

use of the telework arrangement described under paragraph (2) while minimizing agency travel expenses and employee travel requirements.

“(4)(A) The test program under this subsection shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government.

“(B) The Director of the Patent and Trademark Office shall—

“(i) prepare an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program; and

“(ii) before the test program is implemented, submit the analysis and criteria to the Administrator of General Services and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(C) With respect to an employee of the Patent and Trademark Office who voluntarily relocates from the pre-existing duty station of that employee, the operating procedures of the program may include a reasonable maximum number of occasional visits to the pre-existing duty station before that employee is eligible for payment of any accrued travel expenses by the Office.

“(D)(i) Not later than 3 months after completion of the test program under this subsection, the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office shall provide a report on the results of the program to the Administrator of General Services and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(ii) The results in the report described under paragraph (1) may include—

“(I) the number of visits an employee makes to the pre-existing duty station of that employee;

“(II) the travel expenses paid by the Office;

“(III) the travel expenses paid by the employee; or

“(IV) any other information that the Director determines may be useful to aid the Administrator and Congress in understanding the test program and the impact of the program.

“(E) In this paragraph, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(i) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committees on Government Oversight and Reform and on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

“(f)(1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.

“(2) The authority to conduct a test program by the Patent and Trademark Office under this section shall expire 20 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as though enacted as part of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-264; 112 Stat. 2350).

#### FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES USAGE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 379, S. 2868.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2868) to provide increased access to the General Services Administration's Schedules Program by the American Red Cross and State and local governments.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 2868) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2868

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2009’’.

#### SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS TO USE FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES BY THE RED CROSS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may provide for the use by the American National Red Cross of Federal supply schedules. Purchases under this authority shall be used in furtherance of the purposes of the American National Red Cross set forth in section 300102 of title 36, United States Code.

“(2) LIMITATION.—The authority under this subsection may not be used to purchase supplies for resale.”

#### SEC. 3. DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES.—All users of Federal supply schedules, including non-Federal users, shall use the schedules in accordance with the ordering guidance provided by the Administrator of General Services.”

#### SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO USE SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Subsection (d)(1) of section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting ‘‘, to facilitate disaster preparedness or response,’’ after ‘‘Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)’’.

#### SUPPORTING U.S. ALLIANCE WITH THAILAND

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 538, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 538) affirming the support of the United States for a strong and vital alliance with Thailand.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent my name be added as a cosponsor of this measure.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions 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. 538) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 538

Whereas Thailand became the first treaty ally of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region with the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, signed at Sia-Yut'hia (Bangkok) March 20, 1833, between the United States and Siam, during the administration of President Andrew Jackson and the reign of King Rama III;

Whereas the United States and Thailand furthered their alliance with the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty, (commonly known as the ‘‘Manila Pact of 1954’’) signed at Manila September 8, 1954, and the United States designated Thailand as a major non-North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally in December 2003;

Whereas, through the Treaty of Amity and Economic Relations, signed at Bangkok May 26, 1966, along with a diverse and growing trading relationship, the United States and Thailand have developed critical economic ties;

Whereas Thailand is a key partner of the United States in Southeast Asia and has supported closer relations between the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

Whereas Thailand has the longest-serving monarch in the world, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who is loved and respected for his dedication to the people of Thailand;

Whereas Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has issued a 5-point roadmap designed to promote the peaceful resolution of the current political crisis in Thailand;

Whereas approximately 500,000 people of Thai descent live in the United States and foster strong cultural ties between the 2 countries; and

Whereas Thailand remains a steadfast friend with shared values of freedom, democracy, and liberty; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) affirms the support of the people and the Government of the United States for a strong and vital alliance with Thailand;

(2) calls for the restoration of peace and stability throughout Thailand;

(3) urges all parties involved in the political crisis in Thailand to renounce the use of violence and to resolve their differences peacefully through dialogue;

(4) supports the goals of the 5-point roadmap of the Government of Thailand for national reconciliation, which seeks to

(A) uphold and protect respect for and the institution of the constitutional monarchy;

(B) resolve fundamental problems of social justice systematically and with participation by all sectors of society;

(C) ensure that the media can operate freely and constructively;

(D) establish facts about the recent violence through investigation by an independent committee; and

(E) establish mutually acceptable political rules through the solicitation of views from all sides; and

(5) promotes the timely implementation of an agreed plan for national reconciliation in