

(1) recognizes and commends Bread for the World, on the 35th anniversary of its founding, for its encouragement of citizen engagement, its advocacy for poor and hungry people, and its successes as a collective voice; and

(2) challenges Bread for the World to continue its work to address world hunger.

AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF A COLLECTION OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 166, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 166) to authorize printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 166) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 166

Resolved, That a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate, together with related materials, be printed as a Senate document, and that there be printed 300 additional copies of such document for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

YEAR OF THE MILITARY FAMILY

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 165, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 165) to encourage the recognition of 2009 as the "Year of the Military Family."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, there are more than 1.8 million family members of active duty servicemembers and an additional 1.1 million family members of reserve component members. Every one of these families makes sacrifices each and every day along with their servicemember and plays a very significant role in serving our country.

Military families often face unique challenges and difficulties throughout their loved one's career, including frequent relocations to bases across the country and overseas as well as the various demands stemming from continued deployments of members from every service. The Nation must ensure

that all the needs of military dependent children and spouses are being met. The life of a military family member has never been an easy one, but in our 8th year of war, families are facing even more hardships.

Deployments are an undeniable strain on families. While a servicemember is away, spouses are often forced into the role of a single parent—juggling employment, child care, and household duties each and every day, all the while living with the pressure of having a family member deployed to a combat zone. Families are an integral part of the force, and stress on the force affects overall readiness.

Servicemembers will experience less stress in the field if they are assured their families are well taken care of back home. And it is imperative that families remain as resilient as possible in order to provide a stable environment for loved ones when they return home from those deployments. Families are often the first line of defense against posttraumatic stress and suicide, but may be experiencing similar feelings themselves. We must ensure that families and servicemembers have timely access to mental health resources and programs. We must make every dependent aware of the resources available to them to assist in everything from finances to job placement to health care and counseling.

Thousands of military family members have taken it upon themselves to confront these challenges by volunteering to provide critical assistance during deployments to servicemembers, their spouses, and children, as well as giving vital support to families relocating to a new area. And sadly, many families have made the ultimate sacrifice in the loss of a servicemember who proudly defended our Nation.

We in Congress have tried to do our part to help, and have made family support programs and initiatives a priority. In recent bills we have called for: the establishment of a Department of Defense Military Family Readiness Council; education, training, and tuition assistance to help spouses maintain careers; respite care for parents caring for children on their own due to deployments; authorized increased levels of Impact Aid for military dependents' education; and established and supported the nationwide expansion of the Department's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program which is aimed at helping members and families of the Guard and Reserve. But there is still more to do.

With President and Mrs. Obama placing the support of our military families among their top priorities, we must take this opportunity to renew our commitment and express our deepest appreciation to military family members who bravely serve this Nation alongside their servicemembers. It is my hope that this Year of the Military Family inspires us, the Department of Defense, the military Services, and

Americans everywhere to commit to helping military families and servicemembers in any way we can, and to ensure that these strong men, women, and children are given the recognition, appreciation, and support that they so truly deserve.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, it is my privilege to support S. Res. 165, a resolution encouraging the recognition of 2009 as the "Year of the Military Family." I am honored to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, along with my colleagues on the Committee on Armed Services, Senator LEVIN, Senator BEN NELSON and Senator GRAHAM.

Our Nation is honored by the brave men and women who selflessly risk their lives for our freedom, and by their families, who accept risks, both known and unknown, in support of their country and loved ones who serve. The programs and resources our Nation provides must match the quality of the service and sacrifice of military families. That is why I and others fought so hard to include a special provision in the post-9/11 G.I. bill to allow career service members the opportunity to share the educational benefits that they earn with their immediate family members.

Many military families are distinguished by generations, who have served, from the American Revolution, to the American Civil War, World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, the first gulf war and recent conflicts. The resolution before us today recognizes the contributions and resilience of all military families, and especially those who have endured multiple deployments, or the loss of a loved one who answered the call to service and paid the ultimate price in defense of our Nation.

SFC Kimberly Hazelgrove was serving as an intelligence expert in the U.S. Army when she received the news on January 23, 2004, that her husband, Army CW2 Brian Hazelgrove, had died. His helicopter crashed on its return from a combat mission in northern Iraq. On that tragic day, Kimberly Hazelgrove became a survivor of an American hero. But, like so many whose spouses have died as a consequence of their service to our Nation, she is also a hero in her own right. Kimberly had to abandon her own promising military career to care for four young children. She struggled, with the help of family and friends, to start over—to transition to civilian life, to find employment in which to apply her military skills, and return to school—and with courage and determination she succeeded. Today she balances a new career with the needs of the children that she and Brian had planned to raise, and has never abandoned her selfless advocacy on behalf of survivors of the fallen. Kimberly Hazelgrove represents the essence of service and sacrifice of military families, and I salute her.

Not all military families are defined only as the service member, a spouse,