

been trained for service in the Field Artillery at the United States Army Field Artillery School;

Whereas the Field Artillery lives up to its nickname, "The King of Battle", by continuing to be the most responsive all-weather fire support available to ground forces engaged in combat;

Whereas the modern Field Artillery branch employs, and the United States Army Field Artillery School trains troops on, a variety of powerful weapons, from the 105 millimeter M-199 howitzer, the 155 millimeter M-777 lightweight howitzer, and the 155 millimeter Paladin self-propelled howitzer to the Multiple Launch Rocket System;

Whereas the United States Army Field Artillery School has trained Field Artillery officers and non-commissioned officers to be the Army's experts on the employment of lethal and non-lethal effects that have contributed to our Nation's successes in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas Field Artillery officers stand among our Nation's most revered civilian and military leaders, including founding fathers and Revolutionary War officers Alexander Hamilton and Henry Knox; Major General William J. Snow, the first Chief of the Field Artillery; Captain Harry S. Truman of the Missouri National Guard; Generals Jack Vessey, John Shalikashvili, and Maxwell Taylor, Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Generals William Westmoreland, Carl Vuono, and Dennis Reimer, Chiefs of Staff of the Army; General Tommy Franks, U.S. Central Command Commander who led coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and General Raymond Odierno, U.S. Joint Forces Command Commander, who led Multi-National Forces-Iraq;

Whereas Field Artillerymen have fought with courage, strength, and fidelity in every United States conflict, and have been awarded more than 90 Medals of Honor, including, most recently, a Medal of Honor awarded posthumously to Sergeant First Class Jared Monti, a forward observer in Afghanistan who demonstrated conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as he called in artillery fire to save his outnumbered patrol and was mortally wounded as he attempted to save a fellow soldier; and

Whereas the people of the United States take great pride in the history of Fort Sill, the United States Army Field Artillery School, and the continuing critical role that the Field Artillery plays in the defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the 100th anniversary of the United States Army Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and

(2) honors the long line of men and women of the Army Field Artillery who have served and continue to serve in the protection of the national security of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 187—SUPPORTING NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS IN ORDER TO BRING ATTENTION TO THE SEVERE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES, ASIANS, BLACKS OR AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS OR LATINOS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BEGICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 187

Whereas many minority populations disproportionately experience health care barriers, exposure to environmental hazards, mortality, morbidity, behavioral risk factors, disability status, and unique social determinants of health;

Whereas the expected increase in minority populations in the near future will impact the entire health system of the United States, making the collective improved health of minority populations even more critical to the Nation;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified 6 main categories in which racial and ethnic minorities experience the most disparate access and health outcomes, including infant mortality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS infection, and immunizations;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, African-American, American Indian, and Puerto Rican infants have higher mortality rates than White infants;

Whereas African-American women are more than twice as likely to die of cervical cancer than White women and are more likely to die of breast cancer than women of any other racial or ethnic group;

Whereas in 2006, among adults older than 44, the rate of death from coronary heart disease was 20 percent higher among African Americans than among Whites, and the death rate from stroke was 48 percent higher among African Americans than among Whites;

Whereas in 2008, as compared to non-Hispanic Whites, African American adults were 6 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes, Hispanics were 1.5 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes, and Asians were 1.2 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes;

Whereas African Americans and Hispanics represented only 27 percent of the United States population in 2008, but accounted for an estimated 68 percent of adult AIDS diagnoses and 71 percent of estimated pediatric AIDS diagnoses in 2008;

Whereas in 2008, Hispanics and African Americans age 65 and older were less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to report having received influenza and pneumococcal vaccines;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 5.2 years less than the life expectancy of the population of the United States overall;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified diseases of the heart, malignant neoplasm, unintentional injuries, diabetes, and cerebrovascular disease as the 5 leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives die at higher rates than other people in the United States from tuberculosis, diabetes, unintentional injuries, and suicide; and

Whereas health care experts, policymakers and tribal leaders are seeking to address the disproportionate disease burden and lower life expectancy for the American Indian and Alaska Native people by examining various factors that contribute to health status: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports national minority health awareness in order to bring attention to the severe health disparities faced by minority populations such as American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Oversight and Reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank of the United States."

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Financing 21st Century Infrastructure."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled, "Strategic Implications of Pakistan and the Region."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 2:15 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "A Nation Prepared: Strengthening Medical and Public Health Preparedness and Response."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 3:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICES, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Addressing the U.S. Postal Service's Financial Crisis."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES, AND BORDER SECURITY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees, and Border Security, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on May 17, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Improving Security and Facilitating Commerce at America's Northern Border and Ports of Entry."

