Whereas insufficient sleep is associated with a number of chronic diseases and conditions, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obesity, and depression;

Whereas the average cost of treating severe COPD is 5 times higher than treating mild COPD;

Whereas the appropriate medication and disease management of asthma can reduce health care costs, including hospitalization, emergency room visits, and physician visits, by half;

Whereas the flu vaccine can prevent 60 percent of hospitalizations and 80 percent of deaths from flu-related complications among the elderly;

Whereas advances in medical research have significantly improved the capacity to fight lung disease by providing greater knowledge about its causes, innovative diagnostic tools to detect the disease, and new and improved treatments that help people survive and recover from this disease;

Whereas there is no cure for major lung diseases including asthma, COPD, and lung cancer;

Whereas chronic lung diseases are a leading cause of death and yet the quality of palliative and end-of-life care for patients with chronic lung disease is significantly worse than patients with other terminal illnesses;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health, through its medical institutions and centers, through basic, clinical, and translational research, plays a pivotal role in advancing the prevention, detection, treatment, and cure of lung disease;

Whereas the Department of Veterans Affairs is actively engaged in research in respiratory diseases that impact the Nation’s veterans;

Whereas the Environmental Protection Agency establishes air quality standard and enforcement programs to ensure the quality of the air we breathe;

Whereas the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, provides essential health insurance benefits for millions of patients with respiratory disorders;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through its many centers and programs, provides valuable prevention and surveillance programs on diseases of the lung;

Whereas an international collaboration of medical professional and scientific societies is working to enhance the general public’s understanding of respiratory diseases, their causes, prevention, treatment, and impact respiratory disease play in human health; and

Whereas the initiative, The Year of the Lung, seeks to raise awareness about lung health among the public, initiate action in communities worldwide, and advocate for resources to combat lung disease including resources for research and research training programs worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 149 of the One Hundred Third Congress, 1st session (agreed to on March 25, 1999), as further amended by Senate Resolution 75 of the One Hundred Sixth Congress, 1st session (agreed to on October 27, 2000), as further amended by Senate Resolution 355 of the One Hundred Seventh Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 13, 2002), as further amended by Senate Resolution 480 of the One Hundred Eighth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 20, 2004), as further amended by Senate Resolution 625 of the One Hundred Ninth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on December 6, 2006), and as further amended by Senate Resolution 715 of the One Hundred Tenth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 20, 2008), is further amended in section 4 by striking “2010” and inserting “2012”.

Whereas the initiative, The Year of the Lung, seeks to raise awareness about lung health among the public, initiate action in communities worldwide, and advocate for resources to combat lung disease including resources for research and research training programs worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 149 of the One Hundred Third Congress, 1st session (agreed to on March 25, 1999), as further amended by Senate Resolution 75 of the One Hundred Sixth Congress, 1st session (agreed to on October 27, 2000), as further amended by Senate Resolution 355 of the One Hundred Seventh Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 13, 2002), as further amended by Senate Resolution 480 of the One Hundred Eighth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 20, 2004), as further amended by Senate Resolution 625 of the One Hundred Ninth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on December 6, 2006), and as further amended by Senate Resolution 715 of the One Hundred Tenth Congress, 2nd session (agreed to on November 20, 2008), is further amended in section 4 by striking “2010” and inserting “2012”.

Whereas the flu vaccine can prevent 60 percent of hospitalizations and 80 percent of deaths from flu-related complications among the elderly;

Whereas advances in medical research have significantly improved the capacity to fight lung disease by providing greater knowledge about its causes, innovative diagnostic tools to detect the disease, and new and improved treatments that help people survive and recover from!
Lula has spent her Senate career behind the scenes not just helping Senators do our jobs but also quietly helping young people, the hungry, and those in need. As tough and hard as Lula must be here on the Senate floor, she is kind. She founded and runs a nonprofit called Leadership Cares, which each year helps children in our community provide quality meals to more than 650 families. She has encouraged many of her fellow Senate staffers to join her family. I hope you will join me in volunteering to help. She has never asked for any recognition for this work or any of her work because that is the kind of person she is. But Lula deserves our praise and thanks for so much more.

