTIES.**—The Special Committee shall examine the contracting actions described in subsection (a) and report on such actions, in accordance with this section, regarding—

(1) bidding, contracting, accounting, and auditing standards for Federal Government contracts;

(2) methods of contracting, including sole-source contracts and limited competition or noncompetitive contracts;

(3) subcontracting under large, comprehensive contracts;

(4) oversight procedures;

(5) consequences of cost-plus and fixed price contracting;

(6) allegations of wasteful and fraudulent practices;

(7) accountability of contractors and Government officials involved in procurement and contracting;

(8) penalties for violations of law and abuses in the awarding and performance of Government contracts; and

(9) lessons learned from the contracting process used in Iraq and Afghanistan and in connection with the war on terrorism with respect to the structure, coordination, management policies, and procedures of the Federal Government.

(c) **INVESTIGATION OF WASTEFUL AND FRAUDULENT PRACTICES.**—The investigation by the Special Committee of allegations of wasteful and fraudulent practices under subsection (b)(6) shall include investigation of allegations regarding any contract or spending entered into, supervised by, or otherwise involving the Coalition Provisional Authority, regardless of whether or not such contract or spending involved appropriated funds of the United States.

(d) **EVIDENCE CONSIDERED.**—In carrying out its duties, the Special Committee shall ascertain and evaluate the evidence developed by all relevant governmental agencies regarding the facts and circumstances relevant to contracts described in subsection (a) and any contract or spending covered by subsection (c).

SEC. 1504. COMPOSITION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

(a) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Special Committee shall consist of 7 members of the Senate of whom—

(A) 4 members shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the majority leader of the Senate; and

(B) 3 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(2) **DATE.**—The appointments of the members of the Special Committee shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the Special Committee shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(c) **SERVICE.**—Service of a Senator as a member, chairman, or ranking member of the Special Committee shall not be taken into account for the purposes of paragraph (4) of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(d) **CHAIRMAN AND RANKING MEMBER.**—The chairman of the Special Committee shall be designated by the majority leader of the Senate, and the ranking member of the Special Committee shall be designated by the minority leader of the Senate.

(e) **QUORUM.**—

(1) **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**—A majority of the members of the Special Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of reporting a matter or recommendation to the Senate.

(2) **TESTIMONY.**—One member of the Special Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony.

(3) **OTHER BUSINESS.**—A majority of the members of the Special Committee, or 1/3 of the members of the Special Committee if at least one member of the minority party is present, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting any other business of the Special Committee.

SEC. 1505. RULES AND PROCEDURES.

(a) **GOVERNANCE UNDER STANDING RULES OF SENATE.**—Except as otherwise specifically provided in this resolution, the investigation, study, and hearings conducted by the Special Committee shall be governed by the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) **ADDITIONAL RULES AND PROCEDURES.**—The Special Committee may adopt additional rules or procedures if the chairman and ranking member agree that such additional rules or procedures are necessary to enable the Special Committee to conduct the investigation, study, and hearings authorized by this resolution. Any such additional rules and procedures—

(1) shall not be inconsistent with this resolution or the Standing Rules of the Senate; and

(2) shall become effective upon publication in the Congressional Record.

SEC. 1506. AUTHORITY OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Special Committee may exercise all of the powers and responsibilities of a committee under rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) **HEARINGS.**—The Special Committee or, at its direction, any subcommittee or member of the Special Committee, may, for the purpose of carrying out this resolution—

(1) hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, and administer such oaths as the Special Committee or such subcommittee or member considers advisable; and

(2) require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, tapes, and materials as the Special Committee considers advisable.

(c) **ISSUANCE AND ENFORCEMENT OF SUBPOENAS.**—

(1) **ISSUANCE.**—Subpoenas issued under subsection (b) shall bear the signature of the Chairman of the Special Committee and shall be served by any person or class of persons designated by the Chairman for that purpose.