

effect during the study period (in this section referred to as the "exemption system"), including specifically, for the study period—

(A) the number of currency transaction reports filed (out of the total annual numbers) involving companies that are listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market;

(B) the number of currency transaction reports filed by the 100 largest depository institutions in the United States by asset size, and thereafter in tiers of 100, by asset size;

(C) the number of currency transaction reports filed by the 200 smallest depository institutions in the United States, including the number of such currency transaction reports involving companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market; and

(D) the number of currency transaction reports that would have been filed during the filing period if the exemption system had been used by all depository institutions in the United States;

(2) what types of depository institutions are using the exemption system, and the extent to which such exemption system is used;

(3) difficulties that limit the willingness or ability of depository institutions to reduce their currency transaction reports reporting burden by making use of the exemption system, including considerations of cost, especially in the case of small depository institutions;

(4) the extent to which bank examination difficulties have limited the use of the exemption system, especially with respect to—

(A) the exemption of privately-held companies permitted under such exemption system; and

(B) whether, on a sample basis, the reaction of bank examiners to implementation of such exemption system is justified or inhibits use of such exemption system without an offsetting compliance benefit;

(5) ways to improve the use of the exemption system by depository institutions, including making such exemption system mandatory in order to reduce the volume of currency transaction reports unnecessarily filed; and

(6) the usefulness of currency transaction reports filed to law enforcement agencies, taking into account—

(A) advances in information technology;

(B) the impact, including possible loss of investigative data, that various changes in the exemption system would have on the usefulness of such currency transaction reports; and

(C) changes that could be made to the exemption system without affecting the usefulness of currency transaction reports.

(e) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide such information processing and other assistance, including from the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service and the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, to the Comptroller General in analyzing currency transaction report filings for the study period described in subsection (c), as is necessary to provide the information required by subsection (a).

(f) VIEWS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall, if appropriate, include a discussion of the views of a representative sample of Federal, State, and local law enforcement and regulatory officials and officials of depository institutions of all sizes.

(g) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall, if appropriate, include recommendations for changes to the exemption system that would reflect a reduction in unnecessary cost to depository institutions, assuming reasonably full implementation of such exemption system, with-

out reducing the usefulness of the currency transaction report filing system to anti-terrorism, law enforcement, and regulatory operations.

(h) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Comptroller General shall submit a report on the study required under subsection (a) to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 1002. STUDY AND REPORT ON INSTITUTION DIVERSITY AND CONSOLIDATION.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study regarding—

(1) the vast diversity in the size and complexity of institutions in the banking and financial services sector, including the differences in capital, market share, geographical limitations, product offerings, and general activities;

(2) the differences in powers among the depository institution charters, including—

(A) identification of the historical trends in the evolution of depository institution charters;

(B) an analysis of the impact of charter differences to the overall safety and soundness of the banking industry, and the effectiveness of the applicable depository institution regulator; and

(C) an analysis of the impact that the availability of options for depository institution charters on the development of the banking industry;

(3) the impact that differences of size and overall complexity among financial institutions makes with respect to regulatory oversight, efficiency, safety and soundness, and charter options for financial institutions; and

(4) the aggregate cost and breakdown associated with regulatory compliance for banks, savings associations, credit unions, or any other financial institution, including potential disproportionate impact that the cost of compliance may pose on smaller institutions, given the percentage of personnel that the institution must dedicate solely to compliance.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall consider the efficacy and efficiency of the consolidation of financial regulators, as well as charter simplification and homogenization.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives on the results of the study required by this section.

CONDEMNING THE APRIL 25, 2006, BEATING AND INTIMIDATION OF CUBAN DISSIDENT MARTHA BEATRIZ ROQUE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 445, S. Res. 469.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 469) condemning the April 25, 2006, beating and intimidation of Cuban dissident, Martha Beatriz Roque.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, without further intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 469) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 469

Whereas the 47-year communist dictatorship of Fidel Castro in Cuba received the lowest rating from Freedom House in its "Freedom in the World 2005" report for political rights and civil liberties, and is categorized by that organization as "repressive" and having "virtually no freedom";

Whereas Human Rights Watch describes Cuba in its "World Report 2006" as "an undemocratic government that represses nearly all forms of political dissent";

Whereas human rights observers have documented that the regime in Cuba attempts to intimidate human rights dissidents and their families through "acts of repudiation," consisting of mobs of regime supporters screaming threats and insults;

