

(5) encourages ongoing negotiations between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova concerning visa liberalization and an Association Agreement;

(6) urges fulfillment by the Government of Moldova of commitments it has made to the OSCE with respect to the free and fair conduct of its upcoming parliamentary elections; and

(7) expresses the belief that the free and fair conduct of parliamentary elections in Moldova will contribute to a strong and stable government that is responsive to the vital needs of its people.

S. RES. 684

Whereas the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-142) was signed into law 35 years ago on November 29;

Whereas the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 established the Federal policy of ensuring that all children, regardless of the nature or severity of their disability, have available to them a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment;

Whereas the Education of the Handicapped Act (Public Law 91-230), as amended by the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975, was further amended by the Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1986 (Public Law 99-457) to create a preschool grant program for children with disabilities 3 to 5 years of age and an early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities from birth through age 2;

Whereas the Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1990 (Public Law 101-476) renamed the Education of the Handicapped Act as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.);

Whereas IDEA was amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997 (Public Law 105-17) to ensure that children with disabilities have equal access to, and make progress in, the general education curriculum and are included in all general State and district-wide assessment programs;

Whereas IDEA was amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-446) to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living;

Whereas IDEA currently serves an estimated 342,000 infants and toddlers, 709,000 preschoolers, and 5,890,000 children 6 to 21 years of age;

Whereas IDEA has opened neighborhood schools to students with disabilities and increased the number of children living in their communities instead of institutions;

Whereas the academic achievement of students with disabilities has significantly increased since the enactment of IDEA;

Whereas the number of children with disabilities who complete high school with a standard diploma has grown significantly since the enactment of IDEA;

Whereas the number of children with disabilities who enroll in institutions of higher education has more than tripled since the enactment of IDEA;

Whereas IDEA requires partnership among parents of children with disabilities and education professionals in the design and implementation of the educational services provided to children with disabilities;

Whereas the achievement of students with disabilities is integrally linked with the suc-

cessful alignment of special and general education systems;

Whereas IDEA has increased the quality of research in effective teaching practices for students with disabilities; and

Whereas IDEA continues to serve as the framework to marshal the resources of this Nation to implement the promise of full participation in society of children with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-142);

(2) acknowledges the many and varied contributions of children with disabilities and their parents, teachers, related services personnel, and administrators; and

(3) reaffirms its support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act so that all children with disabilities have access to a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and the opportunity to benefit from the general education curriculum and be prepared for further education, employment, and independent living.

S. RES. 685

Whereas sickle cell disease is an inherited disorder that affects red blood cells leading to significant morbidity and mortality in nearly 80,000 people in the United States;

Whereas sickle cell disease causes blockage of small blood vessels which can lead to tissue damage resulting in severe pain, infection, or stroke;

Whereas scientific breakthroughs over the past century have improved the lives of millions of people suffering from sickle cell disease;

Whereas scientific advances in treatment for sickle cell disease began with Dr. James B. Herrick, an attending physician at Presbyterian Hospital and professor of medicine at Rush Medical College in Chicago, Illinois, who discovered sickle cell disease and published the first recorded case in Western medical literature in November of 1910 in the journal *Annals of Internal Medicine*;

Whereas the hemoglobin mutation responsible for sickle cell disease was discovered by Linus Pauling in 1950;

Whereas penicillin was proven to be effective as a preventative strategy against pneumococcal infection in 1986, sparing patients with sickle cell disease from contracting this particularly dangerous infection;

Whereas in 1995, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute reported the first effective drug treatment for adults with severe sickle cell disease;

Whereas the anticancer drug hydroxyurea was found to reduce the frequency of painful crises of sickle cell disease and patients taking the drug needed fewer blood transfusions;

Whereas in 1996, bone marrow transplantation was discovered to improve the course of sickle cell disease for select patients;

Whereas in 1997, blood transfusions were found to help prevent stroke in patients with sickle cell disease;

Whereas the introduction of pneumococcal vaccine in 2000 revolutionized the prevention of lethal infections in children and adults with sickle cell disease;

Whereas the first mouse model demonstrating the usefulness of genetic therapy for sickle cell disease was developed in 2001;

Whereas in 2007, scientists from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology developed an animal model for curing sickle cell disease;

Whereas improvements in treatments have substantially improved quality of life for patients with sickle cell disease and led to an increase in overall life expectancy from 14

years in 1973 to the mid to late 40s in 2010; and

Whereas the National Institutes of Health sponsored a symposium on November 16 and 17, 2010, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Dr. James Herrick's initial description of sickle cell disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the contributions of the biomedical research community to the improvement in diagnosis and treatment of sickle cell disease; and

(2) commemorates the 100th anniversary of the discovery of sickle cell disease in November 1910.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3975

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3975) to permanently extend the 2001 and 2003 tax relief provisions, and to permanently repeal the estate tax, and to provide permanent alternative minimum tax relief, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND A CONDITIONAL RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to H. Con. Res. 332, which is an adjournment resolution, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 332) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first I would like to express my appreciation to the Presiding Officer for his patience.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Absolutely.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 332) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 332

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring)*, That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday,