

and, before February 1, 2015, to provide grants for Haiti.”.

On page 4, line 7, insert “and future generations” after “Haiti’s future”.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 4573), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 80, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) recognizing and honoring the Blinded Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families.

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

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I ask our colleagues to support a joint resolution honoring and recognizing the Blinded Veterans Association for its 65 years of dedication to blinded veterans, and their families.

On March 28, 1945, during the closing stages of World War II, a group of nearly 100 blinded veterans were recuperating at the Old Farms Army Convalescent Hospital near Avon, Connecticut. These men discussed the challenges they had faced and those they were yet to experience, and decided to form an organization with the express purpose of helping other fellow blinded veterans. It was on that day that the Blinded Veterans Association was born.

The war-blinded population is one with unique needs and as such, requires specialized care and support. BVA has filled an essential role, serving as an ardent advocate and engaging in outreach efforts, to ensure these men and women regain independence and confidence, and experience a smooth transition into civilian life.

After 65 years of service, BVA continues to actively contribute to the betterment of blinded veterans' lives. BVA conducts two programs that help to reintegrate newly blinded veterans of our current wars back into their communities. The Field Service Program strategically places legally blind veteran representatives in different geographical areas, to ensure newly blinded veterans are aware of what health care services they qualify for, and are equipped with the necessary skills and tools to deal with life after sight loss. Operation Peer Support links returning blinded OEF/OIF veterans with blinded veterans of previous wars who faced similar challenges, thereby providing role models and necessary support. BVA further supports

this important community by offering academic scholarships each year to a limited number of blinded veteran dependents.

Blinded veterans have sacrificed much for this nation and deserve the best care and support. As their voice, BVA has helped Congress ensure we are doing everything within our reach to assist these brave men and women as they adapt to a new life after service.

Mr. President, I urge passage of this joint resolution honoring BVA on its 65th anniversary of advocacy on behalf of blinded veterans, on March 28, 2010.

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the joint resolution be read three times and passed, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The preamble was agreed to.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

#### DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2010 AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 117 and S. Res. 412 en bloc, and the Senate proceed to their immediate consideration en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolutions by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 117) commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope, a preeminent international women's association and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA).

A resolution (S. Res. 412) designating September 2010 as “National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month”.

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate en bloc, and any statements related to the resolutions be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 117) and (S. Res. 412) were agreed to en bloc.

The preambles were agreed to en bloc.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

#### S. RES. 117

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope is a leading international organization of women

of Hellenic descent and Philhellenes, founded November 16, 1929, in San Francisco, California, to improve the status and well-being of women and their families and to provide women the opportunity to make significant contributions to their community and country;

Whereas the mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote the ideals of ancient Greece, philanthropy, education, civic responsibility, good citizenship, and family and individual excellence, through community service and volunteerism;

Whereas the chapters of the Daughters of Penelope sponsor affordable and dignified housing to the Nation's senior citizen population by participating in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's section 202 housing program (12 U.S.C. 1701q);

Whereas Penelope House, a domestic violence shelter for women and their children sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope, is the first of its kind in the State of Alabama and is recognized as a model shelter for others to emulate throughout the United States;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. supports the educational objectives of the Daughters of Penelope by providing tens of thousands of dollars annually for scholarships, sponsoring educational seminars, and donating children's books to libraries, schools, shelters, and churches through the “Open Books” program;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope is the first ethnic organization to submit oral history tapes to the Library of Congress, providing an oral history of first generation Greek-American women in the United States;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope promotes awareness of cancer research, such as thalassemia (Cooley's anemia), lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM), Alzheimer's disease, muscular dystrophy, and others;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope provides financial support for many medical research and charitable organizations such as the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (formerly the Papanicolaou Cancer Center), the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, the American Heart Association, the Special Olympics, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, the Children's Wish Foundation International, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Habitat for Humanity, St. Basil Academy, and others; and

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope provides support and financial assistance to victims and communities affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and forest fires: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the significant contributions of people of Greek ancestry, and of Philhellenes, to the United States; and

(2) commemorates the 80th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope in 2009, applauds its mission, and commends the many charitable contributions of its members to organizations and communities around the world.

#### S. RES. 412

Whereas during the past 4 decades, obesity rates have soared among all age groups, increasing more than four-fold among children ages 6 to 11;

Whereas 31.8 percent or 23,000,000 children and teenagers ages 2 to 19 are obese or overweight, a statistic that health and medical experts consider an epidemic;

Whereas significant disparities exist among the obesity rates of children based on race and poverty;

Whereas the financial implications of childhood obesity pose a tremendous financial threat to our economy and health care

system, carrying up to \$14,000,000,000 per year in direct health care cost, with people in the United States spending about 9 percent of their total medical costs on obesity-related illnesses;

Whereas obese young people have an 80 percent chance of being obese adults and are more likely than children of normal weight to become overweight or obese adults, and therefore more at risk for associated adult health problems, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, stroke, several types of cancer, and osteoarthritis;

Whereas in part due to the childhood obesity epidemic, 1 in 3 children (and nearly 1 in 2 minority children) born in the year 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes at some point in their lifetime if current trends continue;

Whereas some consequences of childhood and adolescent obesity are psychosocial and obese children and adolescents are targets of early and systematic social discrimination, leading to low self-esteem which, in turn, can hinder academic and social functioning and persist into adulthood;

Whereas participating in physical activity is important for children and teens as it may have beneficial effects not only on body weight, but also on blood pressure and bone strength;

Whereas proper nutrition is important for children before birth and through their lifespan as nutrition has beneficial effects for health and body weight, and is key in the prevention of various chronic diseases;

Whereas childhood obesity is preventable yet does not appear to be declining;

Whereas public, community-based, and private sector organizations and individuals throughout the United States, including First Lady Michelle Obama, are working to decrease childhood obesity rates for people in the United States of all races through a range of efforts, including educational presentations, media campaigns, Web sites, policies, healthier food options, and greater opportunities for physical activity; and

Whereas Members of Congress have championed legislation to reduce and bring awareness to the issue of childhood obesity: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month” in order to raise public awareness and mobilize the country to address childhood obesity;

(2) recognizes the importance of preventing childhood obesity and decreasing its prevalence in the United States; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government, States, tribes and tribal organizations, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of promoting healthy eating and physical activity and increasing awareness of childhood obesity among individuals of all ages and walks of life.

#### NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 427, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 427) designating the first week of April, 2010 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week.”

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

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to; a Baucus amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 427) was agreed to.

The amendment to the preamble (No. 3719) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike the 8th whereas clause of the preamble.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 427

Whereas dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

Whereas the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;

Whereas asbestos fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis, and other health problems;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;

Whereas the expected survival time for those diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

Whereas generally, little is known about late-stage treatment of asbestos-related diseases, and there is no cure for such diseases;

Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases may give some patients increased treatment options and might improve their prognoses;

Whereas the United States has reduced its consumption of asbestos substantially, yet continues to consume almost 2,000 metric tons of the fibrous mineral for use in certain products throughout the Nation;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases have killed thousands of people in the United States;

Whereas exposure to asbestos continues, but safety and prevention of asbestos exposure already has significantly reduced the incidence of asbestos-related diseases and can further reduce the incidence of such diseases;

Whereas asbestos has been a cause of occupational cancer;

Whereas thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure;

Whereas thousands of people in the United States die from asbestos-related diseases every year;

Whereas a significant percentage of all asbestos-related disease victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975;

Whereas people in the small community of Libby, Montana, have asbestos-related diseases at a significantly higher rate than the national average and suffer from mesothelioma at a significantly higher rate than the national average; and

Whereas the establishment of a “National Asbestos Awareness Week” will raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of April 2010 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”;

(2) urges the Surgeon General to warn and educate people about the public health issue of asbestos exposure, which may be hazardous to their health; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Office of the Surgeon General.

#### RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

#### NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR AUXILIARIES DAY

#### PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions: S. Res. 471, S. Res. 472, S. Res. 473, and S. Res. 474.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

#### S. RES. 471

Whereas classes began at The University of Southern Mississippi (referred to in this preamble as “the University”), originally named Mississippi Normal College, on March 30, 1910;

Whereas throughout a century of growth, expansion, and changes of name, first to State Teachers College, in 1924, then Mississippi Southern College, in 1940, and ultimately The University of Southern Mississippi, in 1962, the institution has been dedicated to engaging and empowering the citizens of Mississippi to transform lives and communities;

Whereas the University is the only dual-campus university in Mississippi, and the innovative faculty of the University continues to cultivate intellectual development and creativity through the generation, dissemination, application, and preservation of knowledge by annually educating more than 16,000 students from over 100 countries;

Whereas the University is the home of numerous innovative and internationally recognized programs that contribute to the successful research enterprise of the University, which generates more than \$90,000,000 annually;

Whereas the University has more than 125,000 graduates, whose talents and skills have reflected favorably on the State of Mississippi and who have served as trailblazers in the areas of politics, entertainment, law, business, professional athletics, and volunteerism, improving the lives of all they have touched;

Whereas the University is looking ahead as it enters its second century as a premier research university of the Gulf South, with programs in academics, athletics, community service, and the arts that are competitive in the State and region, and throughout the Nation and around the world; and