April 12, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1104) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1104

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT STATUS FOR CERTAIN ALIENS SERVING AS TRANSLATORS OR INTERPRETERS WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) INCREASE IN NUMBERS ADMITTED.—Sec- tion 1059 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “as a translator” and inserting “, or under Chief of Mission authority, as a translator or inter- preter”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “the Chief of Mission or” after “recommendation from”;

and

(C) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “the Chief of Mission or” after “as determined by”;

and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “section during any fiscal year shall not exceed 50.” and inserting the following: “section—

(A) during each of the fiscal years 2007, 2008, and 2009, shall not exceed 500; and

(B) during any other fiscal year shall not exceed 50.”;

(b) ALIENS EXEMPT FROM EMPLOYMENT-BASED NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—Section 1059(c)(2) of such Act is amended—

(1) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows: “(2) ALIENS EXEMPT FROM EMPLOYMENT-BASED NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—”;

and

(2) by inserting “and shall not be counted against the numerical limitations under sec- tion 201(d), 202(a), and 203(b)(4) of the Immi- gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(d), 1152(a), and 1153(b)(4)) before the period at the end.

(c) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—Section 1059 of such Act is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol- lowing:

(d) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—Notwith- standing paragraphs (2), (7) and (8) of section 245(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255(c)), the Secretary of Home- land Security may adjust the status of an alien who was lawfully present resident under section 245(a) of such Act if the alien—

(1) was paroled or admitted as a non- immigrant into the United States; and

(2) is otherwise eligible for special immi- grant status under this section and under the Immigration and Nationality Act.”.

RAYMOND G. MURPHY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 229 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consid- eration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 229) to redesignate a Federal building in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as "Raymond G. Murphy Department of Veter- ans Affairs Medical Center".

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am very pleased today that we will have renamed the Albuquerque VA facility as the Raymond G. Murphy Depart- ment of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Raymond "Jerry" Murphy died last fall and again and my colleagues I hereby described him as “one of the softest- spoken, most modest men to ever wear the Medal of Honor.” Jerry Murphy was a true American hero who in war and peace dedicated himself to others. He served 23 years in the U.S. Marine to be awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in the Korean war. When he returned from war he dedi-cated his entire life to taking care of other veterans. He spent 23 years working in the Albuquerque VA regional office. Upon his retirement, he continued to serve veterans as a volunteer until he became too sick to do so. I think it is only right that the medical center in Albuquerque bear his name in recogni- tion of his great service to veterans and to the Nation.

I came to the floor earlier in the week and spoke about my good friend and mentor, CPT Jerry Murphy. I stand by that statement and his military service, and I wish to have been able to call on my good friend, American, Raymond Gerald Murphy.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I can just comment, that was a remarkable speech, and the game between the Rutgers Uni- versity team and the University of Tennessee was very exciting. It was high-quality basketball. I enjoyed it a lot more than the men’s final four.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 147) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2007, before a crowd of over 20,000 fans, the University of Tennessee women’s basketball team (the "Lady Vols") defeated the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers by a score of 59-46 to win the 2007 National Colle- giate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Women’s Basketball Championship;

WHEREAS this championship was the first national title for the Lady Vols since their 3- year championship run in 1996-98, and their 7th national title in the last 20 years;

WHEREAS the Lady Vols were successful due to the leadership of Coach Pat Summitt, the Nation’s all-time winningest NCAA basket- ball coach (men’s or women’s) with 947 wins over 33 seasons at the University of Ten- nessee;

WHEREAS Joan Cronan, the Women’s Ath- letics Director, has shown vision and leadership throughout her 24-year career at the University of Tennessee and created one of the most visible and respected athletic pro- grams in the country;

WHEREAS the Lady Vols were undefeated in conference games during the 2006-2007 season and compiled an impressive overall record of 34 wins and 3 losses;

WHEREAS Candace Parker tallied 17 points, 7 rebounds, and 3 assists and was selected the Most Outstanding Player for the 2007 tour- nament, becoming the 5th Lady Volunteer to

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 147.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 147) congratulating the University of Tennessee women’s basket- ball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Divi- sion I Women’s Basketball Championship.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I can just comment, that was a remarkable speech, and the game between the Rutgers Uni- versity team and the University of Tennessee was very exciting. It was high-quality basketball. I enjoyed it a lot more than the men’s final four.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 147) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2007, before a crowd of over 20,000 fans, the University of Tennessee women’s basketball team (the “Lady Vols”) defeated the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers by a score of 59-46 to win the 2007 National Colle- giate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Women’s Basketball Championship;

WHEREAS this championship was the first national title for the Lady Vols since their 3- year championship run in 1996-98, and their 7th national title in the last 20 years;

WHEREAS the Lady Vols were successful due to the leadership of Coach Pat Summitt, the Nation’s all-time winningest NCAA basket- ball coach (men’s or women’s) with 947 wins over 33 seasons at the University of Ten- nessee;

WHEREAS Joan Cronan, the Women’s Ath- letics Director, has shown vision and leadership throughout her 24-year career at the University of Tennessee and created one of the most visible and respected athletic pro- grams in the country;

WHEREAS the Lady Vols were undefeated in conference games during the 2006-2007 season and compiled an impressive overall record of 34 wins and 3 losses;

WHEREAS Candace Parker tallied 17 points, 7 rebounds, and 3 assists and was selected the Most Outstanding Player for the 2007 tour- nament, becoming the 5th Lady Volunteer to