

It directs the administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice to conduct additional research. It seeks to strengthen the amount of training and technical assistance provided by the Federal Government, particularly workforce training for those people who work directly with juveniles at every stage of the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act would improve treatment of juveniles in two important respects. It seeks to end the use of improper isolation and dangerous practices, and it encourages the use of best practices and alternatives to detention.

This measure also places a greater focus on mental health and substance abuse treatment for juveniles who come into contact, or are at risk of coming into contact, with the juvenile justice system. Research has shown that the prevalence of mental disorders among youth in juvenile justice systems is two to three times higher than among youth who have not had run-ins with the law. Taking meaningful steps to provide adequate mental health screening and treatment for these juveniles is a critical part of getting them on the right track, and needs to be a part of Federal, State and local efforts to rehabilitate juvenile offenders.

Finally, and possibly most importantly, the key to success is adequate support. Funding for juvenile justice programs has been on a downward spiral for the last seven years. Just five years ago, these programs received approximately \$556 million, with more than \$94 million for the Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Program and nearly \$250 million for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program. This year, the Administration requested just \$250 million for all juvenile justice programs, which represents more than a 50 percent cut from Fiscal Year 2002. Local communities do a great job of leveraging this funding to accomplish great things, but we cannot say with a straight face that this level is sufficient.

Therefore, we are seeking to authorize increased funding for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The bill will authorize more than \$272 million for Title V and nearly \$200 million for Title II in Fiscal Year 2009. Then, funding for each title will increase by \$50 million each subsequent fiscal year. These programs are in desperate need of adequate funding. It is money well spent, and this increase in authorized funding will demonstrate Congressional support for these critical programs.

In addition to increased funding for traditional JJDP programs, we have created a new incentive grant program under the Act. This program authorizes another \$60 million per year to help local communities to supplement efforts under the Act, and in some cases go above and beyond what is required of them. Specifically, this funding will support evidence based and promising

prevention and intervention programs. It will enhance workforce training, which will improve the treatment and rehabilitation of juveniles who come into contact with the system. Lastly, a significant portion of this funding will be dedicated to mental health screening and treatment of juveniles who have come into contact, or are at risk of coming into contact, with the justice system.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act is an incredibly successful program. The fact that it is cost efficient is important. But the most important thing is that it is effective. It is effective in reaching the kids it is designed to help. The evidence based prevention programs it funds are able to touch the lives of at-risk youth and steer them away from a life of crime. And for those who have unfortunately already had run-ins with law enforcement, its intervention and treatment programs have successfully helped countless kids get their lives back on the right track and become productive members of society.

It is beyond dispute that these proven programs improve and strengthen young people, as well as their families and their communities. For that reason, we urge our colleagues to support this important measure to reauthorize and improve these programs.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 91—HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST MONICA L. BROWN, OF LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS, EXTENDING GRATITUDE TO HER AND HER FAMILY, AND PLEDGING CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 91

Whereas Monica Brown, a medic serving in the 782nd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas members of the United States Armed Forces were attacked by a roadside bomb in the eastern Paktia province in Afghanistan on April 25, 2007;

Whereas Specialist Monica L. Brown, at age 19, ran through insurgent gunfire to save the lives of fellow wounded soldiers injured after the roadside bomb tore through their convoy of humvees;

Whereas Monica Brown is 1 of 25,109 women currently serving in the Armed Forces in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 1 of 350,000 women serving in the United States Army;

Whereas Monica Brown is the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second female member of the Armed Forces since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the Nation's third-highest medal for valor; and

Whereas the thoughts and prayers of Congress and the people of the United States remain with the families of all the members of

the Armed Forces who are fighting to ensure the Nation's freedom and safety: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) honors Monica L. Brown, a Specialist in the United States Army, who risked her life to save the lives of her fellow wounded soldiers while serving in the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan, and recognizes her for her bravery and heroism;

(2) extends its deepest gratitude to Monica L. Brown and her family in Lake Jackson, Texas; and

(3) pledges its continued support for the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the challenges to meeting future energy needs and to developing the technologies for meeting increased global energy demand in the context of the need to address global climate change.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Rosemarie\_Calabro@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Alicia Jackson at (202) 224-3607 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, at 12:15 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, at 2 p.m., in room SD366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to