

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Food Donation Act of 2008”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to encourage executive agencies and contractors of executive agencies, to the maximum extent practicable and safe, to donate excess, apparently wholesome food to feed food-insecure people in the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPARENTLY WHOLESOME FOOD.**—The term “apparently wholesome food” has the meaning given the term in section 2(b) of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791(b)).

(2) **EXCESS.**—The term “excess”, when applied to food, means food that—

(A) is not required to meet the needs of executive agencies; and

(B) would otherwise be discarded.

(3) **FOOD-INSECURE.**—The term “food-insecure” means inconsistent access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.

(4) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term “nonprofit organization” means any organization that is—

(A) described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(B) exempt from tax under section 501(a) of that Code.

SEC. 4. PROMOTING FEDERAL FOOD DONATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation issued in accordance with section 25 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 421) shall be revised to provide that all contracts above \$25,000 for the provision, service, or sale of food in the United States, or for the lease or rental of Federal property to a private entity for events at which food is provided in the United States, shall include a clause that—

(1) encourages the donation of excess, apparently wholesome food to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to food-insecure people in the United States; and

(2) states the terms and conditions described in subsection (b).

(b) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—

(1) **COSTS.**—In any case in which a contractor enters into a contract with an executive agency under which apparently wholesome food is donated to food-insecure people in the United States, the head of the executive agency shall not assume responsibility for the costs and logistics of collecting, transporting, maintaining the safety of, or distributing excess, apparently wholesome food to food-insecure people in the United States under this Act.

(2) **LIABILITY.**—An executive agency (including an executive agency that enters into a contract with a contractor) and any contractor making donations pursuant to this Act shall be exempt from civil and criminal liability to the extent provided under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791).

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleagues for their support of S. 2420, the Federal Food Donation Act of 2007, which is being passed through the Senate today. I introduced this bill, which will encourage the donation of excess food from Federal agencies and their contractors to emergency food providers, on December 6, 2007.

In a country as wealthy as ours it is unacceptable that anyone person should go hungry, yet approximately 35.5 million Americans have difficulty affording food. An estimated 732,000 households in my home State of New York live with hunger or the threat of hunger.

Food banks and pantries all across the United States are facing a perfect storm where as the economy suffers and food prices rise, more and more families are relying on their services; yet the pantries are straining to keep their shelves stocked due to the increase in food requests and food costs. According to America’s Second Harvest, food banks around the country are reporting that an estimated 20 percent more people are visiting soup kitchens and food pantries for help this year than last year, and too many people are being turned away. We need to do everything we can to make sure that all families in all communities have enough to eat during these difficult times.

This bill will help make fighting hunger a national priority. In the 1990s, the United States Department of Agriculture created an initiative through which it encouraged the practice of food recovery. During just 1 year of the program, 1998, the Federal Government recovered over 3 million pounds nationwide from cafeterias, farms, research centers, and military bases. For the past decade the Federal Government has strayed away from this important anti-hunger initiative, but this bill would take an important step towards reengaging the Federal Government’s involvement in food recovery.

Nonprofits in the business of food rescue serve millions of people, and I would like to thank one such nonprofit, Rock and Wrap it Up!, a national food rescue organization headquartered in New York, for their help in conceiving of and promoting this bill. I commend them for their great work. It is now time for the Federal Government to join the nonprofit and private sectors in doing all it can to feed our Nation’s hungry—the need for help is greater now than it has been in a very long time.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2420), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 745, S. Res. 563.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 563) designating September 13, 2008, as “National Childhood Cancer Awareness Day.”

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 563) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 563

Whereas more than 10,000 children under the age of 15 in the United States are diagnosed with cancer annually;

Whereas every year more than 1,400 children under the age of 15 in the United States lose their lives to cancer;

Whereas childhood cancer is the number one disease killer and the second overall leading cause of death of children in the United States;

Whereas 1 in every 330 children under the age of 20 will develop cancer, and 1 in every 640 adults aged 20 to 39 has a history of cancer;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for children with cancer has increased from 56 percent in 1974 to 79 percent in 2000, representing significant improvement from previous decades; and

Whereas cancer occurs regularly and randomly and spares no racial or ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Congress—

(1) designates September 13, 2008, as “National Childhood Cancer Awareness Day”;

(2) requests that the Federal Government, States, localities, and nonprofit organizations observe the day with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing public knowledge of the risks of cancer; and

(3) recognizes the human toll of cancer and pledges to make its prevention and cure a public health priority.