Whereas, on April 25, 2006, an act of repudiation against Martha Beatriz Roque became violent when she was punched, knocked down, and dragged outside her home in Havana while she was leaving to attend a meeting with Michael E. Parmly, the Chief of Mission-Designate for the United States Interests Section in Havana, Cuba;

Whereas Martha Beatriz Roque is a citizen of Cuba and leader of the Assembly to Promote Civil Society in Cuba, a coalition of 365 independent civil society groups within Cuba;

Whereas, in March 2003, the regime of Fidel Castro imprisoned dozens of Cuban dissidents including Martha Beatriz Roque for their activities supporting freedom and democracy; and

Whereas Martha Beatriz Roque was released in 2005 for health reasons without a pardon or a commutation of her sentence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the brutality of the regime of Fidel Castro toward Martha Beatriz Roque, a 61-year-old woman in frail health;

(2) demands the regime of Cuba allow the people of Cuba to exercise their fundamental human rights, rather than responding to calls for freedom with imprisonment and intimidation;

(3) commends the courage and perseverance of Martha Beatriz Roque and all dissidents in Cuba;

(4) calls on the regime of Cuba to release the hundreds of political prisoners still held today and to stop the intimidation of dissidents and their families; and

(5) calls for continued international support and solidarity with pro-democracy leaders in Cuba.

NATIONAL IDIOPATHIC PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate proceed to S. Res. 236.

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. 236) recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the goals and ideals of National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week, and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 236) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 236

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a serious lung disorder causing progressive, incurable lung scarring;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is one of about 200 disorders called interstitial lung diseases;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is the most common form of interstitial lung disease;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and generally fatal disease marked by progressive scarring of the lungs, causing an irreversible loss of the lung tissue's ability to transport oxygen;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis progresses quickly, often causing disability or death within a few short years;

Whereas there is no proven cause of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;

Whereas approximately 83,000 United States citizens have idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, and 31,000 new cases are diagnosed each year;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is often misdiagnosed or under diagnosed;

Whereas the median survival rate for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients is 2 to 3 years, and about two thirds of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients die within 5 years; and

Whereas a need has been identified to increase awareness and detection of this misdiagnosed and under diagnosed disorder: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Congress—

(1) recognizes the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;

(2) supports the work of the Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis and its partner organizations for their great efforts to educate, support, and provide hope for individuals who suffer from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, including the work of the Coalition to organize a national "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week";

(3) supports the designation of an appropriate week as "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week";

(4) congratulates the Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis for its efforts to educate the public about idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, while funding research to help find a cure for this disorder; and

(5) supports the goals and ideals of a national "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week".

SAN FRANCISCO OLD MINT COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1953, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1953) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Old Mint at San Francisco, otherwise known as the "Granite Lady," and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The bill (H.R. 1953) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time and passed.

AMERICAN VETERANS DISABLED FOR LIFE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

FOURTEENTH DALAI LAMA CON- GRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

LEWIS AND CLERK COMMEMORA- TIVE COIN CORRECTION ACT

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 440, S. 633, Calendar No. 441, S. 2784, and H.R. 4501 which was received from the House, en bloc.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the bills be read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bills be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 633) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read a third time and passed.

The bill (S. 2784) was ordered to be engrossed for the third reading, read the third time and passed.

The bill (H.R. 5401) was ordered to a third reading, read the third time and passed.

The Senate bills (S. 633 and S. 2784) read as follows:

S. 633

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the Armed Forces of the United States have answered the call and served with distinction around the world—from hitting the beaches in World War II in the Pacific and Europe, to the cold and difficult terrain in Korea, the steamy jungles of Vietnam, and the desert sands of the Middle East;

(2) all Americans should commemorate those who come home having survived the ordeal of war, and solemnly honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives for their country;

(3) all Americans should honor the millions of living disabled veterans who carry the scars of war every day, and who have made enormous personal sacrifices defending the principles of our democracy;

(4) in 2000, Congress authorized the construction of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial;

(5) the United States should pay tribute to the Nation's living disabled veterans by minting and issuing a commemorative silver dollar coin; and

(6) the surcharge proceeds from the sale of a commemorative coin would raise valuable funding for the construction of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins in commemoration of disabled American veterans, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the design selected by the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation for the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year "2010"; and

(C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2010.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—