

patrol the no-fly zones over Iraq after the first Persian Gulf war and aided the U.S. Armed Forces in Afghanistan after the September 11 attacks.

Turkey, which has the second largest army in NATO, commanded the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan twice, in 2002 and 2005, and Turkish troops continue to contribute to security efforts there.

It is difficult to overstate the critical importance of Turkey's cooperation with United States missions in the region. United States Defense Secretary Robert Gates recently estimated that 70 percent—let me say that again, 70 percent—of the air cargo deployed into Iraq to support United States troops there transits through airbases in Turkey.

I perhaps should say that again. It is difficult to overstate the critical importance of Turkey's cooperation with United States missions in the region. United States Defense Secretary Robert Gates recently estimated that 70 percent of the air cargo deployed into Iraq to support United States troops there transits through airbases in Turkey.

Turkey, as a predominantly Muslim country with an important bilateral relationship with Israel, seeks to play a constructive role in Middle East peace negotiations and continues to be an important ally in a dangerous and turbulent region. Turkey occupies a strategically critical territory between Europe and Asia, bordering such challenging neighbors as Iran, Syria, and Iraq.

Furthermore, I say, as the United States increasingly looks to diversify its sources of energy, it is important for us to remember that Turkey forms a crucial energy corridor to the West, capable of bringing oil and natural gas from the steppes of Eurasia to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

Turkey is, in short, central to the interests of the United States. Now is a good time to be reminded of that fact, as tensions build in the Kurdish region and tempers flare over the proper words to use to describe a century-old tragedy. Whatever one's views may be about that tragedy—politically, economically, geographically, strategically, and militarily—as our soldiers—our soldiers, U.S. soldiers, American soldiers—are in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan, the United States can ill-afford to lose such an important friend and ally as Turkey.

This is a critical moment for Turkey. The Turkish people recently elected a new government, led by Prime Minister Erdogan and President Abdullah Gul. Let me say that once more. This time I think I can say that better. This is a critical moment for Turkey. The Turkish people recently elected a new government led by Prime Minister Erdogan and President Abdullah Gul. These decisive elections demonstrated the vibrant and healthy spirit of Turkey's democracy and the commitment of Turkey's people to the democratic

process. However, the young government is facing a number of serious challenges as it simultaneously seeks to guard against a very real threat from Kurdish terrorists, assuage Turkish nationalists and the military, and maintain the secular character of the State, all while continuing Turkey's bid for European Union membership. We should offer the Turkish Government all the support we can give in these noble endeavors.

Much like the United States, Turkey continues to struggle with the darker moments of its history. The terrible treatment of Armenians prior to and during the first World War, as well as the treatment of other minorities, including Greeks, Alevis, and Kurds, is a matter that continues to haunt the people of Turkey. In recent years, however, there have been encouraging signs: historians conferences, attempts to improve relations with Armenia, and growing acceptance of the Kurdish language.

This is what free people and open democracies do. They debate and they examine their history and the conscience of their people. Given time and patience, their past can be confronted in a truthful and candid way. Many of us would like to see more progress from Turkey in this area. There continue to be issues about which our two countries disagree. This should be no surprise. Members of the same family disagree at times, and our best friends are often those who criticize us most openly. But there is a time for criticism and a time for praise, and criticism can be constructive. Today is a day to celebrate the great Turkish nation and its people and to acknowledge the strong ties that bind our countries together. That is the reason I am cosponsoring a resolution with my colleague, Senator GORDON SMITH—to affirm the friendship and the alliance of the American and Turkish peoples. May our ties continue to grow stronger with the passage of time.