Senator LANDRIEU of Louisiana likes to tell a story about how much a part of the Senate Lula really is, how great an institution our outgoing secretary of the majority is. Senator LANDRIEU once asked a group of Senate pages if they had ever met any of their Senate leaders. They said: Yes. They had met Lula.

Lula Davis has been the heart of the Senate, and our appreciation for her is heartfelt. I speak for each Senator, Democratic and Republican.

For me, personally, Lula has been strong, resolute, and very wise. Words cannot describe how I will miss Lula because I knew she was doing it not in her heart and an important part of Senate life.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise this evening to acknowledge the retirement of Lula Davis, in appreciation of her dedication to the Senate and her many years of service to this institution. Lula has been a force in every legislative effort we have engaged in since my tenure as Republican leader began, and long before that. I have come to respect her deep knowledge of the Senate rules and the important role she has played in advising Democratic Senators over the past 2 years. She is a constant presence on the floor and an important part of Senate life. We congratulate her on her retirement to the majority. I say: Thank you Lula Davis. I say: Lula Davis was that she was respectful of Senators, but not deferential. She would be happy to tell you when she thought you had stepped out of line in what you were wearing, and what you might be chewing, and what you might be using your microphone for, your conversations on the floor, and on and on. She did this in a way that first startled me, because I wasn't used to it in the House. They had called me Lula Johnson Davis. She moved to the Democratic floor on both the House and Senate sides at the staff level were extremely courteous, kind, and helpful. I found that throughout my career in the House, and I certainly found it in the Senate. But the good thing about Lula Davis was that she was respectful of Senators, but not deferential. Words cannot describe how I will miss Lula because I knew she was doing it not in any personal way but because of her love for the Senate.

They do a Roll Call survey about the most powerful Stafford on Capitol Hill, and they rate them in four ways: know-how, muscle, spin control, and access. Lula always received the highest check marks in every category but one—spin control. That is about right. Lula Davis was never one to mince words in her role as secretary to the majority of the Senate. Tough, fair, insisting on the strict observance of Senate rules and procedures and, I say: But the good thing about Lula Davis was that she was respectful of Senators, but not deferential. They do a Roll Call survey about the most powerful Stafford on Capitol Hill, and they rate them in four ways: know-how, muscle, spin control, and access. Lula always received the highest check marks in every category but one—spin control. That is about right. Lula Davis was never one to mince words in her role as secretary to the majority of the Senate. Tough, fair, insisting on the strict observance of Senate rules and procedures and, I say: But the good thing about Lula Davis was that she was respectful of Senators, but not deferential. Words cannot describe how I will miss Lula because I knew she was doing it not in any personal way but because of her love for the Senate.

She founded and runs a nonprofit called Leadership Cares, which tries to guide young people into successful lives by helping others who are less fortunate. And every evening the Democratic side would tell a story about Lula, because she became not only their boss but their friend. She taught them a lot about life in their life experience here in the Senate. Lula Davis was the very best of luck as she begins the next chapter in life.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, although I don't have anything written, I was listening to the leader speak and the whip talk about Lula Davis and all she has done here in the Senate. I, too, wish to pay my respects and give my thanks and my best wishes to Lula Davis as she leaves the Senate. As many hours as Lula devoted to the Senate, it is hard to believe that she had time for anything else. But she founded an organization called Leadership Cares, which tries to guide young people into successful lives by helping others who are less fortunate. And every evening the Democratic side would tell a story about Lula, because she became not only their boss but their friend. She taught them a lot about life in their life experience here in the Senate. Lula Davis was the very best of luck as she begins the next chapter in life.
loyalty and hard work in helping to make the Senate a more efficient, compatible working environment. I thank Lula Davis, and I wish her the best in her retirement. I hope she doesn’t get too far away from the Senate and that she comes back to see us once in a while to help us untangle that ball of string, as I am sure it is bound to become tangled again sometime.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 707) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

