Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated; Whereas 26 out of every 100,000 newborns and almost 3 out of every 100,000 children have a stroke each year; Whereas an individual can have a stroke before the age of 1 year; Whereas stroke is among the top 10 causes of death for children in the United States; Whereas 12 percent of all children who experience a stroke die as a result; Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all age groups; Whereas children who experience a stroke will suffer serious, long-term neurologic disabilities, including: (1) hemiplegia, which is paralysis of 1 side of the body; (2) seizures; (3) speech and vision problems; and (4) learning difficulties; Whereas those disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries; Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur in childhood and young adulthood may have a considerable impact on children, families, and society; Whereas very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of childhood stroke; Whereas medical research is the only means by which the citizens of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for childhood stroke; Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of childhood stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence; and Whereas the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia is demanded for its initiative in creating the Nation’s first program dedicated to pediatric stroke patients: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 5, 2007 as “National Childhood Stroke Awareness Day”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to support the arts, programs, services, and advocacy of organizations that work to enhance public awareness of childhood stroke.

URGING ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE TO EXPEDITE THE RATIFICATION PROCESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 141.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 141) urging all member countries of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service to expedite the ratification process to allow for open access to the Holocaust archives located at Bad Arolsen, Germany.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 141) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 141

Whereas the International Tracing Service (ITS) archives located in Bad Arolsen, Germany, which are administered by the International Committee of the Red Cross, contain an estimated 50,000,000 records on the fates of some 17,500,000 individual victims of Nazi war crimes; Whereas the ITS archives at Bad Arolsen remain the largest closed Holocaust-era archives in the world; Whereas, although access to individual records can be requested by Holocaust survivors and their descendants, many who have requested information from the ITS archives have reported facing significant delays and errors or unresponsiveness; Whereas the ITS archives remain inaccessible to researchers and research institutions; Whereas the Agreement Constituting an International Commission for the International Tracing Service, signed at Bonn June 6, 1955 (6 UST 6186) (commonly known as the “Bonn Accords”) established an international commission of 11 member countries (Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom, and the United States) charged with overseeing the administration of the ITS Holocaust archives; Whereas, following years of delay, in May 2006 in Luxembourg, the International Commission of the ITS agreed upon amendments to the Bonn Accords that would allow researchers to use the archives and would allow each member country of the International Commission to receive digitized copies of archive materials and make the records available to researchers under the respective national laws relating to archives and privacy; Whereas the May 2006 amendments to the Bonn Accords require each of the 11 member countries of the International Commission to ratify the amendments before open access to the Holocaust archives is permitted; Whereas, although the final signature was affixed to the accords in October 2006, only 5 out of the 11 member countries of the International Commission—the United States, Israel, Poland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom—have ratified the amendments; Whereas the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has for years been working tirelessly to provide access to the materials in the Bad Arolsen archives; Whereas, on March 8, 2007, representatives from the 11 member countries of the International Commission of the ITS met in the Netherlands and reviewed the current ratification status of each country and the ratification process in its entirety; Whereas it is the humanitarian imperative to permit public access to the millions of Holocaust records housed at Bad Arolsen; Whereas it is essential that researchers obtain access while Holocaust survivors are living, so that the researchers can benefit in their scholarly work from the insights of eyewitnesses; Whereas, in the aftermath of the Holocaust, there have been far too many instances of survivors and heirs of Holocaust victims being refused their moral and legal right to information, for restitution purposes, slave labor compensation, and personal closure; Whereas opening the historic records is a vital contribution to the world’s collective memory and understanding of the Holocaust and efforts to ensure that the anti-Semitism that made such horrors possible is never again permitted to take hold; Whereas anti-Semitism has seen a resurgence in recent years, and as recently as December 2006, the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, held the second Holocaust day conference in Tehran in our country; and Whereas in light of this conference, the anti-Semitic rhetoric of President Ahmadinejad, and a resurgence of anti-Semitism in part of the world, the opening of the archives at Bad Arolsen could not be more urgent: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends in the strongest terms all countries that have to date ratified the amendments to the Agreement Constituting an International Commission for the International Tracing Service (the “International Tracing Service” or ITS, located in Bad Arolsen, Germany), the United States, Israel, Poland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom; and

(2) urges all the member countries of the International Commission to allow each member country of the International Commission to receive digitized copies of archive materials and make the records available to researchers under the respective national laws relating to archives and privacy;


Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 177.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 177) was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 177) designating April 30, 2007, as “Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans,” and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.