

the Congress must work together to determine the best mix of mandates, incentives, and other tools to improve critical infrastructure security.

Fortunately, there is an increasing level of interest and debate on cybersecurity issues in Congress and around the country. The Senate Intelligence Committee, which I have the privilege of chairing, has invested significant time assessing the cyber threat to our country and potential Government responses through the following initiatives: scores of personal meetings and staff briefings with government, private sector, academic, and nonprofit thought-leaders; six cyber hearings in the last 2 years; four 6-month studies by the Committee's Technical Advisory Group; a new, balanced oversight system for federal government cybersecurity programs, as proposed in the fiscal year 2010 intelligence authorization bill; and regular outreach to other congressional committees.

I want to thank my distinguished colleagues, Senators ROCKEFELLER, GILLIBRAND, CARPER, MIKULSKI, LIEBERMAN, COLLINS, REID, LEVIN, BENNETT, SNOWE, LANDRIEU, HATCH, VOINOVICH, and BAYH, for cosponsoring this resolution and for their leadership on this issue. I look forward to working with them and other members of Congress to improve our cybersecurity in the future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 286—EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS KILLED DURING UNUSUAL STORMS AND FLOODS IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 18 AND SEPTEMBER 21, 2009, AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO ALL OF THE EMERGENCY PERSONNEL WHO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH UNYIELDING DETERMINATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF GEORGIA'S RESIDENTS

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

S. RES. 286

Whereas beginning on September 18, 2009, the State of Georgia was hit by days of unusually strong storms that resulted in downpours and flooding;

Whereas numerous Georgia rivers and creeks, including the Chattooga and Chattahoochee Rivers and the Chickamauga Creek, swollen by days of rain, overtopped their banks, creating a dangerous and deadly situation for nearby residents;

Whereas the storms and floods took human lives;

Whereas the floodwater destroyed homes, flooded roadways, including major highways, compromised drinking water, severely damaged plumbing systems, and caused significant damage to homes and businesses;

Whereas on September 21, 2009, Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue declared a state of emergency in 17 counties, including Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Crawford, DeKalb, Douglas, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, Paulding, Rockdale, Stephens, and Walker Counties;

Whereas the National Weather Service estimated that between 15 and 22 inches of rain fell in the metropolitan Atlanta counties of Gwinnett, Douglas, and Paulding between September 18 and September 21, 2009;

Whereas the rains broke a 130-year-old record at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport;

Whereas hundreds of Georgians were evacuated from their homes, and more than 300 people sought refuge in shelters;

Whereas Governor Perdue estimated that more than 1,000 residences were seriously flooded;

Whereas the weather closed schools in several counties;

Whereas as many as tens of thousands of people were without power in metropolitan Atlanta;

Whereas search and rescue operations functioned in several counties where the water continued to rise;

Whereas the Georgia Emergency Management Agency coordinated with local emergency personnel and worked tirelessly to protect human lives and rescue those threatened by the floods;

Whereas the Georgia Emergency Management Agency facilitated requests for assistance from people and first responders all across the State of Georgia;

Whereas the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and other first responders acted valiantly in life-safety response operations, including delivering sandbags and rescuing people trapped in their cars and homes from the floodwater;

Whereas the Federal Emergency Management Agency activated its national and regional response coordination centers and worked closely with the State of Georgia to monitor the response efforts and identify and respond to any immediate emergency needs for the people and communities of the State that were impacted by the devastating floods; and

Whereas volunteers gave their time to help ensure that evacuees were sheltered, clothed, fed, and comforted through this traumatic event: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) offers its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the flooding in the State of Georgia;

(2) expresses its condolences to the families who lost their homes and other property in the floods;

(3) expresses gratitude and appreciation to the people of the State of Georgia and the surrounding States, who worked to protect people from the rising floodwaters;

(4) expresses its support as the Federal Emergency Management Agency responds to the needs of the people and communities affected by the flooding; and

(5) honors the emergency responders, within and beyond metropolitan Atlanta and the State of Georgia, for their bravery and sacrifice during this tragedy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 287—HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE DRUG PRICE COMPETITION AND PATENT TERM RESTORATION ACT OF 1984 (THE HATCH-WAXMAN ACT)

Mr. BROWN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 287

Whereas on September 24, 1984, the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-417; 98 Stat.

1585), commonly known as the Hatch-Waxman Act, was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan, at which time President Reagan indicated that generic drugs might save American consumers \$1,000,000,000 over the next 10 years;

Whereas this landmark law created the regulatory mechanism under which the Food and Drug Administration approves safe and affordable generic drugs;

Whereas each year for the past quarter century, the generic pharmaceutical industry has delivered billions of dollars in savings on the purchase of prescription drugs, far exceeding the original estimate;

Whereas a May 2009 report showed that during the preceding 10-year period, the use of generic drugs has saved the American health care system more than \$734,000,000,000, with the most-recent annual average exceeding \$121,000,000,000;

Whereas generic drugs accounted for more than 72 percent of all prescription drugs dispensed, yet accounted for only 17 percent of the spending on all prescription drugs, a differential that reflects the dramatically lower prices paid for generic drugs, which not only reduces consumer and taxpayer spending but also increases patient access to needed medicines; and

Whereas while the Hatch-Waxman Act does not have an explicit pathway for approval by the Food and Drug Administration of lower-priced versions of cutting-edge biologic medicines, which account for a rapidly growing portion of prescription medicine spending, the Act does provide a solid framework for such a pathway: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of Senate that—

(1) enactment of the Hatch-Waxman Act (Public Law 98-417; 98 Stat. 1585) in 1984 served to create the modern generic pharmaceutical industry, which has provided consumers with access to affordable drugs, yielding significant health and economic benefits for the Nation's health care system;

(2) Senator Orrin Hatch and Representative Henry Waxman deserve the Nation's gratitude for authoring and championing this landmark bipartisan legislation; and

(3) Congress should build on the work of these dedicated policymakers and enact legislation to create a pathway for approval by the Food and Drug Administration of safe and affordable generic versions of biologic medicines.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act, more commonly known as the Hatch-Waxman Act.

This historic legislation—which was signed into law exactly 25 years ago today, on September 24, 1984—marked the culmination of months of lengthy and often contentious debate over how to foster pharmaceutical innovation while at the same time encouraging competition from affordable generic prescription drugs.

Guided by my good friends and colleagues Representative HENRY WAXMAN of California and Senator ORRIN HATCH of Utah, Congress delivered a bill that struck the right balance between innovation and access, and put in place a new regulatory pathway to bring safe and effective generic medicines to market.

I doubt that anyone involved in the passage of Hatch-Waxman could have envisioned a quarter century ago the