

critical change—it's the U.S.-China Commission and the GAO as well.

When my amendment stalled over a committee jurisdictional point, on September 29, 2005, I chose to introduce the changes as a stand-alone bill, the Foreign Investment Security Act of 2005, S. 1797, which was referred to the Banking Committee. That bill was the first bill introduced in recent years on this topic.

Later the Banking Committee held a hearing on the GAO report, and I testified before them on October 20, 2005, at that hearing.

In all of these ways I have just mentioned, the Banking Committee was prompted by me to pursue this topic.

In the past couple of years, several high profile business deals have been approved by CFIUS that would allow foreign-owned companies, in particular companies that are owned or controlled by foreign governments, to acquire other companies doing business in the United States.

More recently I was concerned with China's state-owned CNOOC attempted to buyout Unocal, a US oil company. We won this one because of Congressional pressure, and CNOOC withdrew its bid. Over the past 2 years, I have been pointing out that the CFIUS process has ignored some major issues which threaten our national security.

The most publicized deal was the state owned Dubai Ports World, DPW, purchase of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, P&O, that would have allowed DPW to take over the operations at various east coast ports in the United States. The public outcry against this deal lead DPW to abandon its plans to operate the U.S. ports and that portion of the takeover was sold to U.S. based companies. However since the DPW-P&O deal was canceled, other transactions have been approved by CFIUS that are just as questionable.

CFIUS has received over 1,600 notifications and investigated under 40. Of those, only one acquisition has been stopped by the President.

This is a critical issue at a critical time. CFIUS seems to only get scrutiny when some major deal is in the papers. I have been paying attention to it all along. It needs reform, and I hope we can make some progress.

I am glad that Congress is now taking a closer look at CFIUS reform. Rest assured that I continue to push for this badly needed reform and as Congress addresses this issue, I will keep your thoughts in mind.

Note too that I will ensure in particular that the national security aspects of this work are appropriately attended to. I will not stand idly by and allow a bill that is weak on national defense to pass.

Let us all work together to ensure that the legislative process performs appropriately to defend our Nation, and let this bill I am introducing today be a new start.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 199—CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF DR. HALEH ESFANDIARI

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 199

Whereas Dr. Haleh Esfandiari is one of the United States's most distinguished analysts of Iranian politics and is the Director of the Middle East Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars;

Whereas Dr. Esfandiari is a dual citizen of Iran and the United States;

Whereas Dr. Esfandiari has served as a communications bridge between the United States and Iran, advocating diplomacy and dialogue;

Whereas Dr. Esfandiari travels to Iran twice a year to visit with her mother;

Whereas, in late December 2006, Dr. Esfandiari traveled to Iran to visit her ailing 93 year old mother for 1 week;

Whereas the current Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has initiated a crackdown on scholars and journalists including Dr. Esfandiari, Canadian-Iranian philosopher Ramin Jahanbegloo, and journalist Parnaz Azima;

Whereas, on December 30, 2006, Dr. Esfandiari was robbed of her Iranian and American passports and travel documents at knife-point by 3 masked men on the way to the airport to return to the United States;

Whereas Dr. Esfandiari was held in Iran under house arrest for 4 months, interrogated under conditions of intimidation and threat, and, on May 8, 2007, was imprisoned in the notorious Evin prison in Tehran;

Whereas Dr. Esfandiari has been falsely accused by a news agency in Iran of being a spy for Mossad, of serving as the head of the Iran section of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and of encouraging an uprising against the regime in Tehran; and

Whereas senior government officials have conveyed the United States's opposition to this unjustified imprisonment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the arrest, interrogation, and imprisonment of Dr. Haleh Esfandiari as a deliberately provocative and illegal act;

(2) deplors the continuing crackdown in Iran on journalists and scholars and the deliberate dissemination of misinformation regarding their activities; and

(3) demands the immediate, safe, and unconditional release of Dr. Haleh Esfandiari from custody, the reissuance of appropriate travel documents for Dr. Esfandiari, and the provision of safe passage out of Iran.

SENATE RESOLUTION 200—COMMENDING LOUISIANA JOCKEYS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY AT CHURCHILL DOWNS

Mr. VITTER. (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 200

Whereas jockey Calvin Borel successfully won the 133rd running of the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on May 5, 2007;

Whereas Calvin Borel rallied Street Sense from 19th place to pass the pacesetter Hard

Spun in the stretch and draw away to a 2¼-length victory;

Whereas the victory was Calvin Borel's first in the Kentucky Derby;

Whereas Calvin Borel was born on November 7, 1966, in St. Martinsville, Louisiana;

Whereas Calvin Borel hails from South Louisiana, the heart of Cajun Country, famous for its production of many top jockeys during the last 20 years; and

Whereas Calvin Borel's victory in the 133rd running of the Kentucky Derby solidifies his place in a tradition of Louisiana jockeys who have won the Kentucky Derby, such as Eric Guerin (1947), Edward Delahoussaye (1982, 1983), Craig Perret (1990), and Kent Desormeaux (1998, 2000): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Louisiana jockeys for their continued success at one of America's most heralded thoroughbred horseracing events, the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs;

(2) recognizes jockey Calvin Borel for winning the 133rd running of the Kentucky Derby on May 5, 2007;

(3) recognizes the achievements of all the owners, trainers, and support staff who were instrumental in helping Calvin Borel and Street Sense to victory; and

(4) recognizes the achievements of all current and former Louisiana jockeys in the Kentucky Derby.

SENATE RESOLUTION 201—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF "NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. CHAMBLISS. (for himself and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. RES. 201

Whereas life insurance is an essential part of a sound financial plan;

Whereas life insurance provides financial security for families by helping surviving members meet immediate and long-term financial obligations and objectives in the event of a premature death in their family;

Whereas approximately 68,000,000 United States citizens lack the adequate level of life insurance coverage needed to ensure a secure financial future for their loved ones;

Whereas life insurance products protect against the uncertainties of life by enabling individuals and families to manage the financial risks of premature death, disability, and long-term care;

Whereas individuals, families, and businesses can benefit from professional insurance and financial planning advice, including an assessment of their life insurance needs; and

Whereas numerous groups supporting life insurance have designated September 2007 as "National Life Insurance Awareness Month" as a means to encourage consumers to—

(1) become more aware of their life insurance needs;

(2) seek professional advice regarding life insurance; and

(3) take the actions necessary to achieve financial security for their loved ones: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "National Life Insurance Awareness Month"; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the citizens of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.