

Mr. GREGG, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. BAUCUS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 378

Whereas there are currently more than 3,000,000 immediate family members of individuals serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas these family members bear the most immediate and profound burden of the absence of their loved ones during the performance of their duties;

Whereas these families have been the bedrock of support and strength for our Nation's Armed Forces for over 230 years;

Whereas military families serve this country with an equal amount of dedication and patriotism as their loved ones who are fighting for the United States;

Whereas the families of servicemembers—whether in the regular components of the Armed Forces, the Reserve, or the National Guard—feel enormous amounts of pride, love, and trepidation during the absence of their loved ones;

Whereas it is essential that the Nation recognize the contributions made by military families and celebrate their strength; and

Whereas the Senate stands in humble respect of the sacrifice made by our military families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the families of members of the Armed Forces and recognizes that they too share in the burden of protecting the Nation;

(2) urges the people of the United States to join with the Senate in thanking military families for their tremendous sacrifice on behalf of the Nation; and

(3) recognizes with great appreciation the contributions made by military families in providing the essential personal support that our Nation's warriors need.

SENATE RESOLUTION 379—DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007, AS “FEED AMERICA THURSDAY”

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

S. RES. 379

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which the Nation was founded;

Whereas, according to the Department of Agriculture, roughly 35,000,000 people in the United States, including 12,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates Thursday, November 15, 2007, as “Feed America Thursday”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Thursday, November 15, 2007, and to donate the money that they would have spent on food to a religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

SENATE RESOLUTION 380—RECOGNIZING HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL USA FOR 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO YOUTH TRAVEL

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

S. RES. 380

Whereas travel promotes awareness and knowledge of peoples, places, and cultures;

Whereas hostelling is educational travel, local and global, using hostels and other programs to facilitate interaction among travelers and with local communities;

Whereas hostels are simple, safe, shared accommodations that promote community and cooperation among users and introduce young people of limited means to travel;

Whereas Hostelling International USA (HI-USA) is a nonprofit educational organization established in 1934 as American Youth Hostels to promote hostelling in the United States;

Whereas, since its founding, HI-USA has provided in its hostels more than 22,000,000 overnight stays to visitors from the United States and more than 150 countries worldwide;

Whereas today HI-USA has a network of 70 hostels in areas of cultural, historic, and recreational interest, often in partnership with public, private, and other nonprofit organizations, that annually hosts nearly 1,000,000 overnights stays by both domestic and foreign travelers;

Whereas HI-USA today offers programs through its hostels and local chapters that promote the appreciation of local culture and environment, while facilitating the discovery of both world and self, to more than 65,000 participants annually;

Whereas HI-USA has made a unique and notable contribution to intercultural understanding in the United States and worldwide, especially among youth: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates Hostelling International USA on its 75 years of service; and

(2) commends Hostelling International USA for its contributions to intercultural exchange and its leadership in the field of youth travel.

SENATE RESOLUTION 381—REMEMBERING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIVES AND WORK OF MARYKNOLL SISTERS MAURA CLARKE AND ITA FORD, URSULINE SISTER DOROTHY KAZEL, AND CLEVELAND LAY MISSION TEAM MEMBER JEAN DONOVAN, WHO WERE EXECUTED BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF EL SALVADOR ON DECEMBER 2, 1980

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 381

Whereas on December 2, 1980, four churchwomen from the United States, Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, were violated and executed by members of the National Guard of El Salvador;

Whereas in 1980, Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford were working in the parish of the Church of San Juan Bautista in Chalatenango, El Salvador, providing food, transportation, and other assistance to refugees, and Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan were working in the parish of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in La Libertad, El Salvador, providing assistance and support to refugees and other victims of violence;

Whereas these four churchwomen from the United States dedicated their lives to working with the poor of El Salvador, especially women and children left homeless, displaced, and destitute by the civil war in El Salvador;

Whereas these four churchwomen from the United States were among the more than 70,000 civilians who were murdered during the course of the civil war in El Salvador;

Whereas on May 23 and May 24, 1984, five members of the National Guard of El Salvador, Subsergeant Luis Antonio Colindres Aleman, Daniel Canales Ramirez, Carlos Joaquin Contreras Palacios, Francisco Orlando Contreras Recinos, and Jose Roberto Moreno Canjura, were found guilty by the El Salvador courts of the executions of these four churchwomen from the United States and were sentenced to 30 years in prison, marking the first time in El Salvador history in which a member of the Armed Forces of El Salvador was convicted of murder by an El Salvador judge;

Whereas the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador was established under the terms of the historic January 1992 Peace Accords that ended 12 years of civil war in El Salvador and was charged to investigate and report to the El Salvador people on human rights crimes committed by all sides during the course of the civil war;

Whereas in March 1993, the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador found that the execution of these four churchwomen from the United States was planned, that Subsergeant Luis Antonio Colindres Aleman carried out orders from a superior to execute them, that then Colonel Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, then Director-General of the National Guard and his cousin, Lieutenant Colonel Oscar Edgardo Casanova Vejar, then Commander of the Zacatecoluca military detachment where the murders were committed, and other military personnel knew that members of the National Guard had committed the murders pursuant to orders of a superior, and that the subsequent coverup of the facts adversely affected the judicial investigation into the murders of the churchwomen;

Whereas the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador determined that General Jose Guillermo Garcia, then Minister of Defense, made no serious effort to conduct a thorough investigation of responsibility for the murders of these four churchwomen from the United States;

Whereas the families of these four churchwomen from the United States continue their efforts to determine the full truth surrounding the murders of their loved ones, appreciate the cooperation of United States Government agencies in disclosing and providing documents relevant to the murders of the churchwomen, and pursue requests to release to the family members the few remaining undisclosed documents and reports pertaining to the case;

Whereas the families of these four churchwomen from the United States appreciate the ability of those harmed by violence to bring suit against El Salvador military officers in United States courts under the Torture Victim Protection Act of 1991 (28 U.S.C. 1350 note);