S. RES. 187

Whereas, on April 27, 2007, the Bronze Soldier monument in central Tallinn was moved to a prominent location in the Garrison Military Cemetery as a result of a decision by the Government of Estonia;

Whereas the Government of Estonia communicated its reasons for this decision to the Government of the Russian Federation and offered to work with Russian officials during the process, which the Russian officials declined to do;

Whereas, on April 27, 2007, a crowd of more than 1,000 demonstrators gathered at the site of the memorial and riots broke out across Tallinn;

Whereas more than 158 people were injured as a result of the riots, and one died as a result of stabbing by another rioter;

Whereas several stores in Tallinn and surrounding villages were looted as a result of the riots, and a statue of an Estonian general was set on fire;

Whereas, since April 27, 2007, the Government of Estonia has reported several cyber-attacks on its official lines of communication, including those of the Office of the President;

Whereas, on April 28, 2007, and in days following, the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow was surrounded by angry protesters who demanded the resignation of the Government of Estonia, tore down the flag of Estonia from the Embassy building, and subjected Embassy officials inside the building to violence and vandalism;

Whereas, on April 30, 2007, a delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation visited Estonia and issued an official statement at the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Estonia that "the government of Estonia must step down";

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, the Ambassador of Estonia to the Russian Federation was physically attacked by protesters and members of youth groups during an official press conference;

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, the Swedish Ambassador to the Russian Federation was attacked as he left the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow and his car was damaged by a crowd, resulting in a formal protest to the Russian Federation by the Swedish Foreign Ministry;

Whereas the Government of Estonia has reported other coordinated attacks against Estonian embassies in Helsinki, Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Riga, Prague, Kiev, and Moscow, and the Estonian Consulate in St. Petersburg;

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, Prime Minister of Estonia Andrus Ansip stated that a "sovereign state is under a heavy attack" and that the events constitute "a well-coordinated and flagrant intervention with the internal affairs of Estonia";

Whereas, on May 4, 2007, the public prosecutor's office of Estonia initiated an investigation into the cyber-attacks against Internet servers in Estonia and requested cooperation from the Estonian government to identify the source of the attacks;

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, the European Commission expressed its solidarity with Estonia and urged Russia to respect its obligations to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, done at Vienna April 18, 1961, and end the blockade of the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow; and

Whereas the Embassy of Estonia in Russia has been closed since April 27, 2007, and Estonia has suspended consular services to Moscow and good conditions for Embassy officials: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2, 2007, as "National Hunger Awareness Day"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Hunger Awareness Day—

(A) with appropriate ceremonies, volunteer activities, and by local anti-hunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, including food banks, food rescue organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency food services; and

(B) by continuing to support programs and public policies that reduce hunger and food insecurity in the United States; and

(3) acknowledges the authorities of the Governments of Estonia and Russia to work together to prevent future cyber-attacks against Estonia; and

S. RES. 186

Whereas food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for millions of low-income citizens of the United States and can produce physical, mental, and social impairments;

Whereas a report published by the Department of Agriculture shows that almost 38,200,000 people in the United States live in households experiencing hunger or food insecurity;

Whereas the problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban portions of the United States, touching nearly every community of the Nation;

Whereas, although substantial progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in the United States, certain groups remain vulnerable to hunger and the negative effects of food deprivation, including the very young, the elderly, homeless people, children, migrant workers, and Native Americans;

Whereas the people of the United States have long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry people through acts of private generosity and public support programs;

Whereas the Federal Government provides essential nutritional support to millions of low-income people through numerous Federal food assistance programs, including—

(1) the Federal food stamp program, established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 1711 et seq.);

(2) the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the special supplemental program for women, infants, and children (WIC) established under section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), and other child nutrition programs; and

(3) food donation programs;

Whereas the United States Olympic Committee, representing the date on which the United States Olympic Team from the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China; and

Whereas June 23, 2007, is the anniversary of the founding of the Modern Olympic Movement, representing the date on which the Congress of Paris approved the proposal of Pierre de Coubertin to found the Modern Olympic Games: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the ideals and values of the Olympic Movement; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the anniversary of the founding of the Modern Olympic Movement with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE S5603

Whereas thousands of men and women of the United States are focusing their energy and skill on becoming part of the United States Olympic Team and aspire to compete in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China;

Whereas the Nation takes great pride in the qualities of commitment to excellence, grace, and good will toward other competitors exhibited by the athletes of the United States Olympic Team; and

Whereas, on May 3, 2007, the Congress of Estonia was illegal, illegitimate, and unauthorized to work with Russian officials during the process, which the Russian officials declined to do;

Whereas the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow was surrounded by angry protesters who demanded the resignation of the Government of Estonia, tore down the flag of Estonia from the Embassy building, and subjected Embassy officials inside the building to violence and vandalism;

