

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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 (S. Res. 601, S. Res. 623, S. Res. 650, and S. Res. 667) were agreed to en bloc.

The preambles were agreed to en bloc.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. RES. 601

Whereas Americans are living longer and the cost of retirement continues to rise, in part because the number of employers providing retiree health coverage continues to decline, and retiree health care costs continue to increase at a rapid pace;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States, but was never intended by Congress to be the sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas recent data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States, less than 2/3 of workers or their spouses are currently saving for retirement, and that the actual amount of retirement savings of workers lags far behind the amount that will be needed to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas many workers may not be aware of their options for saving for retirement or may not have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for their own retirement;

Whereas many employees have available to them through their employers access to defined benefit and defined contribution plans to assist them in preparing for retirement, yet many of them may not be taking advantage of employer-sponsored defined contribution plans at all or to the full extent allowed by the plans as prescribed by Federal law; and

Whereas all workers, including public- and private-sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from increased awareness of the need to save adequate funds for retirement and the availability of preferred savings vehicles to assist them in saving for retirement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 19 through October 25, 2008, as “National Save for Retirement Week”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Save for Retirement Week;

(3) supports the need to raise public awareness of efficiently utilizing substantial tax revenues that currently subsidize retirement savings, revenues in excess of \$170,000,000,000 for the fiscal year 2007 budget;

(4) supports the need to raise public awareness of the importance of saving adequately for retirement and the availability of tax-preferred employer-sponsored retirement savings vehicles; and

(5) calls on States, localities, schools, universities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of increasing retirement savings for all the people of the United States.

S. RES. 623

Whereas Frederick W. Lander first surveyed and supervised construction of the Lander Trail in 1858 to provide emigrants

with a travelable link between the Oregon and California Trails;

Whereas 13,000 emigrants traveled on the Lander Trail during the settlement of the Western United States;

Whereas the Lander Trail was the first Federal road west of the Mississippi River;

Whereas travelers in the American West used the Lander Trail for 54 years until 1912; and

Whereas people can still experience the Lander Trail in the same setting that Frederick W. Lander first began construction in 1858: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the important role of the Lander Trail in the settlement of the Western United States on the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Lander Trail.

S. RES. 650

Whereas gestures of welcoming and kindness between neighbors foster community peace, harmony, and understanding;

Whereas being good neighbors to those around us encourages mutual respect and friendship;

Whereas neighborhoods facilitate positive civic engagement and enhance the foundation of an effective and more caring society;

Whereas National Neighbor Day, celebrated annually on the Sunday before Memorial Day weekend in May, was first celebrated in 1993 in Westerly, Rhode Island, to promote equality, dignity, and respect and to encourage love of one’s neighbor;

Whereas National Good Neighbor Day, celebrated annually on the fourth Sunday of September, was first celebrated in the 1970s in Lakeside, Montana, to place a greater emphasis on the importance of community and being a good neighbor; and

Whereas National Neighborhood Day, celebrated annually on the third Sunday of September, was first celebrated in Providence, Rhode Island, to inspire, build, and sustain neighborhood relationships and foster civic engagement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups and organizations—

(1) to celebrate the goals of National Neighbor Day, National Good Neighbor Day, and National Neighborhood Day in 2008; and

(2) to undertake appropriate ceremonies, events, and activities associated with those goals.

S. RES. 667

Whereas countless families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas, in 2008, over 186,320 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 28,660 men in the United States will die of prostate cancer;

Whereas 30 percent of new diagnoses of prostate cancer occur in men under the age of 65;

Whereas a man in the United States turns 50 years old about every 14 seconds, increasing his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer a prostate cancer incidence rate up to 65 percent higher than White males and double the mortality rates;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer and the probability that the disease will lead to death, and high cholesterol levels are strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas, if a man in the United States has 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer, he has a 1 in 3 chance of being diagnosed with prostate cancer, if he has 2 family members with such diagnoses, he has an 83 percent risk, and if he has 3 family members with such diagnoses, he then has a 97 percent risk of prostate cancer;

Whereas screening by both a digital rectal examination (DRE) and a prostate specific antigen blood test (PSA) can diagnose the disease in its early stages, increasing the chances of surviving more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent, while only 33 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while it is still in the early stages, making screening critical;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatments; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2008 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that the Federal Government has a responsibility—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;

(B) to increase research funding that is commensurate with the burden of the disease so that the screening and treatment of prostate cancer may be improved, and so that the causes of, and a cure for, prostate cancer may be discovered; and

(C) to continue to consider ways for improving access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interested groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, their families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

BENNETT FREEZE REPEAL ACT

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 967, S. 531.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 531) to repeal section 10(f) of Public Law 93-531, commonly known as the “Bennett Freeze.”

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

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 531) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 531

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

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF THE BENNETT FREEZE.

Section 10(f) of Public Law 93-531 (25 U.S.C. 640d-9(f)) is repealed.

UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 868, S. 2606.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2606) to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The number of lives lost each year because of fire has dropped significantly over the last 25 years in the United States. However, the United States still has one of the highest fire death rates in the industrialized world. In 2005, the National Fire Protection Association reported 3,675 civilian fire deaths, 17,925 civilian fire injuries, and \$10,672,000,000 in direct losses due to fire.

(2) Every year, more than 100 firefighters die in the line of duty. The United States Fire Administration should continue its leadership to help local fire agencies dramatically reduce these fatalities.

