

S. RES. 549

Whereas the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) states that the Declaration of Independence recognizes the inherent dignity and worth of all people and states that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, including the right to be free from slavery and involuntary servitude;

Whereas the United States outlawed slavery and involuntary servitude in 1865, recognizing that those evil institutions must be abolished;

Whereas, in the 21st century, as many as 27,000,000 people are suffering as slaves throughout the world and in the United States;

Whereas an estimated 800,000 persons are trafficked across international borders each year;

Whereas an estimated 18,000 to 20,000 victims are trafficked into the United States each year;

Whereas approximately 80 percent of victims are female and an estimated 40 to 50 percent of victims are children;

Whereas many of the victims are trafficked into the international sex trade, which includes sexual exploitation of persons involving activities including prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, and other commercial sexual services;

Whereas modern-day slavery also includes bonded labor, forced labor, forced marriage, chattel slavery, and child labor;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services states that human trafficking is the second largest criminal industry worldwide;

Whereas traffickers use threats, intimidation, manipulation, coercion, fraud, shame, and violence to force victims into modern-day slavery;

Whereas a trafficker may be a family friend, someone well-known within the community, someone in law enforcement, or a member of an organized criminal network;

Whereas traffickers capitalize on areas of conflict and post-conflict, transitioning states, sudden political change, economic collapse, civil unrest, internal armed conflict, chronic unemployment, widespread poverty, personal disaster, lack of economic opportunity, and natural disasters;

Whereas traffickers prey upon the vulnerable, ethnic minorities, and people without citizenship;

Whereas modern-day slavery thrives because of its high profitability and minimal risk due to little rule of law, lack of enforcement, and corruption of law enforcement institutions;

Whereas populations vulnerable to trafficking are growing due to the rising numbers of orphans in developing countries due to civil conflicts and the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

Whereas the spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases poses a global threat and creates a particular challenge for victims of modern-day slavery involved in the international sex trade;

Whereas the loss of family-support networks due to modern-day slavery contributes to the breakdown of societies;

Whereas trafficking has a negative impact on the labor market in countries and perpetuates a cycle of poverty;

Whereas trafficking brutalizes men, women, and children, and exposes them to rape, torture, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, violence, dangerous working conditions, poor nutrition, drug and alcohol addiction, and severe psychological trauma from separation, coercion, sexual abuse, and depression;

Whereas organized criminal groups, gangs, document forgers, brothel owners, and cor-

rupt police or immigration officials funnel trafficking profits into both legitimate and criminal activities;

Whereas modern-day slavery strips human beings of dignity, respect, and hope for their future; and

Whereas no country or people are immune from the effects of modern-day slavery: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the abolition of modern-day slavery should be a priority of the United States foreign and domestic policy;

(2) the United States should continue to bring together governments, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and individuals to form a comprehensive coalition to fight modern-day slavery;

(3) the Federal Government should continue to expand protection and legal options for victims of modern-day slavery;

(4) the abolition of modern-day slavery should be prioritized at the 2007 Group of 8 (G-8) Summit in Germany; and

(5) the trade policy of the United States should reflect the commitment of the United States to freedom for all people.

SENATE RESOLUTION 550—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 22 THROUGH OCTOBER 28, 2006, AS “NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK”

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 550

Whereas the cost of retirement continues to rise, in part, because people in the United States are living longer than ever before, 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 ⅓ 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 is realistically needed to adequately fund retirement;

Whereas many employees have available to them through their employers access to defined benefit or defined contribution plans to assist them in preparing for retirement;

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

Whereas many employees may not be taking advantage of workplace defined contribution plans at all or to the full extent allowed by the plans or under 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 for retirement and the availability of tax-advantaged retirement savings vehicles to assist them in saving for retirement: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 22 through October 28, 2006, as “National Save for Retirement Week”;

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

raising public awareness about the importance of adequate retirement savings and the availability of employer-sponsored retirement plans; and

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

SENATE RESOLUTION 551—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS SHOULD NOT RECEIVE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AND THAT THIS PROHIBITION SHOULD BE STRICTLY ENFORCED

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 551

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that illegal immigrants should not receive Social Security benefits and that this prohibition should be strictly enforced.

SENATE RESOLUTION 552—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2006 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 552

Whereas countless families in the United States have a family member that suffers from prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 men in the United States is diagnosed with prostate cancer;

Whereas throughout the past decade, prostate cancer has been the most commonly diagnosed type of cancer other than skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas, in 2006, more than 234,460 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 27,350 men in the United States will die of prostate cancer according to estimates from the American Cancer Society;

Whereas 30 percent of the 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 being diagnosed with prostate cancer;

Whereas African American males suffer from prostate cancer at an incidence rate up to 65 percent higher than white males and at a mortality rate double that of white males;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer and the chance that the disease will lead to death;

Whereas if a man in the United States has 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer, he has double the risk of prostate cancer, if he has 2 family members with such diagnosis, he has 5 times the risk, and if he has 3 family members with such diagnosis, he 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 detect prostate cancer in earlier and more treatable stages and reduce the rate of mortality due to the disease;

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 our families: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2006 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that it is critical—