SENATE RESOLUTION 359—CONGRATULATING THE BOSTON RED SOX ON WINNING THE 2007 WORLD SERIES

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DODD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. SUNUNU) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES 359

Whereas on October 28, 2007, the Boston Red Sox won the 2007 World Series by a 4-game sweep of the Colorado Rockies;

Whereas the Colorado Rockies deserve great credit for their historic performance during the 2007 baseball season and post-season, in which the Rockies won a remarkable 21 of the final 22 games heading into the World Series;

Whereas the Boston Red Sox victory was the second world title of the Red Sox in 4 years and the seventh world title in the 107-year history of the revered New England team;

Whereas the 2007 Red Sox world championship team, like the 2004 Red Sox world championship team, epitomized the very best in sportsmanship, team spirit, and heart in the course of winning the American League Championship Series and the World Series;

Whereas the 2007 Red Sox world championship team honored the careers of all former Red Sox legends, including Bobby Doerr, Carl Yastrzemski, Carlton Fisk, Jimmie Foxx, Cy Young, Johnny Pesky, Dom DiMaggio, Joe Cronin, Jim Rice, and Ted Williams;

Whereas the Red Sox were led back to the World Series this season by the determination of 2004 world championship team veterans, including Manny Ramirez, David Ortiz, Tim Wakefield, Curt Schilling, Jason Varitek, Mike Timlin, Kevin Youkilis, and Doug Mirabelli;

Whereas the 2007 season produced new Red Sox stars, including Josh Beckett, Jacoby Ellsbury, Dustin Pedroia, Julio Lugo, Mike Lowell, Jonathan Papelbon, Hideki Okajima, Daisuke Matsuzaka, J.D. Drew, Jon Lester, and rookie right-hander Clay Buchholz, who in his second major league start, pitched the 17th no-hitter in Red Sox history;

Whereas Red Sox manager Terry Francona has won a remarkable 2 World Series in the past 4 years at the helm of the Red Sox and assembled one of the greatest Red Sox teams of all time;

Whereas Red Sox owners John Henry and Tom Werner and Red Sox president and chief executive officer Larry Lucchino and general manager Theo Epstein ended an 86-year World Series drought in 2004 and ushered in a new era in Boston baseball that has been confirmed in 2007;

Whereas the Red Sox, playing before 44,588 Cleveland Indian fans who stood just one game away from celebrating their team's first World Series appearance in a decade, demonstrated the highest qualities of teamwork and determination by winning the first game of a historic run reminiscent of the 2004 American League Championship Series;

Whereas the Red Sox outscored their opponents 59-15 during a 7-game winning streak ending in a victory in game 4 of the World Series in Colorado;

Whereas the Red Sox have won their last 8 consecutive World Series games;

Whereas Josh Beckett, Jonathan Papelbon, and Daisuke Matsuzaka delivered masterful post-season pitching performances, and Curt Schilling demonstrated again why he is considered to be one of the most dominant post-season pitchers in baseball history;

Whereas Jon Lester exhibited incredible courage and determination and provided inspiration to many by pitching 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ shutout innings in game 4 of the World Series, just 1 year after undergoing chemotherapy for lymphoma;

Whereas Mike Lowell, who led the Red Sox with 120 runs-batted-in during 2007, batted .400 during the World Series, with 6 runs scored and 4 runs-batted-in, to earn the most valuable player award;

Whereas pitching phenomena Daisuke Matsuzaka and Hideki Okajima have helped produce close ties between the people of New England and Japan with their extraordinary play this year;

Whereas the entire Red Sox organization has a strong commitment to charitable causes in New England, demonstrated by the team's 54-year support of the "Jimmy Fund" of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, contributing to the ongoing battle against childhood cancers;

Whereas fans of the Red Sox are found in every corner of the United States and across the globe, far beyond Boston and New England; and

Whereas the members of the "Red Sox Nation" express their immense gratitude to the entire Red Sox team for an inspiring 2007 season and for bringing another world championship title to Boston: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates—

(A) the Boston Red Sox for winning the 2007 Major League Baseball World Series and the players, manager, coaches, support staff, and team owners and executives whose ability, hard work, dedication, and spirit made this season possible; and

(B) the Colorado Rockies for their extraordinary success during the 2007 season in winning the National League Championship; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Red Sox manager Terry Francona;

(B) Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein;

(C) Red Sox president and chief executive officer Larry Lucchino;

(D) Red Sox principal owner John Henry; and

(E) Red Sox chairman Tom Werner.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3472. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes.