(3) The Federal Government should continue to work with State and local governments and the fire service community to further the promotion of national voluntary consensus standards that increase firefighter safety.

(4) The United States Fire Administration provides crucial support to the 30,300 fire departments of the United States through training, emergency incident data collection, fire awareness and education, and support of research and development activities for fire prevention, control, and suppression technologies.

(5) The collection of data on fire and other emergency incidents is a vital tool both for policy makers and emergency responders to identify and develop responses to emerging hazards. Improving the data collection capabilities of the United States Fire Administration is essential for accurately tracking and responding to the magnitude and nature of the fire problems of the United States.

(6) The research and development performed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the United States Fire Administration, other government agencies, and non-governmental organizations on fire technologies, techniques, and tools advance the capabilities of the fire service of the United States to suppress and prevent fires.

(7) Because of the essential role of the United States Fire Administration and the fire service community in preparing for and responding to national and man-made disasters, the United States Fire Administration should have a prominent place within the Federal Emergency Man-

agement Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION.

Section 17(g)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding after subparagraph (D) the following:

"(E) \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, of which \$2,520,000 shall be used to carry out section 8(f);

"(F) \$72,100,000 for fiscal year 2010, of which \$2,595,600 shall be used to carry out section 8(f);

"(G) \$74,263,000 for fiscal year 2011, of which \$2,673,468 shall be used to carry out section 8(f); and

"(H) \$76,490,890 for fiscal year 2012, of which \$2,753,672 shall be used to carry out section 8(f)."

SEC. 4. NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS AND REPORTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING.—Section 7(d)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2206(d)(1)) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraph (H) to read as follows:

"(H) tactics and strategies for dealing with natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters;"

(2) in subparagraph (K), by striking "forest" and inserting "wildland";

(3) in subparagraph (M), by striking "response";

(4) by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through (N) as subparagraphs (M) through (R), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following:

"(I) tactics and strategies for fighting large-scale fires or multiple fires in a general area that cross jurisdictional boundaries;

"(J) tactics and strategies for fighting fires occurring at the wildland-urban interface;

"(K) tactics and strategies for fighting fires involving hazardous materials;

"(L) advanced emergency medical services training;"

(b) ON-SITE TRAINING.—Section 7 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2206) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(6), by inserting ", including on-site training" after "United States";

(2) in subsection (f), by striking "4 percent" and inserting "7.5 percent"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(m) ON-SITE TRAINING.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Administrator may enter into a contract with nationally recognized organizations that have established on-site training programs that comply with national voluntary consensus standards for fire service personnel to facilitate the delivery of the education and training programs outlined in subsection (d)(1) directly to fire service personnel.

"(2) LIMITATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not enter into a contract with an organization described in paragraph (1) unless such organization operates a fire service training program that—

"(i) is accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation organization experienced with accrediting such training; or

"(ii) the Administrator determines is of equivalent quality to a fire service training program described by clause (i).

"(B) APPROVAL OF UNACCREDITED FIRE SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMS.—The Administrator may training the fact that an organization has provided a satisfactory fire service training program pursuant to a cooperative agreement with

a Federal agency as evidence that such program is of equivalent quality to a fire service training program described by subparagraph (A)(i).

"(3) RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS.—The amounts expended by the Administrator to carry out this subsection in any fiscal year shall not exceed 7.5 per centum of the amount authorized to be appropriated in such fiscal year pursuant to section 17."

(c) TRIENNIAL REPORTS.—Such section 7 (15 U.S.C. 2206) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(n) TRIENNIAL REPORT.—In the first annual report filed pursuant to section 16 for which the deadline for filing is after the expiration of the 18-month period that begins on the date of the enactment of the United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008, and in every third annual report thereafter, the Administrator shall include information about changes made to the National Fire Academy curriculum, including—

"(1) the basis for such changes, including a review of the incorporation of lessons learned by emergency response personnel after significant emergency events and emergency preparedness exercises performed under the National Exercise Program; and

"(2) the desired training outcome of all such changes."

SEC. 5. NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UPGRADES.

(a) INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM DATABASE.—Section 9 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2208) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UPDATE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall update the National Fire Incident Reporting System to ensure that the information in the system is available, and can be updated, through the Internet and in real time.

"(2) LIMITATION.—Of the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraphs (E), (F), and (G) of section 17(g)(1), the Administrator shall use not more than an aggregate amount of \$5,000,000 during the 3-year period consisting of fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011 to carry out the activities required by paragraph (1)."

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 9(b)(2) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2208(b)(2)) is amended by striking "assist State," and inserting "assist Federal, State,".

SEC. 6. FIRE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.

(a) ASSISTANCE TO FIRE SERVICES FOR FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.—Section 8(d) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2207(d)) is amended to read as follows:

"(d) RURAL AND WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator may, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, assist the fire services of the United States, directly or through contracts, grants, or other forms of assistance, in sponsoring and encouraging research into approaches, techniques, systems, equipment, and land-use policies to improve fire prevention and control in—

"(1) the rural and remote areas of the United States; and

"(2) the wildland-urban interface."

(b) TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.—Section 8 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2207) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fire-related research program funded by the Administration, the Administrator shall make available to the public on the Internet website of the Administration the following:

"(A) A description of such research program, including the scope, methodology, and goals thereof.