

Whereas, as a consequence of the success of the surge, the Government of Iraq has made significant strides in advancing sectarian reconciliation and achieving political progress, including the passage of key benchmark legislation;

Whereas, as a consequence of the success of the surge, the Iraqi Security Forces have improved markedly and approximately 70 percent of Iraqi combat battalions are now leading operations in their areas; and

Whereas, as a consequence of the success of the surge, General Petraeus concluded in 2008 that conditions on the ground in Iraq could permit the additional brigades and battalions dispatched to Iraq in 2007 as part of the surge to be safely redeployed without replacement, and all such brigades and battalions have been successfully withdrawn without replacement; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends and expresses its gratitude to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces for the service, sacrifices, and heroism that made the success of the troop surge in Iraq possible;

(2) commends and expresses its gratitude to General David H. Petraeus, General Raymond Odierno, and Ambassador Ryan Crocker for the distinguished wartime leadership that made the success of the troop surge in Iraq possible;

(3) recognizes the success of the troop surge in Iraq and its strategic significance in advancing the vital national interests of the United States in Iraq, the Middle East, and the world, in particular as a strategic victory in a central front of the war on terrorism; and

(4) recognizes that the hard-won gains achieved as a result of the troop surge in Iraq are significant but not yet permanent and that it is imperative that no action be taken that jeopardizes those gains or dishonors the service and sacrifice of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces who made those gains possible.

SENATE RESOLUTION 637—TO HONOR THE VISIONARY AND EXTRAORDINARY WORK OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY AND IBM ON THE ROADRUNNER SUPERCOMPUTER

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 637

Whereas on May 26, 2008, the Roadrunner supercomputer of the Los Alamos National Laboratory broke a historic barrier by being powerful enough to run at a petaflop, 1,000,000,000,000,000 calculations per second, making the Roadrunner supercomputer the fastest computer in the world;

Whereas International Business Machines Corporation (referred to in this resolution as “IBM”) and Los Alamos National Laboratory overcame the challenges of technological innovation to achieve a petaflop ahead of schedule;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer will enable the United States to tackle new and more challenging problems;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer will be primarily devoted to national security in the United States and will be used for ensuring the safety and reliability of the weapons stockpile of the United States and for research in astrophysics, materials science, energy research, medicine, and biotechnology;

Whereas Cell-based supercomputer technology of IBM is the most energy efficient in the world;

Whereas the new high-performance computing capabilities enabled by hybrid Opteron-Cell machines of IBM in the Roadrunner supercomputer of Los Alamos National Laboratory enhance and improve United States competitiveness;

Whereas from maintaining employment records for millions of people of the United States, to providing technology to help the United States run the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System, land on Mars, end the physical testing of atomic weapons, and now help national security by ensuring the safety of the nuclear weapons stockpile of the United States and researching issues of critical importance such as human genome science and climate change, the partnership of IBM with the Federal Government and the dedication of that partnership to solving critical problems that are seemingly impossible have remained unrivaled and relentless for more than 80 years;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer is the most recent achievement of long-standing science and technology leadership of Los Alamos National Laboratory, from the Manhattan Project to the role of the Laboratory today as a premier national security science laboratory; and

Whereas, the Roadrunner supercomputer funding was initiated with \$35,000,000 in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-103); Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the visionary and extraordinary work of Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM for—

(1) pushing the barriers of science and providing the United States with historical high-performance computing capabilities that will allow some of the most challenging problems in science and engineering to be solved; and

(2) achieving the capability to make petaflop calculations, which—

(A) is considered a crucial milestone internationally;

(B) is considered a sign of the competitiveness of the United States in the critical new area of high-performance computing capability; and

(C) will allow the United States to solve even bigger and more complex problems from the safety of the nuclear deterrent of the United States to human genome science and climate change.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to introduce a resolution to recognize the achievement of a major scientific milestone by two great American institutions—Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM—to build the first supercomputer to break the “petaflop” barrier in supercomputing. A petaflop is a million, billion calculations per second. Think of that—a million, billion calculations in a second. If every human being on the planet were given a calculator it would take 50 years to do what this supercomputer can do in a single day.

This supercomputer is called the “Roadrunner” and was developed cooperatively by the Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM—two American institutions which have a long and prestigious history in delivering major technological breakthroughs for the Nation.

The Roadrunner is the fastest computer in the world. It more than dou-

bles the previous record. We can be very proud this achievement for American science and technology. It highlights the essential role our national laboratories play in advancing the state of the art for high performance computing—a vital component of our national security and scientific leadership.

