

Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi people in the Nineveh Plain face ethnic and religious cleansing, persecution, and harassment due to attacks by the terrorists; and

Whereas, Over two-thirds of the Christian population in Iraq is made up of Chaldeans and Assyrians, with smaller populations of Syriacs and Armenians. More than 500,000 people have been displaced by the current violence in Iraq, with nearly 80% of Iraq's 1.5 million Christian population having fled since 2003. These communities in North-western Iraq have recently been given an ultimatum to convert, flee, or be killed. Mosul's 1800-year-old Christian community no longer exists. Many of these individuals have resettled in the United States, including Michigan. Over 130,000 Chaldeans currently reside in our state, the largest population outside of Iraq. This community has, and continues to be, a strong asset to our state, among other states in our union; and

Whereas, The United States has provided over \$73 million in humanitarian assistance to Iraq's minority populations since 2003. Yet, the crisis currently gripping north-western Iraq has serious potential to undo all international efforts to restore stability to Iraq. Action by the United States is necessary to reaffirm our commitment to protecting minority groups facing persecution: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we urge the President and Congress of the United States to encourage international intervention on behalf of the Iraqi civilians in dire need of protection from religious persecution; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-343. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho urging the United States Congress to take action forthwith to amend the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 106

Whereas, The Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution states that, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people"; and

Whereas, the states primarily regulate today's health insurance market and provide aggressive oversight of all aspects of this market and enforce consumer protection as well as ensure a local, responsive presence for consumers; and

Whereas, states like Idaho are working hard to create public-private health care partnerships and facilitate local solutions; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has passed legislation that will impose restrictions on the states' ability to regulate health plans and will require citizens to acquire health care insurance coverage; and

Whereas, the creation of a new federal system of regulation for health insurance would be inefficient, unnecessary, not cost-effective and an additional burden on states; and

Whereas, the legislation passed by the Congress will impose a legacy of untold debt on our children and grandchildren; and

Whereas, it is in the interest of the citizens of the State of Idaho to have an amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting the Congress from making any law that would require citizens to enroll in, participate in or secure health care insurance and that would penalize any citizen who declines to purchase or participate in any

health care insurance program: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein,* that the Idaho Legislature urges Congress to take action forthwith to amend the United States Constitution by adding a Twenty-eighth Amendment as follows:

The Congress shall make no law requiring citizens of the United States to enroll in, participate in or secure health care insurance or to penalize any citizen who declines to purchase or participate in any health care insurance program; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States and the presiding officers of both houses of the Legislature of each of our sister states in the Union.

POM-344. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to investigate the United States Department of Veterans Affairs' treatment of military veterans seeking health care at facilities throughout the country; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 385

Whereas, The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has been aware of a backlog of patients seeking to see doctors or have specific tests completed at several VA hospitals around the nation for several years. As many as 7,000 veterans have been on the backlog list, often waiting over a year for necessary procedures or tests. The VA admits that 23 veterans have died while waiting to see a doctor. However, many believe the number of veterans to have died while waiting to be seen is much higher; and

Whereas, It has now come to light that VA facilities have, not only a backlog of patients, but also secret waiting lists, keeping veterans' names out of the computer system until they could be seen by a doctor within the required 14-day wait time. The secret waiting lists made it appear the VA facilities were meeting their performance goal to see patients in a timely manner; and

Whereas, The men and women who serve our country deserve better than lackluster medical care or no care at all. Many of them have been injured in the line of duty and come home to face medical challenges that require timely diagnosis and care. All veterans are entitled to the best care we can give them. To be deceived by a system more interested in performance goals than health care is intolerable: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we urge the United States Congress to investigate the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, treatment of military veterans seeking health care at facilities throughout the country; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2041, a bill to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-271).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1045. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment (Rept. No. 113-272).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 43. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the "Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 451. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the "Richard K. Salick Post Office".

H.R. 1391. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the "London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 1865. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office".

H.R. 3085. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building".

H.R. 3957. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218-10 Merrick Boulevard in Springfield Gardens, New York, as the "Cynthia Jenkins Post Office Building".

H.R. 4189. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4000 Leap Road in Hilliard, Ohio, as the "Master Sergeant Shawn T. Hannon, Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

H.R. 4443. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Vermilyea Avenue, in New York, New York, as the "Corporal Juan Mariel Alcantara Post Office Building".

H.R. 4919. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 715 Shawan Falls Drive in Dublin, Ohio, as the "Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids and Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 5019. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office".

H.R. 5106. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the "Philmore Graham Post Office Building".

S. 2523. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW., in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building".

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

David Rivera, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years.