Whereas Lula Davis, the Secretary for the Majority, will be retiring at the end of the 111th Congress, after a long and distinguished career;

Whereas Lula Davis was first elected as Assistant Democratic Secretary in 1997, and she was the first woman ever to hold that position;

Whereas Lula Davis was elected to be the Secretary for the Majority at the beginning of the 111th Congress, the first African American to serve in this position, and during the two years she has expertly tackled one of the toughest jobs in politics;

Whereas throughout her time in the Senate, Lula Davis has played a major role in managing the debate and passage of many significant pieces of legislation;

Whereas many legislative accomplishments over the years would not have happened without the leadership of Lula Davis;

Whereas Lula Davis lived in rural Louisiana, and worked as a teacher and guidance counselor;

Whereas Lula Davis remains committed to children in our community, founding and continuing to run a nonprofit mentoring and charitable organization called “Leadership Cares” which provides holiday meals to more than 650 families annually;

Whereas Lula Davis has encouraged many of her fellow Senate staff to volunteer alongside her family and friends to make a difference for those in need;

Whereas Lula Davis started her Senate career as a legislative aide to her home-state Senator Russell Long, and went on to serve in almost every position on the floor staff, including office assistant, floor assistant, chief floor assistant, Assistant Secretary, and Secretary;

Whereas Lula Davis is a master of the complex formal and informal rules under which the Senate operates;

Whereas Lula Davis has consistently provided thoughtful and reliable advice to both Democratic and Republican leadership and all members of the Senate;

Whereas Lula Davis is loyal to the Senate and to Senators, and respects the traditions that make this body great;

Whereas the Senate has tremendous respect for Lula Davis and her hard work, and deeply appreciates her enormous contributions to the Senate and to the United States:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate expresses its deepest thanks to Lula Davis for her many years of outstanding service to the United States Senate and to the United States of America.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 706, Sec. 583, reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on December 17, 2010, be star printed with the changes at the desk. An incorrect version of the committee substitute amendment was reported to the Senate.

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

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator BAYH be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Wednesday, December 22, and that Senator LINCOLN be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Thursday, December 23, and Friday, December 24.

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

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, in consultation with the chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, pursuant to Public Law 111–211, appoints the following individuals to be members of the Indian Law and Order Commission: Troy Eid of Colorado and Jefferson Keel of Oklahoma.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE 111TH CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, when we convened this Congress in January 2009, 750,000 Americans were losing their homes every month. Soon after this Congress began, an auto industry nearly imploded, and within a year an oil well exploded. It was a tough 2 years for our Nation and for so many families. It was also a time of remarkable progress.

When this Congress began, insurance companies were free to deny health care to the sick for any excuse they could come up with. The doughnut hole that sent seniors’ prescription drug costs through the roof was wide open. Wall Street firms had just crashed our economy, but they were still free to rip off investors while the Nation smoldered.

Cigarette companies could prey on children, credit card companies could prey on consumers, and con artists could prey on families’ mortgages.

Employers were free to pay women less than men, the safety of our food supply was dangerously inadequate, and the definition of a hate crime was shamefully insufficient. Gay men and women who volunteered to defend and die for our country were asked to fight and die for values and principles they didn’t have for themselves in America.

More than a year has passed since American inspectors were on the ground to monitor the Russian nuclear weapons arsenal.

We have turned each of these around.

Because of what we did in this Congress, we brought the economy back from the brink of collapse, we cut taxes for 95 percent of Americans, we invested in important job-creating projects, and we will keep working until everyone who wants to work can find a job.

Because of what we did, families are safer from health insurance companies. Our economy and its investors are safer from big banks. Consumers are safer from credit card companies, homeowners are safer from mortgage fraud, and all of us are safer from corporate poison.

Parents can know their children are safer from cigarette companies, thanks to legislation we passed that will save