Every year, computing power increases at a pace set by America’s national laboratories. From developing advanced computing architectures and algorithms, to creating effective means for storing and viewing the enormous amounts of data generated by these machines, the laboratories have made high performance computing a reality.

These applications go well beyond security and basic science. The laboratories have worked hard to transition these capabilities to academia and industry, simulating complex industrial processes and their environmental impact, including global climate change.

Collaborations with the private sector have also driven down the cost, so that now high performance does not mean high expense. This has had an enormous impact, placing advanced computing within reach of an ever wider circle of users.

These achievements did not happen by accident. They required planning, commitment and follow through. Indeed, the Roadrunner began as an earmark in the fiscal year 2006 appropriations bill. Congress must ensure that the world class simulation capabilities within the complex are maintained and investments are made to drive future innovation.

We must continue to raise the bar, giving our best and brightest new goals to work toward, ensuring that America will retain its technical leadership in advanced computing.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM for reaching yet another milestone in supercomputing.

In particular, I want to commend the members of the Roadrunner team.

From Los Alamos: Sriram Swaminarayan, Paul Henning, Adolfo Hoisie, Guy Dimonte, Darren Kerbyson, Brian Albright, Tim Germann, Ben Bergen, Ken Koch, Manuel Vigil, Randal Rheinheimer, Parks Fields, John Cerutti.

From IBM: Nicholas Donofrio, Cornell Wright, William Zeitler, David Turek, Don Grice, and Catherine Crawford.

Participants from academia included Steven Zuker of Yale University and James DiCarlo from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Top 10 Fastest Supercomputers in the World (June 2008).

Name, Location, Speed (TFlop/s).

1. Roadrunner (IBM), Los Alamos, NM (NNSA), 1026.0.

2. Blue Gene/L (IBM), Livermore, CA (NNSA), 478.2.

3. Blue Gene/P (IBM), Argonne, IL (DOE), 450.3.

4. Ranger (Sun), Univ. of Texas, TX, 326.0.
5. Jaguar (Cray), Oak Ridge, TN (DOE), 205.0.
6. JUGENE (IBM), Juelich, Germany, 180.0.
7. Encanto (SGI), NMCAC, NM, 133.2.
8. EKA (HP), TATA SONS, India, 132.8.
9. Blue Gene/P (IBM), IDRIS, France, 112.5.
10. SGI Altix ICE (SGI), Total Exploration, France, 106.1.

SENATE RESOLUTION 638—SUPPORTING LEGISLATION PROMOTING IMPROVED HEALTH CARE AND ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN

Ms. STABENOW for herself and Mr. OBAMA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 638

Whereas women are the health care decisionmakers for themselves and their families;

Whereas women want affordable health care they can count on throughout life transitions, such as starting a family, job changes, part-time and full-time work, divorce, caring for an elderly or sick family member, having a major disease, or retiring;

Whereas women with good health coverage worry about keeping their coverage and access to their providers;

Whereas women are more likely to seek essential preventive and routine care than are men, are more likely to have a chronic health condition, and are more likely to take a prescription drug on a daily basis;

Whereas women pay 68 percent more than men for out-of-pocket medical costs, due in large part to reproductive health care needs;

Whereas more than half of underinsured women (53 percent) and ⅔ of uninsured women (68 percent) forego needed care, and about half of the underinsured (45 percent) and uninsured (51 percent) report difficulty paying medical bills;

Whereas, in 2004, 1 in 6 women with individual coverage reported postponing or going without needed care because she couldn't afford it;

Whereas high-deductible health plans are often targeted to young women as an inexpensive health coverage option, but fail to cover pregnancy-related care, the most expensive health event most young families face and the leading reason for hospital stays;

Whereas 75,000,000 adults (42 percent of the under-65 population) had either no insurance or inadequate insurance in 2007, up from 35 percent in 2003;

Whereas 47,000,000 people, nearly 16 percent of the United States population, are uninsured, including 17,000,000 adult women ages 18 to 64 (18 percent) and 9,000,000 children (12 percent);

Whereas the Institute of Medicine estimated that lack of health insurance coverage resulted in 18,000 excess deaths in the United States in 2000 (a number which the Urban Institute estimates grew to 22,000 by 2006) and that acquiring health insurance reduces mortality rates for the uninsured by 10 to 15 percent;

Whereas uninsured women with breast cancer are 30 to 50 percent more likely to die from the disease, and uninsured women are 3 times less likely to have had a Pap test in the last 3 years, with a 60 percent greater risk of late-stage cervical cancer;

Whereas 13 percent of all pregnant women are uninsured, making them less likely to seek prenatal care in the 1st trimester and to receive the optimal number of visits during their pregnancies, and 31 percent more likely to experience an adverse health outcome after giving birth;

Whereas the lack or inadequate use of prenatal care is associated with pregnancy-related mortality rates 2 to 3 times higher and infant mortality rates 6 times higher than that of women receiving early prenatal care, as well as increased risk of low birthweight and preterm birth;

Whereas heart disease is the leading cause of death for both women and men, but women are less likely to receive lifestyle counseling, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, and cardiac rehabilitation and more likely to die or have a 2nd heart attack, demonstrating inequalities in access to care;

Whereas health care disparities persist, leaving Hispanic and Native American women and children 3 times more likely and African Americans nearly twice as likely to be uninsured as non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2005, nearly 80 percent of the female population infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) was Black or Hispanic, and the incidence rates of HIV and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) are dramatically higher for Black and Hispanic women and adolescents (60.2 and 15.8 per 100,000, respectively) than for White women and adolescents (3.0 per 100,000);

Whereas women are less likely than men to be insured through their jobs and more likely to be insured as a dependent, making them more vulnerable to insurance loss in the event of divorce or death of a spouse;

Whereas 64 percent of uninsured women are in families with at least 1 adult working full-time;

Whereas health care costs are increasingly unaffordable for working families and employers, with employer-sponsored health insurance premiums increasing 87 percent since 2000;

Whereas America's 9,100,000 women-owned businesses employ 27,500,000 people, contribute \$3,600,000,000 to the economy, and face serious obstacles in obtaining affordable health coverage for their employees;

Whereas the lack of affordable health coverage creates barriers for women who want to change jobs or create their own small businesses;

Whereas health care professionals and workers—a significant portion of whom are women—have a stake in achieving reform that allows them to provide the highest quality care for their patients;

Whereas 56 percent of all caregivers are women;

Whereas the United States spends twice as much on health care as the median industrialized nation, our health care system ranks near the bottom on most measures of health status among the 30 developed nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and 37th in overall health performance among 191 nations; and

Whereas the National Institutes of Medicine (NIH) estimates that the cost of achieving full insurance coverage in the United States would be less than the loss in economic productivity from existing coverage gaps: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commits to pass, and urges the President sign into law, within the next 18 months, legislation that guaran-

tees health care for all women and health care for all people of the United States and that—

(1) recognizes the special role that women play as health care consumers, caregivers, and providers;

(2) guarantees inclusion of health care benefits essential to achieving and maintaining good health, including comprehensive reproductive health, pregnancy-related, and infant care;

(3) promotes primary and preventive care, including family planning, contraceptive equity, and care continuity;

(4) provides a choice of public and private plans and direct access to a choice of doctors and health providers that ensures continuity of coverage and a delivery system that meets the needs of women;

(5) eliminates health disparities in coverage, treatment, and outcomes on the basis of gender, culture, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, health status, and sexual orientation;

(6) shares responsibility for financing among employers, individuals, and the government while taking into account the needs of small businesses;

(7) ensures that access to health care is affordable;

(8) enhances quality and patient safety;

(9) promotes administrative efficiency, reduces unnecessary paperwork, and is easy for health care consumers and providers to utilize; and

(10) ensures a sufficient supply of qualified providers through expanded medical and public health education and adequate reimbursement.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to issue a challenge on the need to reform health care. The resolution I am introducing today with my friend and colleague, Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY, calls on Congress to send a plan to the next President that will ensure high-quality and affordable health care for women and for all. I also am proud to be joined by my colleagues, Senators OBAMA, KLOBUCHAR, CANTWELL, MCCASKILL, MIKULSKI, MURRAY, CLINTON, BOXER, and KENNEDY.

We spend twice as much on health care as any other industrialized nation, yet we have an unacceptably high number of Americans without health insurance—nearly 50 million. Millions more are also underinsured and have less coverage than they need. We are blessed with the best doctors, nurses, and other health providers in the world but rank 43rd in the world in infant mortality.

We are all in this together. From working families to the uninsured, from multinational corporations to small businesses, we all face challenges in making sure Americans get the quality, affordable health care they need, when they need it. Rising costs are crippling our businesses and our economy. Health care costs make large businesses, like Michigan's automakers, less competitive globally and threaten the survival of small firms.

We must ensure that no child is denied doctor visits, no pregnant woman has to choose between prenatal care and her rent, and no working family pays high premiums every month only to find that the care they most need isn't covered. And we need to end