

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 sovereign state 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 internal to its country;

(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 two sovereign, independent states; and

(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;

(B) to assist the Government of Estonia in its investigation into the source of cyber-attacks; and

(C) to fulfill their obligations under the Vienna 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 ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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

S. RES. 188

Whereas Israel has met the membership criteria for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and has actively sought membership in the body since 2000;

Whereas, in May 2006, the OECD adopted in full the Report by the Working Party on the Implications of Future Enlargement on OECD Governance, stating that expanding membership is vital to the organization;

Whereas the OECD is expected to vote on enlargement and consider new countries for membership at a ministerial meeting in May 2007;

Whereas Israel is the most active non-member country in the OECD, is a member, observer, or ad hoc observer in 50 working bodies, is party to various OECD declarations, and is already in compliance with multiple OECD standards;

Whereas Israel made significant economic reforms in recent years that grew the private sector and streamlined the public sector, and the Prime Minister of Israel, Ehud Olmert, stated that OECD membership would anchor these reforms and allow additional reforms;

Whereas membership in the OECD would strengthen the position of Israel in the global economy, solidify Israel's transition from

an emerging market to an advanced economy, and encourage increased foreign domestic investment in Israel;

Whereas the inclusion of Israel in the OECD would strengthen the OECD because of Israel's high living standard, liberal and stable markets, and commitment to democratic values;

Whereas Israel is a world leader in science and technology and is home to the most high-technology start-up companies, scientific publications, and research and development spending, per capita;

Whereas, in 2006, the World Economic Forum ranked Israel as the world's 15th most competitive economy;

Whereas the accession of Israel to the Convention on the OECD would benefit other OECD member countries because of Israel's leadership in high-technology companies and research and development; and

Whereas Israel is a strong ally of the United States and supports the United States in international organizations more consistently than any other country: Now, therefore, be it

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 well deserving of membership;

(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 REDUCE PREMATURE DEATH IN DEVELOPING 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. SUNUNU) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas health is integral to social and economic development and to building stable, independent, and productive societies;

Whereas unnecessarily high levels of preventable death and disability persist in developing nations, including over 10,000,000 child deaths every year—30,000 each day—a majority of which are from easily preventable or treatable causes, including pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, malnutrition, measles, and complications immediately following birth; 40,000,000 people infected with

HIV and 3,000,000 AIDS deaths per year; 530,000 deaths of women every year from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth and millions of cases of trauma and disability caused by obstetric fistula and other preventable injuries; an unmet need for family planning among over 100,000,000 married women; 1,000,000 deaths annually from malaria, most of which are among young children and in sub-Saharan Africa; an expanding threat from tuberculosis, which is a principal cause of death among those infected with HIV and is evolving into forms increasingly resistant to all known drugs; the increasing impact of preventable, non-communicable disease, especially those deriving from tobacco use, alcohol and drug abuse, and other risky lifestyle behaviors; and the potential of new disease threats, such as avian influenza, which demand new levels of preparedness and health capacity;

Whereas the short and long-term economic, military, and political security of countries is directly threatened by increased mortality and morbidity resulting from infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, poor maternal and newborn health, the lack of family planning services, and the absence of clean water;

Whereas proven and cost-effective solutions that have already achieved astonishing successes are readily available and could dramatically further reduce the burden of death and disease, including access to immunization, antibiotics, diarrheal disease control, newborn care, improved nutrition, antiretrovirals, essential obstetric care, family planning, anti-malarials and insecticide treated nets, and tuberculosis treatment;

Whereas long term gains in health require a comprehensive approach that addresses the range of critical health problems and builds local capacity while ensuring equitable access, especially by the poor, women and girls, and other vulnerable populations, to services; and

Whereas the United States has a history of leadership and success in building international consensus and improving health throughout the world by investing in basic health services, particularly services for poor and vulnerable populations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), 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, facilitates development among partner nations, cultivates a positive image for the United States, and projects the humanitarian values of the American people;

(2) acknowledges the need to strengthen health care systems to meet essential health needs, including surveillance and information systems, facilities and equipment, management capacity, and an adequately compensated health care work force that is appropriate in number, composition, and skills;

(3) supports the unprecedented and unparalleled investments of the United States 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 implementation of policies and programs that alleviate the greatest burden of disease in developing nations in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.