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

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY FIELD ARTILLERY SCHOOL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 186, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 186) honoring the 100th anniversary of the United States Army Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 186) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 186

Whereas May 19, 2011, has been set aside as Field Artillery Day at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the Home of the Field Artillery, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the School of Fire for the Field Artillery;

Whereas the School of Fire for the Field Artillery at Fort Sill was established on June 5, 1911, under the command of Captain Dan T. Moore, its first commandant;

Whereas the first class of 14 captains and 22 non-commissioned officers arrived on September 15, 1911, and the school continues to operate today as the world renowned United States Army Field Artillery School;

Whereas thousands of soldiers, Marines, and allied foreign military students have been trained for service in the Field Artillery at the United States Army Field Artillery School;

Whereas the Field Artillery lives up to its nickname, "The King of Battle", by continuing to be the most responsive all-weather fire support available to ground forces engaged in combat;

Whereas the modern Field Artillery branch employs, and the United States Army Field Artillery School trains troops on, a variety of powerful weapons, from the 105 millimeter M-199 howitzer, the 155 millimeter M-777 lightweight howitzer, and the 155 millimeter Paladin self-propelled howitzer to the Multiple Launch Rocket System;

Whereas the United States Army Field Artillery School has trained Field Artillery officers and non-commissioned officers to be the Army's experts on the employment of lethal and non-lethal effects that have contributed to our Nation's successes in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas Field Artillery officers stand among our Nation's most revered civilian and military leaders, including founding fathers and Revolutionary War officers Alexander Hamilton and Henry Knox; Major General William J. Snow, the first Chief of the Field Artillery; Captain Harry S. Truman of the Missouri National Guard; Generals Jack Vessey, John Shalikashvili, and Maxwell Taylor, Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Generals William Westmoreland, Carl Vuono, and Dennis Reimer, Chiefs of Staff of the Army; General Tommy Franks, U.S. Central Command Commander who led coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and General Raymond Odierno, U.S. Joint Forces Command Commander, who led Multi-National Forces-Iraq;

Whereas Field Artillerymen have fought with courage, strength, and fidelity in every United States conflict, and have been awarded more than 90 Medals of Honor, including, most recently, a Medal of Honor awarded posthumously to Sergeant First Class Jared Monti, a forward observer in Afghanistan who demonstrated conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as he called in artillery fire to save his outnumbered patrol and was mortally wounded as he attempted to save a fellow soldier; and

Whereas the people of the United States take great pride in the history of Fort Sill, the United States Army Field Artillery School, and the continuing critical role that the Field Artillery plays in the defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the 100th anniversary of the United States Army Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and

(2) honors the long line of men and women of the Army Field Artillery who have served and continue to serve in the protection of the national security of the United States.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 187, introduced earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 187) supporting national minority health awareness in order to bring attention to the severe health disparities faced by minority populations such as American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. 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 measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 187) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 187

Whereas many minority populations disproportionately experience health care barriers, exposure to environmental hazards, mortality, morbidity, behavioral risk factors, disability status, and unique social determinants of health;

Whereas the expected increase in minority populations in the near future will impact the entire health system of the United States, making the collective improved health of minority populations even more critical to the Nation;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified 6 main categories in which racial and ethnic minorities experience the most disparate access and health outcomes, including infant mortality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS infection, and immunizations;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, African-American, American Indian, and Puerto Rican infants have higher mortality rates than White infants;

Whereas African-American women are more than twice as likely to die of cervical cancer than White women and are more likely to die of breast cancer than women of any other racial or ethnic group;

Whereas in 2006, among adults older than 44, the rate of death from coronary heart disease was 20 percent higher among African Americans than among Whites, and the death rate from stroke was 48 percent higher among African Americans than among Whites;

Whereas in 2008, as compared to non-Hispanic Whites, African American adults were 6 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes, Hispanics were 1.5 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes, and Asians were 1.2 times more likely to have medically-diagnosed diabetes;

Whereas African Americans and Hispanics represented only 27 percent of the United States population in 2008, but accounted for an estimated 68 percent of adult AIDS diagnoses and 71 percent of estimated pediatric AIDS diagnoses in 2008;

Whereas in 2008, Hispanics and African Americans age 65 and older were less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to report having received influenza and pneumococcal vaccines;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 5.2 years