

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF ELIGIBLE VESSELS.

Notwithstanding sections 55102, 55103, and 55111 of title 46, United States Code, an eligible vessel, operating only in preparation for, or in connection with, the 34th America's Cup competition, may position competing vessels and may transport individuals and equipment and supplies utilized for the staging, operations, or broadcast of the competition from and around the ports in the United States.

SEC. 4. CERTIFICATION.

(a) **REQUIREMENT.**—A vessel may not operate under section 3 unless the vessel has received an Eligibility Certification.

(b) **ISSUANCE.**—The Administrator of the Maritime Administration of the Department of Transportation is authorized to issue an Eligibility Certification with respect to any vessel that the Administrator determines, in his or her sole discretion, meets the requirements set forth in section 2(4).

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

Notwithstanding sections 55102, 55103, and 55111 of title 46, United States Code, an Eligibility Certification shall be conclusive evidence to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security of the qualification of the vessel for which it has been issued to participate in the 34th America's Cup as a competing vessel or a supporting vessel.

SEC. 6. PENALTY.

Any vessel participating in the 34th America's Cup as a competing vessel or supporting vessel that has not received an Eligibility Certification or is not in compliance with section 12112 of title 46, United States Code, shall be subject to the applicable penalties provided in chapters 121 and 551 of title 46, United States Code.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 301—URGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO OBSERVE OCTOBER 2011 AS ITALIAN AND ITALIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CASEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 301

Whereas Italian and Italian-American Heritage Month is an appropriate time to recognize the enormous contributions that Italian and Italian-American people have made to the United States and the world throughout history, including generals, admirals, philosophers, statesmen, musicians, athletes, and Nobel Prize-winning scientists;

Whereas Italian and Italian-American Heritage Month salutes the Italian and Italian-American community and expresses appreciation for the culture and heritage of Italians and Italian Americans that has immeasurably enriched the lives of the people of the United States and the world;

Whereas the strength and success of the United States, the vitality of communities, and the effectiveness of society depend, in great measure, upon the distinctive and sterling qualities demonstrated by various ethnic groups and exemplified by members of the Italian and Italian-American community, who share their rich and unique heritage with all people of the United States; and

Whereas it is fitting and proper that October 2011 be observed as Italian and Italian-American Heritage Month throughout the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the enormous contributions that Italian and Italian-American people

have made to the United States and the world throughout history; and

(2) urges the people of the United States—

(A) to acknowledge October 2011 as Italian and Italian-American Heritage Month; and

(B) to observe the month with appropriate events and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 302—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY AND NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH BY PROMOTING NATIONAL AWARENESS OF ADOPTION AND THE CHILDREN AWAITING FAMILIES, CELEBRATING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INVOLVED IN ADOPTION, AND ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO SECURE SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. DEMINT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 302

Whereas there are approximately 408,000 children in the foster care system in the United States, approximately 107,000 of whom are waiting for families to adopt them;

Whereas 56 percent of the children in foster care are age 10 or younger;

Whereas the average length of time a child spends in foster care is more than 2 years;

Whereas for many foster children, the wait for a loving family in which they are nurtured, comforted, and protected seems endless;

Whereas in 2010, nearly 28,000 youth "aged out" of foster care by reaching adulthood without being placed in a permanent home;

Whereas everyday, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas a 2007 survey conducted by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption demonstrated that though "Americans overwhelmingly support the concept of adoption, and in particular foster care adoption . . . foster care adoptions have not increased significantly over the past five years";

Whereas while 4 in 10 Americans have considered adoption, a majority of Americans have misperceptions about the process of adopting children from foster care and the children who are eligible for adoption;

Whereas 71 percent of those who have considered adoption consider adopting children from foster care above other forms of adoption;

Whereas 45 percent of Americans believe that children enter the foster care system because of juvenile delinquency, when in reality the vast majority of children who have entered the foster care system were victims of neglect, abandonment, or abuse;

Whereas 46 percent of Americans believe that foster care adoption is expensive, when

in reality there is no substantial cost for adopting from foster care and financial support is available to adoptive parents after the adoption is finalized;

Whereas both National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month occur in the month of November;

Whereas National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to find permanent, loving families for children in the foster care system;

Whereas since the first National Adoption Day in 2000, more than 35,000 children have joined forever families during National Adoption Day;

Whereas in 2010, adoptions were finalized for nearly 5,000 children through 400 National Adoption Day events in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; and

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month, and National Adoption Day is on November 19, 2011: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and all throughout the year.

SENATE RESOLUTION 303—HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND SACRIFICE OF CAPTAIN COLIN P. KELLY JR., UNITED STATES ARMY

Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 303

Whereas Captain Colin P. Kelly Jr. was born in Madison, Florida in 1915 and graduated from that community's high school in 1932;

Whereas Captain Kelly attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, graduating in 1937 and was assigned to a B-17 bomber group;

Whereas Captain Kelly was stationed in the Philippines as a B-17 pilot in the Army Air Corps when the United States came under Japanese attack on December 7, 1941;

Whereas on December 10, 1941, when Clark Field in the Philippines was attacked by Japanese forces, Captain Kelly and his 7 crew members, Lieutenant Joe M. Bean, Second Lieutenant Donald Robins, Staff Sergeant James E. Halkyard, Technical Sergeant William J. Delehanty, Sergeant Meyer S. Levin, Private First Class Willard L. Money, and Private First Class Robert E. Altman, were sent to locate and sink a Japanese Aircraft Carrier, one of the first bombing missions of World War II;

Whereas the crew, commanded by Captain Kelly, located Japanese warships operating off the Luzon Coast, and during the mission successfully hit a large Japanese warship;

Whereas on the return flight to Clark Field, the B-17 came under attack by 2 enemy aircraft and was critically damaged;

Whereas Captain Kelly ordered his crew to bail out while he remained at the controls;

Whereas Captain Kelly continued to operate the controls as the 6 surviving crew members bailed out and parachuted safely to the ground, despite remaining under fire during the descent;

Whereas the B-17 crashed near Clark Field, killing Captain Kelly, who had remained at