

such powerful medicines makes it more critical than ever to raise public awareness about the dangers of the abuse of such drugs;

Whereas when prescription drugs are abused, such drugs are most often obtained through friends and relatives;

Whereas parents should be aware that the Internet gives teenagers access to websites that promote the abuse of medicines;

Whereas the designation of "National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month" promotes the message that over-the-counter and prescription medicines should be taken only as labeled or prescribed, and such medicines can have serious or life-threatening consequences when used to get high or in large doses;

Whereas the designation of "National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month" will encourage parents to educate themselves about the problem of abuse of over-the-counter and prescription medicines, and talk to their teens about all types of substance abuse;

Whereas observance of "National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month" should be encouraged at the national, State, and local levels to increase awareness of the abuse of medicines;

Whereas educational tools, training programs, and strategies have been developed by the national organization that represents 5,000 anti-drug coalitions nationwide and the association representing makers of over-the-counter medicines, in order to help local coalitions demonstrate the best ways to engage and educate parents and grandparents, teachers, law enforcement officials, doctors, other healthcare professionals, and retailers about the potential harms of cough medicine abuse;

Whereas a partnership of nonprofit associations specializing in raising media awareness about substance abuse and organizations that represent the leading makers of over-the-counter drugs have developed a nationwide prevention campaign that utilizes research-based educational advertisements, public relations and news media, and the Internet to inform parents about the negative teen behavior of intentional abuse of medicines, in order to empower parents to effectively communicate with their children about this dangerous trend and to take necessary steps to safeguard prescription and over-the-counter medicines in their homes; and

Whereas educating the public on the dangers of medicine abuse and promoting prevention of medicine abuse are critical components of what must be a multi-pronged effort to curb prescription and over-the-counter medicine abuse: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of October 2011 as "National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month"; and

(2) urges communities to carry out appropriate programs and activities to educate parents and youth about the potential dangers associated with medicine abuse.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration en bloc of the following resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 276, S. Res. 277, S. Res. 278, S. Res. 279, S. Res. 280, and S. Res. 281, which were submitted earlier today.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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. 276

Expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month 2011

Whereas "infant mortality" refers to the death of a baby before his or her first birthday;

Whereas the United States ranks 41st among industrialized countries in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas high rates of infant mortality are especially prevalent in communities with large minority populations, high rates of unemployment and poverty, and limited access to safe housing and medical providers;

Whereas premature birth is a leading cause of infant mortality;

Whereas according to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, premature birth costs the United States more than \$26,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas infant mortality can be substantially reduced through community-based services such as outreach, home visitation, case management, health education, and interconceptual care;

Whereas support for community-based programs to reduce infant mortality can result in lower future spending on medical interventions, special education, and other social services that may be needed for infants and children who are born with a low birth weight;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services, through the Office of Minority Health, has implemented the "A Healthy Baby Begins With You" campaign;

Whereas the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration has provided national leadership on the issue of infant mortality;

Whereas public awareness and education campaigns on infant mortality are held during the month of September each year; and

Whereas September 2011 has been designated as "National Infant Mortality Awareness Month": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month 2011;

(2) supports efforts to educate people in the United States about infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality;

(3) supports efforts to reduce infant deaths, low birth weight, pre-term births, and disparities in perinatal outcomes;

(4) recognizes the critical importance of including efforts to reduce infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality as part of prevention and wellness strategies; and

(5) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Infant Mortality Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.

S. RES. 277

Recognizing the month of October 2011 as "National Principals Month"

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National

Association of Elementary School Principals have declared the month of October 2011 as "National Principals Month";

Whereas principals are educational visionaries, instructional and assessment leaders, disciplinarians, community builders, budget analysts, facilities managers, and administrators of legal and contractual obligations;

Whereas principals work collaboratively with teachers and parents to develop and implement a clear mission, high curriculum standards, and performance goals;

Whereas principals create school environments that facilitate great teaching and learning and continuous school improvement;

Whereas the vision, actions, and dedication of principals provide the mobilizing force behind any school reform effort; and

Whereas the celebration of "National Principals Month" would honor elementary school, middle school, and high school principals, and recognize the importance of principals in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of October 2011 as "National Principals Month"; and

(2) honors the contribution of principals in the elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools of our Nation by supporting the goals and ideals of "National Principals Month".

S. RES. 278

Designating September 2011 as "National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month"

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

Whereas 1 in 6 males 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 males in the United States;

Whereas in 2011, the American Cancer Society estimates that 240,890 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and 33,720 males will die from the disease;

Whereas 30 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas approximately every 14 seconds, a male in the United States turns 50 years old and increases his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is up to 65 percent higher than White males and have double the prostate cancer mortality rate of White males;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer;

Whereas the probability that obesity will lead to death and high cholesterol levels is strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas males in the United States with 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer have a 1 in 3 chance of being diagnosed with the disease, males with 2 family members diagnosed have an 83 percent chance, and males with 3 family members diagnosed have a 97 percent chance;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the early stages, increasing the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 33 percent of males 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 treatment; 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 males and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2011 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that steps should be taken—

(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 prostate cancer so that—

(i) screening and treatment for prostate cancer may be improved;

(ii) the causes of prostate cancer may be discovered; and

(iii) a cure for prostate cancer may be developed; 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, families, and the economy; and

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

S. RES. 279

Expressing support for the designation of September 24, 2011, as “Worldwide Day of Play”

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, since 1980, obesity prevalence among children has almost tripled and approximately 12,500,000, or 17 percent, of children and adolescents in the United States are obese;

Whereas according to the American Academy of Pediatrics study entitled “The Importance of Play in Promoting Healthy Child Development and Maintaining Strong Parent-Child Bonds”—

(1) play is essential to development because play contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and youth;

(2) play offers an ideal opportunity for parents to engage fully with children; and

(3) despite the benefits derived from play for both children and parents, time for free play has been significantly reduced for some children and youth in the United States;

Whereas Worldwide Day of Play is the centerpiece of The Big Help, the long-term commitment of Nickelodeon to empower children and families by providing the tools and information children and families need to take action on the issues children and families care about;

Whereas in each of the 50 States and in 13 countries, including at United States military bases around the globe, children and families celebrate Worldwide Day of Play;

Whereas on September 24, 2011, Nickelodeon will host the 8th annual Worldwide Day of Play;

Whereas in 2011, in collaboration with the Let’s Move! campaign started by First Lady Michelle Obama and the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition, the Nickelodeon Worldwide Day of Play will be held on the Ellipse in Washington, District of Columbia;

Whereas September 24, 2011, would be an appropriate date to designate as Worldwide Day of Play: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of September 24, 2011, as “Worldwide Day of Play”.

S. RES. 280

Designating the week beginning September 19, 2011, as “National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week” and recognizing the achievements of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

Whereas Hispanic-serving institutions play an important role in educating many underprivileged students and helping those students attain their full potential through higher education;

Whereas Hispanic-serving institutions are degree-granting institutions that have a full-time equivalent undergraduate enrollment of at least 25 percent Hispanic students;

Whereas in 2010, there were 307 Hispanic-serving institutions in the United States, enrolling 1,348,436 Hispanic students in non-profit postsecondary schools;

Whereas Hispanic-serving institutions are actively involved in stabilizing and improving the communities in which the Hispanic-serving institutions are located;

Whereas 54 percent of Hispanic students in the United States attend nonprofit, postsecondary Hispanic-serving institutions;

Whereas celebrating the vast contributions of Hispanic-serving institutions to the United States strengthens the culture of the United States;

Whereas the achievements and goals of Hispanic-serving institutions are deserving of national recognition;

Whereas 2011 marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, an organization that works to improve the capacity of Hispanic-serving institutions in helping students across the United States succeed;

Whereas the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities fulfills its mission by promoting the development of member colleges and universities, improving access to, and the quality of, postsecondary educational opportunities for Hispanic students, and meeting the needs of business, industry, and government through the development and sharing of resources, information, and expertise; and

Whereas the week beginning September 19, 2011, would be an appropriate week for national recognition of Hispanic-serving institutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the achievements and goals of Hispanic-serving institutions across the United States;

(2) recognizes the achievements of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities throughout the 25 years since the establishment of the organization;

(3) designates the week beginning September 19, 2011, as “National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week”; and

(4) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for Hispanic-serving institutions.

S. RES. 281

Designating September 24, 2011, as “National Estuaries Day”

Whereas the estuary regions of the United States comprise a significant share of the national economy, with 43 percent of the population, 40 percent of the employment, and 49 percent of the economic output of the United States located in the estuary regions of the United States;

Whereas coasts and estuaries contribute more than \$800,000,000,000 annually in trade

and commerce to the United States economy;

Whereas more than 43 percent of all adults in the United States visit a sea coast or estuary at least once a year to participate in some form of recreation, generating \$8,000,000,000 to \$12,000,000,000 in revenue annually;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 jobs in the United States are supported by commercial and recreational fishing, boating, tourism, and other coastal industries that rely on healthy estuaries;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitat for countless species of fish and wildlife, including many that are listed as threatened or endangered;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization and erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during extreme weather events;

Whereas the United States has lost more than 110,000,000 acres, or 50 percent, of the wetland of the United States since the first European settlers arrived;

Whereas bays once filled with fish and oysters have become dead zones filled with excess nutrients, chemical wastes, harmful algae, and marine debris;

Whereas changes in sea level can impact estuarine water quality and estuarine habitat;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) declares that it is the national policy to preserve, protect, develop, and if possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the coastal zone of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas 24 coastal and Great Lake States and territories of the United States contain a National Estuary Program or a National Estuarine Research Reserve System;

Whereas scientific study leads to better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities in a cost effective manner, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas September 24, 2011, has been designated as “National Estuaries Day” to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal, State and local government officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 24, 2011, as “National Estuaries Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Day;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to sustaining employment and the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States;

(4) recognizes that persistent threats undermine the health of the estuaries of the United States;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;

(6) reaffirms the support of the Senate for estuaries, including the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE
CALENDAR—S. 1619

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I understand that S. 1619 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1619) to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, and for other purposes.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I object to any further proceedings with respect to the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the measure will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, the United States is considering H.R. 2608, a continuing resolution to ensure our vital Federal programs can continue in operation while the Congress completes action on our appropriations bills for this fiscal year.

