

coach in the history of football, but a man who excelled beyond the playing field, a man whose life touched hundreds and thousands of athletes, on the field and off, and millions of lives in a positive way around the world.

I rise to pay him tribute today. He is a true American hero. He began coaching in 1941 at Grambling State University. During his 57-year coaching tenure, he won more than 400 football games—more than any other coach before him—and 17 championships in the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Coach Robinson shattered the glass ceiling that had always held back the true potential of African-American players and coaches. He did it with a strong and indomitable spirit and with determination and love of country.

In a time before the civil rights movement, when overt and state-sponsored racism was the order of the day and permeated both college and professional sports, Coach Robinson proved that all athletes deserve to compete on the same playing field.

Through the years, more than 200 of his players have played in the NFL, including Paul “Tank” Younger, the first NFL player from a predominantly African-American college.

Coach Robinson was personally responsible for paving the way for hundreds of African-American players to have the opportunity to play in the NFL and, as well, to play in majority White colleges and universities throughout the country.

His legacy includes one of the most exciting annual matchups in college sports held every year: the Thanksgiving Bayou Classic football game, held usually in New Orleans, LA, between Grambling State, his beloved university, and Southern University of Baton Rouge.

But his achievements are not limited to his athletic victories. He taught the players the meaning of teamwork and patriotism, self-respect and hard work. He provided them with real lessons of life that extended far beyond the playing field.

After their experience at Grambling, I know how proud he was to see his young athletes excel and move all over the world, impacting the wider community in business and in athletics, as well as in general community service in multiple ways.

He leaves behind a vibrant legacy. He leaves behind a legacy of mentorship that is truly unmatched. He leaves behind a loving and wonderful family, a faith that permeated his entire life and had impact throughout the community. He leaves behind a life well lived and a model for all.

One of his former players said it best when he said: “Everyone wanted to be like Eddie.”

Mr. President, I close these remarks today by saying that I, like most everyone in Louisiana, knew Coach Robinson. We had been in his presence. We had watched him coach. We had heard him laugh. I had the great privilege of

spending some time with him recently at his home in Grambling, with his wife Doris and some of the family members. I could not help to be, even at his late age of 88, impressed with his strong and wonderful spirit. When he was just a few years younger, as he walked into the room, you could feel that spirit immediately.

So it is with great sadness that we say good-bye to Coach Eddie Robinson. But it is with great joy we share with the world this man, the son of a sharecropper, a man who refused to let the limits of even the laws of those times and the limits of the culture in which he lived to stop him or to stop his belief in the young men and women he coached and served.

So we say good-bye today. But he is getting a proper tribute lying in state at our State capital in Baton Rouge, and we are confident his legacy will live on.

In my last visit with his family, I hoped and suggested we could build a museum in his honor. I am hoping it is something in which Members of this Congress will join with our leaders at home—not just any museum but a museum that will honor his life and legacy; a place where athletes, professional and amateur, could receive ongoing training and support both scholastically as well as in terms of general leadership, so his legacy could live on. Perhaps this place or the center of learning and leadership should be located either on or somewhere very near the Grambling campus where he served for so many years.

So, again, it is with great sadness we say good-bye, but with great pride in a true American hero, Eddie Robinson.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield back the remaining time in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORIZING LEGAL COUNSEL REPRESENTATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 140, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 140) to authorize legal representation in In the Matter of the Application of Committee on Finance.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for representation of the Committee on Finance in a proceeding in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The Finance Committee has obtained from that court, in connection with a hear-

ing the committee is holding this Thursday, a writ compelling the production of a Federal prisoner, whom the committee has scheduled to appear as a witness before it.

Notwithstanding the long history of congressional committee seeking, and the court's approving, such writs to authorize the production of Federal prisoners to provide needed testimony before Congress, the U.S. Department of Justice has moved to quash the writ in response to objections made by the Bureau of Prisons to decisions the committee made about the organization of its hearing and presentation of its witnesses. The Justice Department's motion to quash challenges the authority of the court to issue a writ compelling a federal prisoner to be produced to appear in a congressional as opposed to a judicial proceeding.

This resolution will authorize the Senate legal counsel to represent the Finance Committee in connection with this proceeding in order to protect the committee's interests in obtaining testimony it needs.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and the preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 140) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 140

Whereas, in a proceeding styled In the Matter of the Application of Committee on Finance for a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Testificandum, Misc. No. 07-134, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the Senate Committee on Finance filed an application for a writ of habeas corpus ad testificandum;

Whereas, on April 4, 2007, the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia issued the writ sought by the Committee;

Whereas, the United States Department of Justice has raised questions about the Committee's application for the writ and the writ that was issued;

Whereas, pursuant to section 708(c) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §288g(c), the Senate may direct the Senate Legal Counsel to perform such duties consistent with the purposes and limitations of title VII of the Ethics in Government Act as the Senate may direct: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent the Committee on Finance in the proceeding styled In the Matter of the Application of Committee on Finance for a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Testificandum, Misc. No. 07-134 (D.D.C.).

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, or today, the debate with respect to the stem cell bills be in alternating segments of 60 minutes as follows:

Sixty minutes under the control of Senator HARKIN or his designee; the

next 60 minutes under the control of the Republican leader's designee, Senator COLEMAN; the next 60 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee; and then the next 60 minutes under the control of Senator BROWNBACK; and continuing in that alternating fashion until 9 p.m. on Tuesday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

HOPE OFFERED THROUGH PRINCIPLED AND ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration en bloc of S. 5 and S. 30, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research.