NATIONAL INTERNET SAFETY MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to Calendar No. 746, S. Res. 567.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 567) designating June 2008 as National Internet Safety Month.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 567) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 567

Whereas there are more than 1,000,000,000 Internet users worldwide;

Whereas, in the United States, 35,000,000 children in kindergarten through grade 12 have Internet access;

Whereas approximately 86 percent of the children of the United States in grades 5 through 12 are online for at least 1 hour per week;

Whereas approximately 67 percent of students in grades 5 through 12 do not share with their parents what they do on the Internet;

Whereas approximately 30 percent of students in grades 5 through 12 have hidden their online activities from their parents;

Whereas approximately 31 percent of the students in grades 5 through 12 have the skill to circumvent Internet filter software;

Whereas 61 percent of the students admit to using the Internet unsafely or inappropriately;

Whereas 12 percent of middle school and high school students have met face-to-face with someone they first met online;

Whereas 42 percent of students know someone who has been bullied online;

Whereas 56 percent of parents feel that on-line bullying of children is an issue that needs to be addressed;

Whereas 47 percent of parents feel that their ability to monitor and shelter their children from inappropriate material on the Internet is limited; and

Whereas 61 percent of parents want to be more personally involved with Internet safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2008 as “National Internet Safety Month”;

(2) recognizes that National Internet Safety Month provides the citizens of the United States with an opportunity to learn more about—

(A) the dangers of the Internet; and

(B) the importance of being safe and responsible online;

(3) commends and recognizes national and community organizations for—

(A) promoting awareness of the dangers of the Internet; and

(B) providing information and training that develops critical thinking and decision-making skills that are needed to use the Internet safely; and

(4) calls on Internet safety organizations, law enforcement, educators, community leaders, parents, and volunteers to increase their efforts to raise the level of awareness for the need for online safety in the United States.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE USE OF GASOLINE AND OTHER FUELS BY FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to S. Res. 577.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 577) to express the sense of the Senate regarding the use of gasoline and other fuels by Federal departments and agencies.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that hits deep at the heart—and pocketbooks—of Americans nationwide: rising gasoline prices.

Each and every day, Americans contend with a rapid and inexplicable increase in gasoline prices. Over the last month, the average price of gasoline has increased a penny a day.

A barrel of oil is at \$133.17. The impacts of these increases are staggering.

I have heard stories of how individual Americans are coping with the problem of increased gas prices as they conduct their daily lives with their families and in their work environments.

They are finding ways to reduce their consumption of gasoline by driving less, altering daily routines, and even changing family vacation plans.

To me, this example of changing family vacation plans is all the more poignant on the eve of what is usually a busy holiday weekend, a holiday that usually sees many Americans traveling by car out of town.

In fact, travel over this holiday weekend is expected to be down for the first time since September 11, 2001.

The bottom line, Mr. President, is Americans are tightening their belts in ways that bring hardships, but save dollars that are necessary to meet essential family needs. And while small in comparison to the overall problem of supply and demand of gasoline, these efforts do add up. I never dismiss the American “can do” spirit.

In one word, it is individual conservation. And in cases such as this, when individuals are leading the way, the government should join.

The purpose of the Sense of the Senate Resolution that I am pleased to offer is to urge the federal government to likewise take initiatives to cut back—even in a small measure—its daily consumption of gasoline and other fuels.

I believe such a move would signal to Americans that their government is sharing the daily hardships occasioned by this turbulent, uncertain energy crisis.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to cosponsor Senator WARNER’s legislation that calls on the President to reduce the gasoline consumption of the departments and agencies that he oversees.

We are seeing American consumers begin to use less gasoline, as prices reach new historic highs almost daily. Many Americans simply cannot afford to maintain their regular driving habits at the moment. This is a situation that we have not experienced in this country in over 30 years.

It is important that the Federal Government show its solidarity with the American people in this time of economic hardship. Just as individual citizens are finding ways to use less gasoline, the U.S. Government should also be finding ways to reduce consumption.

Because the Executive Branch is by far the largest branch of Government,

it is important that the President take the lead on this issue. As the Federal Government spends less money on fuel, we send fewer American taxpayers’ hard earned dollars to oil-exporting countries. That is a goal I know we can all agree is laudable under any circumstance, but even more so now, as fuel costs continue to soar.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 577) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 577

Whereas each day, as Americans contend with rising gasoline prices, personal stories reflect the ways in which—

(1) family budgets are suffering; and

(2) the cost of gasoline is impacting the way Americans cope with that serious problem in family and work environments;

Whereas, as a consequence of economic pressures, Americans are finding ways to reduce consumption of gasoline, such as—

(1) driving less frequently;

(2) altering daily routines; and

(3) even changing family vacation plans;

Whereas those conservation efforts bring hardships but save funds that can be redirected to meet essential family needs;

Whereas, just as individuals are reducing energy consumption, the Federal Government, including Congress, should take steps to conserve energy;

Whereas a Government-wide initiative to conserve energy would send a signal to Americans that the Federal Government—

(1) recognizes the burdens imposed by unprecedented energy costs; and

(2) will participate in activities to reduce energy consumption; and

Whereas an overall reduction of gasoline consumption by the Federal Government by even a few percentage points would send a strong signal that, as a nation, the United States is joining to conserve energy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should require all Federal departments and agencies to take initiatives to reduce daily consumption of gasoline and other fuels by the departments and agencies.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I wish to express on the record my appreciation to Senators WARNER and BINGAMAN for this most important resolution that just passed. It expresses the sense of the Senate that Americans are contending with rising gasoline prices. Their personal stories reflect the ways in which family budgets are suffering.

The cost of gas is impacting the way Americans cope with problems within the family and, therefore, we need to find ways to reduce consumption of gasoline. This is directed toward the President. I hope he will review this. We have a lot of problems with our economy, many of which are a direct result of the cost of a barrel of oil being \$130.