As all of my colleagues are aware, I do not welcome the reality that we once again need to approve of stopgap measures as we prepare to begin the next fiscal year, but, unfortunately, that is the position we are in now. The acrimonious and time-wasting debate on raising the debt ceiling has led us to this place. Put simply, we have no choice but to pass this short-term measure.

I wish to point out, however, that unlike last year, we see this as a short-term need, not a long-term remedy, because even though there was neither an agreement on spending levels nor an allocation to the Appropriations Committee for discretionary spending until the August recess commenced, I am happy to inform my colleagues that the Senate Appropriations Committee has completed its work on 11 of the 12 bills required to fund our Federal agencies. In the past 3 weeks, the Appropriations Committee has met to review and favorably approve 10 bills for fiscal year 2012. Eight of those bills were reported out of committee in an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, and by

that I mean something like 29 to 1. The Senate has received five of these bills from the House. The Appropriations Committee is ready to take up any of these bills on the floor when time allows.

In the interim, enacting a continuing resolution is essential before the Congress goes on recess. The bill passed by the House provides the bare-bones minimum required to ensure that government functions will be continued without interruption. It also includes a few critical legislative provisions to sustain vital programs which otherwise would be terminated. There were many more items which the administration and Members of this body would have wished to include, but the House did not agree to include them. The House CR also provides a limited amount of disaster funding, which has been addressed by others.

I want to state for the record that I am particularly disturbed at the position of the House that fiscal year 2011 emergency disaster assistance would be offset by canceling the advanced technology vehicle program. It has long been a tradition of the Congress to approve disaster assistance without need for offset. Others will likely come to the Senate floor to challenge that remark. They will point out that in many, if not most, emergency supplementals the Congress has recommended using rescissions to offset the cost of the bill. They are correct, but as usual the details tell the true story.

The Appropriations Committee annually reviews unobligated balances that remain in programs and those that are unnecessary are recommended for rescission or reapplication to other programs. However, in the case of disaster assistance, I challenge my colleagues to review all appropriations bills for the past decade and find a single instance where the committee paid for disasters by rescinding funds from other programs. No one would find an example because, quite simply, there are not any. Equally important, as noted above, year after year the Congress rescinds unobligated funds, but only when they are no longer needed. In the case of the remaining balances for the advanced technology vehicle programs, these funds are needed. Hardly a day goes by that someone does not come to the floor and note the need for job creation. Here is a program that is creating good jobs with a future. Investing in new technologies to make our Nation more competitive in the international marketplace is exactly the type of program where Federal Government intervention makes sense. The notion that our Republican colleagues in the House would propose rescinding \$1.5 billion in funding from this program in the current economic climate borders on the nonsensical.

Finally, I would note that today's balances in the disaster relief fund are now at \$175 million. Our people are in need of assistance now. The Congress

cannot wait any longer to address this need. All of my colleagues should come together in a bipartisan agreement to strip out the ATV offset, approve meaningful disaster assistance today, and return this bill to the House for reconsideration. I hope we have the good sense to resolve this matter.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the 18th annual National Public Lands Day, which will be celebrated on Saturday, September 24. I am pleased to acknowledge the efforts of volunteers across our Nation who will come together to improve and restore one of America's most valuable treasures, our public lands.

National Public Lands Day started in 1994 with 700 volunteers working in just a few locations. This year over 180,000 volunteers will come together to work at more than 2,000 locations across all 50 States. These people come from all walks of life, holding a shared interest in protecting our public lands for the enjoyment of future generations. National Public Lands Day provides an annual opportunity for the American public to devote a day to conservation and to give back to the public lands that give so much to us.

Our Nation has a proud tradition of conservation. When Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, it was the world's first national park. The idea of a national park was an American invention of historic proportions that led the way for global conservation efforts. President Teddy Roosevelt, one of our earliest and most energetic conservationists, dedicated 194 million acres of national parks and national preserves over the course of his Presidency. As we look ahead to enhance our Nation's conservation agenda, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar has enlisted Congress to identify the "crown jewels" of public lands that will be part of our legacy for future generations.

Public lands make up more than one-third of our country, and are places of continuous discovery, where we go to find ourselves, to uncover our history,