Whereas, on April 27, 2007, the Government of Estonia has reported several cyber-attacks on its official lines of communication, including those of the Office of the President;

Whereas, on April 28, 2007, and in days following, the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow was surrounded by angry protesters who demanded the resignation of the Government of Estonia, tore down the flag of Estonia from the Embassy building, and subjected Embassy officials inside the building to violence and vandalism;

Whereas, on April 30, 2007, a delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation visited Estonia and issued an official statement at the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Estonia that "the government of Estonia must step down";

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, the Ambassador of Estonia to the Russian Federation was physically attacked by protesters and members of youth groups during an official press conference;

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, the Swedish Ambassador to the Russian Federation was attacked as he left the Embassy of Estonia in Moscow and his car was damaged by a crowd, resulting in a formal protest to the Russian Federation by the Swedish Foreign Ministry;

Whereas the Government of Estonia has reported other coordinated attacks against Estonian embassies in Helsinki, Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Riga, Prague, Kiev, and Moscow, and the Estonian Consulate in St. Petersburg;

Whereas, on May 2, 2007, Prime Minister of Estonia Andrus Ansip stated that a "sovereign state is under a heavy attack" and that the events constitute "a well-coordinated and flagrant intervention with the internal affairs of Estonia";

Whereas, on May 4, 2007, the public prosecutor's office of Estonia initiated an investigation into the cyber-attacks against Internet servers in Estonia and requested cooperation from the Estonian government to identify the source of the attacks;
a patent violation of Estonia’s sovereignty and right to self-determination; and
(b) the Senate—
(1) expresses its strong support for Estonia as a Baltic nation and a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Organization of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) as it deals with matters of national concern to Estonia;
(2) condemns recent acts of violence, vandalism, and looting that have taken place in Estonia;
(3) condemns the attacks and threats against Estonia’s embassies and officials in Russia and other countries;
(4) urges all activists involved to express their views peacefully and reject violence;
(5) honors the sacrifice of all those, including soldiers of the Red Army, that gave their lives in the fight to defeat Nazism;
(6) condemns any and all efforts to callously exploit the memory of the victims of the Second World War for political gain;
(7) supports the efforts of the Government of Estonia to initiate a dialogue with appropriate levels of the Government of the Russian Federation to resolve the crisis peacefully and to sustain cooperation between their countries in their independent status;
(8) urges the governments of all countries—
(A) to condemn the violence that has occurred in Estonia, Moscow, and elsewhere in 2007 and to urge all parties to express their views peacefully; and
(B) to assist the Government of Estonia in its investigation into the source of cyber-attacks; and
(C) to fulfill their obligations under the Venna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, done at Vienna April 18, 1961.

SENATE RESOLUTION 188—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN SUPPORT OF THE ACCESSION OF ISRAEL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the Senate that:

(1) Israel shares the commitment of the United States to, and the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) foundational principles of, good government, free markets, and democratic values;
(2) Israel meets the OECD membership criteria, and is party to various OECD declara-
tions; and
(3) it is in the interest of the United States to strongly support the accession of Israel to the Convention on the OECD; and
(4) the United States should strongly advocate for Israel’s accession to the Convention on the OECD before and during the OECD ministerial meeting in May 2007 and use all necessary and available means to secure Israel’s membership in the OECD.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ADVANCING VITAL UNITED STATES INTERESTS THROUGH INCREASED ENGAGEMENT IN HEALTH PROGRAMS THAT ALLEVIATE DISEASE AND WOMEN’S HEALTH, PREVENT PREMATURE DEATH IN DEVELOPMENT NATIONS, ESPECIALLY THROUGH PROGRAMS THAT COMBAT HIGH LEVELS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IMPROVE CHILDREN’S AND WOMEN’S HEALTH, DECREASE MALNUTRITION, REDUCE UNINTENDED PREGNANCIES, FIGHT THE SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS, ENCOURAGE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS, AND STRENGTHEN HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. SERRANO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

RESOLVED, That Congress—

(1) recognizes that contributing to improving health in developing nations is in the vital interest of the United States, as it helps protect the health of the American people, cultivates development among partner nations, cultivates a positive image for the United States, and projects the humanitarian values of the American people; and
(2) acknowledges the need to strengthen health care systems to meet essential health needs, including surveillance and informa-
tion systems, facility management capacity, and an adequately compensated health care workforce that is appropriate in number, composition, and skills;
(3) supports the unprecedented and unparalleled investments of clean water access in reducing the global burdens of HIV/AIDS and malaria through the President’s Emergency Program for AIDS Relief and the President’s Malaria Initiative; and
(4) encourages the United States Government to expand its adoption and implementa-
tion of policies and programs that allevi- ate the greatest burden of disease in developing nations in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.