SA 3473. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3474. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3475. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3476. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3477. Mr. CRAPO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3478. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3479. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3480. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3481. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3482. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3483. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3484. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3485. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3486. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3487. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3488. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 294, *supra*.

SA 3489. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3472. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 25, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

(f) NORTH COAST HIAWATHA ROUTE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, Amtrak shall conduct a 1-time evaluation of passenger rail service between Chicago and Seattle, through Southern Montana (commonly known as the "North Coast Hiawatha Route"), which was operated by Amtrak until 1979, using methodologies adopted under subsection (c), to determine whether to reinstate passenger rail service along the North Coast Hiawatha Route or along segments of such route, provided that such service will not negatively impact existing Amtrak routes.

SA 3473. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 66, line 10, insert "including projects that involve the purchase of environmentally sensitive, fuel-efficient, and cost-effective passenger rail equipment" before the period.

SA 3474. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE.

(a) QUARTERLY REPORT.—The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (referred to in this section as "Amtrak") shall submit a quarterly report to Congress and to the Secretary of Transportation that sets forth the profit or loss, as applicable, relating to the provision of food and beverage service on each rail line operated by Amtrak.

(b) CONTRACT RENEGOTIATION.—If the food and beverage service on a specific Amtrak rail line incurs a loss in any fiscal year, Amtrak shall renegotiate any applicable contracts relating to food and beverage service (including associated labor contracts) for such rail line in an effort to—

(1) reduce the cost of such service; and

(2) increase to likelihood to make a profit in the following fiscal year.

(c) DISCONTINUANCE.—If the food and beverage service on a specific Amtrak rail line incurs a loss in any 2 consecutive fiscal years, Amtrak shall terminate such service on such rail line.

(d) REINSTATEMENT.—Amtrak may reinstate food and beverage service that was discontinued under subsection (c) if—

(1) at least 1 year has elapsed since the date on which such service was discontinued on the applicable rail line;

(2) Amtrak submits a credible proposal to Congress and to the Secretary of Transportation for generating food and beverage serv-

ice profits on such rail line for each of the following 5 fiscal years; and

(3) the Secretary of Transportation, or the designee of the Secretary, certifies to Congress that the proposal submitted under paragraph (2) will likely generate food and beverage service profits on such rail line for each of the following 5 fiscal years.

SA 3475. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 14, line 25, strike "and" at the end and all that follows through page 15, line 20, and insert the following:

(2) shall implement a modern financial accounting and reporting system; and

(3) shall, not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year through fiscal year 2012—

(A) submit to Congress a comprehensive report that allocates all of Amtrak's revenues and costs to each of its routes, each of its lines of business, and each major activity within each route and line of business activity, including—

(i) train operations;

(ii) equipment maintenance;

(iii) food service;

(iv) sleeping cars;

(v) ticketing; and

(vi) reservations;

(B) include the report described in subparagraph (A) in Amtrak's annual report; and

(C) post such report on Amtrak's website.

SA 3476. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 56, strike lines 12 through 17 and insert the following:

(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—Section 24101(d) is amended—

(A) by striking "plan to operate within the funding levels authorized by section 24104 of this chapter, including the budgetary goals for fiscal years 1998 through 2002." and inserting "plan, consistent with section 204 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2007, including the budgetary goals for fiscal years 2007 through 2012."; and

(B) by striking the last sentence and inserting "Amtrak and its Board of Directors shall adopt a long term plan that minimizes the need for Federal operating subsidies."

SA 3477. Mr. CRAPO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 24, line 6, insert "intercity passenger rail service or by" after "served by".

On page 25, strike lines 10 through 16 and insert the following:

(e) PIONEER ROUTE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, Amtrak shall conduct a 1-time evaluation of passenger rail service between Seattle and Chicago (commonly known as the "Pioneer Route"), which was operated by Amtrak until 1997, using methodologies adopted under subsection (c), to determine whether to reinstate passenger rail service along the Pioneer Route or along segments of such route.

SA 3478. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes; which