A bill (S. 30) to intensify research to derive human pluripotent stem cell lines.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I noted as the clerk reported the bill, S. 5, she reported it as an amendment to the Public Health Service Act, and that is what this debate is all about and that is what this vote is going to be about. It is going to be about public health of people in this country and around the world and whether they are going to have hope that they will see a future in which modern medical science can actually overcome and cure things such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, heart disease, spinal cord injuries, and a host of other illnesses. That is what this debate is about. It is about hope. It is about health. So today begins 20 hours of Senate debate on a bill to lift the administration's restrictions on stem cell research and bring hope to millions of people in this country who are suffering from illnesses such as ALS, juvenile diabetes, Parkinson's, spinal cord injuries, and so many other devastating diseases and conditions.

Most Americans probably find it hard to believe we are still arguing about this issue. They want more stem cell research. They have listened to the scientists. They have watched the House and Senate vote overwhelmingly during the last Congress to expand the administration's policy. Then they went to the polls in November and more often than not elected candidates who support stem cell research. So why are we still debating this? The answer, unfortunately, is simple: President Bush used his first—and so far only—veto of

his administration to reject last year's stem cell bill and dash the hopes of millions of Americans. So we are back once again.

I thank my colleagues in the Senate who have worked together on this issue, starting, of course, with my colleague Senator ARLEN SPECTER of Pennsylvania. He chaired the very first hearing in Congress on embryonic stem cells in December of 1998. In all, our Labor, Health, and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee has held 20 hearings on this research since then under the chairmanship of Senator SPECTER. I also thank the other Senate leaders on stem cell research, including Senator HATCH, Senator KENNEDY, Senator SMITH, and Senator FEINSTEIN. So counting Senator SPECTER and me, there are three Republicans and three Democrats on that list, and this has truly been a bipartisan effort all the way. I thank our majority leader Senator REID for scheduling this debate and making sure it is one of the first issues we vote on in the 110th Congress. I also thank our Republican leader Senator MCCONNELL for working with us to schedule this debate and this vote tomorrow.

Most of all, I thank the hundreds of thousands of families and patients who never gave up, who kept up the pressure to bring this bill to the floor and who were so eager to see S. 5 sent to the President's desk. They have kept the faith and now it is our job to see that they are not disappointed.

There is probably one other entity I should thank and that is the House of Representatives, under the able leadership of Speaker PELOSI, which passed this bill earlier this year and sent it over to the Senate. I will talk a little bit later about how our bill differs from theirs, but nonetheless, the bill they passed is a bill that mirrors the same thing we are doing here, and that is to lift the restrictions on embryonic stem cell research.

Under this unanimous consent agreement we have, for information, we will debate and vote on two bills. Make no mistake, however: The only one that matters is S. 5, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act. The other bill is S. 30. This is the one bill that at long last will unleash some of the most exciting and promising research of modern times. Think of it this way: S. 5, the bill we will be debating and voting on, will take the handcuffs off of our scientists. It will take the handcuffs off so they can now begin to do the research that will lead to miraculous cures and interventions.

It is a good time to step back and ask: Why is there so much support for S. 5? Well, I have a letter signed by 525 groups endorsing this bill, including patient advocacy groups, health organizations, research universities, scientific societies, religious groups. There are 525 groups in all. They all agree Congress should pass S. 5. Why is that? Because it offers hope. I have a series of charts here which I will point

to. S. 5 offers hope. I think this chart illustrates many—not all but many—of the ailments which scientists tell us embryonic stem cells could lead to interventions and cures for, including Lou Gehrig's disease, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy, anemias, severe burns, leukemia, lymphoma, bone marrow disorders, diabetes, immune deficiencies, heart disease, and spinal cord injuries. That is just to name a few. There are many more, but my colleagues get the idea of how all encompassing the approach would be if we were to get into embryonic stem cell research. It is not just focused on one thing; it is broader than that. It encompasses so many illnesses and afflictions. All told, more than 100 million Americans have diseases that one day could be treated or cured with embryonic stem cell research.

But it is not just Members of Congress saying that. No one should take our word alone. Three weeks ago Dr. Elias Zerhouni, who is the Director of the National Institutes of Health, appeared before our Appropriations subcommittee. I asked him whether scientists would have a better chance of finding new cures and treatments if the administration's current restrictions on embryonic stem cell research were lifted. Dr. Zerhouni said unequivocally: Yes. Now, Dr. Zerhouni is the Federal Government's top scientist in the area of medical research. President Bush appointed him to be the Director of the National Institutes of Health. So it took great courage on his part to say in public we need to change direction on stem cell research, but he did so because it is the truth.

This is his quote. This is what the Director of the National Institutes of Health said before the subcommittee:

It is clear today that American science would be better served and the Nation would be better served if we let our scientists have access to more cell lines.

It is not only NIH scientists who believe this way. Dr. J. Michael Bishop, who won the Nobel Prize in medicine, wrote recently:

The vast majority of the biomedical research community believes that human embryonic stem cells are likely to be the source of key discoveries related to many debilitating diseases.

Dr. Harold Varmus, the former Director of the National Institutes of Health, who just preceded Dr. Zerhouni and who himself is a Nobel Prize winner, wrote in a letter dated yesterday:

S. 5 represents an important step forward for human embryonic stem cell research, a new field that offers great promise for the replacement of damaged cells, the understanding of the mechanics of disease, and the development and testing of new drugs. Unfortunately, current Federal policy has not kept pace with the speed of scientific discovery and is today of limited value to the scientific community.

I could go on and on. We have a lot of scientists all over this country and the world who agree we should be pursuing embryonic stem cell research because it offers enormous hope for easing