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

(B) to increase research funding to be proportionate with the burden of prostate cancer so that the causes of the disease, improved screening and treatments, and ultimately a cure may be discovered; and

(C) to continue to consider methods to improve both 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.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 553—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE CITIZENS’ STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHOULD RECOMMEND TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL THAT A COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP BE ISSUED IN HONOR OF VARIAN FRY**

Mr. MENENDEZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 553

Whereas Varian Mackey Fry, of Ridgewood, New Jersey, embodied the spirit of heroism and demonstrated personal bravery of the highest order during the Holocaust;

Whereas, while serving as a representative of the Emergency Refugee Committee in German-occupied Vichy, France, between 1940 and 1941, Varian Fry helped save the lives of approximately 1,500 Jews and hundreds of other anti-Nazi refugees;

Whereas Varian Fry established a legal French relief organization, the Centre Americain de Secou, as a cover for his heroic but sometimes unlawful actions on behalf of the refugees, including—

(1) securing false visas;

(2) planning daring escape routes through the mountains of Southern France;

(3) illegally chartering ships to transport refugees out of France; and

(4) exchanging funding for these operations on the black market;

Whereas, in order to save thousands of Jews and refugees who were threatened by the Nazis, Varian Fry risked his personal safety, forfeited his employment as a writer with the Foreign Policy Association, and was ultimately expelled from France because his actions contravened the policies of the Vichy French government;

Whereas the efforts of Varian Fry resulted in the rescue of approximately 2,000 persons, including such distinguished artists and intellectuals as Marc Chagall, Max Ernst, Hannah Arendt, Franz Werfel, Jacques Lipchitz, Lion Feuchtwanger, and Heinrich Mann;

Whereas, in 1967, for his heroic actions, Varian Fry received the Croix de Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor, 1 of the highest civilian honors of France; and

Whereas, in 1996, Varian Fry was named “Righteous Among the Nations” by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Heroes and Martyrs Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem, making him the first citizen of the United States to receive the highest honor bestowed by Israel to individuals who worked as rescuers during the Holocaust: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that a commemorative postage stamp be issued in honor of Varian Fry.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution that would honor an unsung hero who saved thousands of people from death during the Holocaust. The world knows the names of Oskar Schindler and Raoul Wallenberg, but few know the work of an American man named Varian Fry. During the Nazi takeover of Europe in World War II, Varian Fry, a resident of my home State of New Jersey, selflessly risked his life to save the lives of some 2,000 Jews and anti-Nazi refugees in Vichy, France. Although not Jewish himself, Fry understood the threat the Nazis posed. Over the course of 13 months, Fry’s rescue operation saved some of Europe’s most accomplished artists, writers, and intellectuals, such as Marc Chagall, Max Ernst, Jacques Lipschitz, Arthur Koestler, Hannah Arendt, Franz Werfel, Lion Feuchtwanger, and Heinrich Mann.

Few of us can imagine the dangers that Fry encountered and the courage and savvy that he needed to elude the Nazis and transport thousands of refugees from France to safe havens abroad. We remember that Varian Fry sacrificed his job and his personal safety to help others and to stand up for what was right. His work to aid both Jews and anti-Nazis during this perilous time in history makes him a hero for people of all religions and all nations.

Tragically, this man whose bravery and resourcefulness changed the lives of so many died in relative obscurity. It was not until 1991, 24 years after Fry’s death, that the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council became the first American agency to officially recognize his work. It is now time that the country recognize his humanitarian efforts. Fry’s hometown of Ridgewood, NJ, has honored him and dedicated a street in his name, but we must do more. Sixty-six years after Varian Fry began his lifesaving work in France, it

is time that he earns proper recognition for his noble mission. One measure we can take is to allow Fry to join the ranks of other humanitarians and leaders who have been honored with a commemorative stamp in their name. The U.S. Postal Service has already issued a stamp honoring former U.S. Vice-Consul Horace Bingaman, who aided Fry in his rescue campaign. It is only fitting that Fry be honored with a stamp, as well.

Varian Fry has been honored by France and was the first American to be named Righteous Among the Nations, Yad Vashem’s highest honor for those who helped rescue people during the Holocaust. Though Fry passed away many years ago, let us now show his relatives and the world that this Nation—his Nation—also appreciates his sacrifice and commitment to saving lives at a time when the world was turning a blind eye to the evil of the Nazis. I thank my House colleague, STEVE ROTHMAN, for his work on the companion bill to this resolution which he has already introduced in the House of Representatives, and I ask that my fellow Senators join me in supporting this important legislation.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 554—AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF A DOCUMENT ENTITLED “COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, UNITED STATES SENATE, 32ND ANNIVERSARY, 1974–2006”**

Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 554

*Resolved*, That there be printed with illustrations as a Senate document a compilation of materials entitled “Committee on the Budget, United States Senate, 32nd Anniversary, 1974–2006”, and that, in addition to the usual number, there be printed not to exceed 500 copies of such document at a cost of not to exceed \$1,200 for the use of the Committee on the Budget.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 555—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 555

Whereas, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has been conducting an investigation into the use of offshore tax havens for abusive tax shelters;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received a number of requests from law enforcement officials and regulatory agencies, for access to records of the Subcommittee’s investigation;