

destabilizing, leading to diminished access to fresh water, reduced food production as India and sub-Saharan Africa become hotter and drier, increased health crises as vector-borne diseases spread, and displacement of large populations as sea levels rise and coastal lands flood. As scarcities increase, conflicts over diminishing resources will also increase. Governments in resource-stressed countries may collapse. Environmental stresses may lead to human migration and refugees.

I mention this to emphasize that climate change has surprising ramifications, and that there is still much that we can all learn about this issue, with effects that go well beyond traditional environmental concerns. It is important that we all become better informed, that we analyze the information about climate change, so that we can learn how to more rationally respond.

We believe it is important to educate our Nation about the causes and effects of climate change and about how we might effectively respond. Reaching a solution to the challenge of climate change will require changes in both national policy and in our use of energy and resources. All of this will require a thoughtful understanding of the issue.

The Climate Change Education Act would create a program at the National Science Foundation, which would provide opportunities for students and citizens to learn more about global warming. The program would include a national information campaign to promote new approaches to addressing climate change and would also establish a competitive program to provide grants to develop education materials. Earlier this month, the House of Representatives passed the companion, H.R. 1728, to this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 196—COMMENDING IDAHO ON WINNING THE BID TO HOST THE 2009 SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD WINTER GAMES

Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 196

Whereas Special Olympics is an international nonprofit organization that promotes personal development through sports training and competition;

Whereas Special Olympics advances the understanding of intellectual disabilities in the community and the Nation through participation and fellowship;

Whereas Special Olympics serves more than 2,500,000 individuals with intellectual disabilities;

Whereas Special Olympics offers more than 200 programs in over 160 countries;

Whereas Special Olympics offers 30 Olympic-type summer and winter sports to both

children and adults with intellectual disabilities;

Whereas Boise, Idaho won the international bid to host the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games to be held February 6 through 13, 2009;

Whereas thousands of athletes are expected to compete in the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games; and

Whereas the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games will be the largest multi-sport event ever held in the State of Idaho: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the goals and principles of Special Olympics;

(2) salutes the athletes, coaches, family members, friends, and volunteers that make Special Olympics possible; and

(3) congratulates the State of Idaho on its selection as the host for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 197—HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF AMERICORPS

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. STEVENS, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 197

Whereas the AmeriCorps national service program, since its inception in 1994, has proven to be a highly effective way to engage Americans in meeting a wide range of local needs and to promote the ethic of service and volunteering;

Whereas the AmeriCorps program, working closely with its nationwide network of Governor-appointed State service commissions, has strengthened America's nonprofit sector by investing more than \$3,000,000,000 in the efforts of community nonprofit groups in every State in our Nation;

Whereas that investment has leveraged hundreds of millions of dollars of additional funds and in-kind donations from other sources;

Whereas each year AmeriCorps provides opportunities for 75,000 citizens across the Nation to give back in an intensive way to our districts, our States, and our country;

Whereas since 1994 a total of 500,000 citizens across the nation have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to "get things done for America" by becoming AmeriCorps members;

Whereas those same individuals have served a total of more than 630,000,000 hours nationwide, helping to improve the lives of our Nation's most vulnerable citizens, protect our environment, contribute to our public safety, respond to disasters, and strengthen our educational system;

Whereas AmeriCorps members last year recruited and supervised more than 1,400,000 community volunteers, demonstrating AmeriCorps's value as a powerful volunteer catalyst and force multiplier;

Whereas AmeriCorps members nationwide, in return for their service, have earned nearly \$1,300,000,000 to use to further their own educational advancement at our Nation's colleges and universities;

Whereas AmeriCorps members, after their terms of service end, remain engaged in our communities as volunteers, teachers, and nonprofit professionals in disproportionately high levels; and

Whereas the inaugural National AmeriCorps Week, May 13-20, 2007, is an opportune time for the people of the United States to salute current and former AmeriCorps members for their powerful impact, thank all of AmeriCorps' community partners in our Nation who make the program possible, and bring more Americans into service: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) encourages all citizens to join in a national effort to salute AmeriCorps members and alumni and raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;

(2) acknowledges the significant accomplishments of AmeriCorps members, alumni, and community partners;

(3) recognizes the important contribution to the lives of our citizens made by AmeriCorps members; and

(4) encourages citizens of all ages to consider opportunities to serve in AmeriCorps.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the AmeriCorps Week Resolution, which designates May 13-20, 2007, as a time to salute AmeriCorps members for their work, thank community partners who make the program possible, and encourage more people to join. I want to first say thank you to all the volunteers and service workers everywhere. They take time out of their lives to help their fellow Americans in their time of need, and they do it out of the goodness of their hearts. I love AmeriCorps. I love what they do for communities, I love what they do for America.

AmeriCorps is stronger than ever. Since its creation in 1994, 500,000 people nationwide have joined the program and taken the AmeriCorps pledge to "get things done for America." AmeriCorps members have served more than 630 million hours nationwide. To date, 9,310 Maryland residents have earned education awards totaling over \$30 million. These awards help volunteers pay for college, graduate school, vocational training, or to pay back student loans. The NCCC program, which has a campus in Perry Point, MD, is a full-time residential program for 18- to 24-year-olds designed to strengthen communities and develop leaders through team-based service projects. Each year, approximately 1,100 participants reside in its 5 campuses nationwide. The Perry Point campus houses 200 AmeriCorps members every year, and since 1994 its residents have logged more than 400,000 service hours.

AmeriCorps is the embodiment of the spirit of volunteerism and service to our country. They tackle the toughest problems in our communities: tutoring teens, starting neighborhood crime watches, turning vacant lots into neighborhoods, and helping communities clean up and rebuild after natural disasters. AmeriCorps volunteers are unflagging, unflinching and determined to make a difference. I know how important AmeriCorps is to communities across the country and to the