

sent the file for authentication to Elli Streit in Tel Aviv for delivery to appropriate officials at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, in Jerusalem;

Whereas Josef Jakoel and his eldest daughter, Felicita, both Albanian Jews, led the emigration of almost all Albanian Jews to Israel in 1991 as the Communist regime was collapsing;

Whereas Yad Vashem has designated 69 Albanians as "Righteous Persons" and Albania as one of the "Righteous among the Nations";

Whereas, based on the information authenticated by Yad Vashem, Jewish-American author and philanthropist Harvey Sarnar published "Rescue in Albania" in 1997 to call international attention to the unique role of the Albanian people in saving Jews from the Holocaust;

Whereas, in October 1997, the Albanian American Civic League and the Albanian American Foundation began the distribution of 10,000 copies of "Rescue in Albania", with forewords by Congressmen Tom Lantos and Benjamin Gilman, to bring to the attention of the Jewish people and their leaders the plight of Albanians in Kosova living under a brutal occupation at the hands of Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic, in order to forestall another genocide in Kosova;

Whereas, in a statement at the "Salute to Albanian Tolerance, Resistance, and Hope: Remembering Besa and the Holocaust" held by the Albanian American Civic League and the Albanian American Foundation in 2005 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps, Dr. Mordechai Paldiel, then Director for the Righteous at Yad Vashem, commemorated the heroism of Albanians as "the only ones among rescuers in other countries who not only went out of their way to save Jews, but vied and competed with each other for the privilege of being a rescuer, thanks to besa", the code of honor that requires an Albanian to save the life of anyone seeking refuge, even if it means sacrificing one's own life;

Whereas, in 2006, Shirley Cloyes DioGuardi, Balkan Affairs Adviser to the Albanian American Civic League and Executive Director of the Albanian American Foundation, published "Jewish Survival in Albania & the Ethics of 'Besa'" in the journal of the American Jewish Congress to document the saving role of Albanians and how that role was revealed, in spite of the Communist effort to suppress it;

Whereas, on December 2, 2008, Arslan Rezniqui and his son, Mustafa, were the first Kosovar Albanians recognized by Yad Vashem's "Righteous among Nations Department", for leading 400 Jewish families from Decan, Kosova, into safety in Albania;

Whereas Arif Alickaj, the Secretary of the Municipality of Decan, risked his job and his life helping the Rezniquis rescue Jews in Nazi-occupied Kosova by issuing false identity papers to ensure their safe passage to Albania and who, like so many Albanians from Kosova and Albania, died before Jewish survivors could validate his role at Yad Vashem;

Whereas Shirley Cloyes DioGuardi addressed the 2010 International Oral History Association Conference in Prague, and brought Leka Rezniqui, the grandson of Mustafa Rezniqui, to join her in revealing the "underground railroad" between Albanians in Kosova and Albania that was essential to the rescue of Jews; and

Whereas Albania is the only nation in Europe that had more Jewish residents after World War II than before World War II: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the people of Albania and Kosova for protecting and saving the lives of Jews who either lived in Albania or sought asylum there during the Holocaust;

(2) commends Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, in Israel for recognizing Albanians, who took action at great risk to themselves to protect Jews during the Holocaust, for their humanity, courage, and heroism;

(3) reaffirms, on the 100th anniversary of Albania's declaration of independence in 1912, its support for close ties between the United States and Albania and between the United States and Kosova, which declared its independence in 2008; and

(4) commends the officers, boards of directors, and members of the Albanian American Civic League and the Albanian American Foundation for their unstinting work, since 1989, to bring the plight of the Albanian people and the unique historic connection between Albanians and Jews to international attention.

SENATE RESOLUTION 602—DESIGNATING 2012–2013 AS THE "YEAR OF THE KOREAN WAR VETERAN" AND RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 602

Whereas, on June 25, 1950, the Communist Democratic People's Republic of Korea began the Korean War by invading the Republic of Korea with approximately 135,000 troops;

Whereas nearly 1,800,000 members of the United States Armed Forces served along with the forces of the Republic of Korea and 20 other Allied nations in the Korean theater of operations to defend freedom and democracy in the Korean Peninsula;

Whereas, during the Korean War, 36,574 people from the United States died and 103,284 people from the United States were wounded in some of the most horrific combat and weather conditions in the history of warfare;

Whereas almost 60 years have passed since the signing of the cease-fire agreement at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953, and the Korean Peninsula still technically remains in a state of war;

Whereas the Korean War has for many years been a "Forgotten War" for people in the United States;

Whereas Korean War veterans deserve to be recognized by the people of the United States for their honorable and courageous service in defense of democracy and freedom during the Korean War;

Whereas the tide of communism on the southern ½ of the Korean Peninsula was halted, liberty triumphed over tyranny, and the Republic of Korea has developed into a modern and prosperous democracy because of the selfless sacrifice of the Korean War veterans;

Whereas the people of the United States and the Republic of Korea are eternally grateful to the Korean War veterans;

Whereas the history of the Korean War should be included in the curriculum of schools in the United States so that future generations never forget the sacrifices of the Korean War veterans and what those veterans accomplished;

Whereas the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemora-

tion Committee will implement a national campaign to honor the Korean War veterans, remember those Korean War veterans still counted among the missing in action, and educate the people of the United States concerning the ongoing relevance of the Korean War; and

Whereas the commemorative campaign will include ceremonies in the United States and the Republic of Korea in recognition of the beginning (June 25, 1950) and the armistice ending hostilities (July 27, 1953), as well as a national media and outreach campaign for Veterans Day 2012 to honor the Korean War veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates 2012–2013 as the "Year of the Korean War Veteran";

(2) recognizes the 60th anniversary of the Korean War; and

(3) honors the contributions and sacrifices made by the Korean War veterans.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2946. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. JOHANNIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2947. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2948. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2949. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2950. Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2951. Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2952. Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2953. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2954. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2955. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2956. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. AKAKA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2957. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2958. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2946. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. JOHANNIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1084. STATE CONSIDERATION OF MILITARY TRAINING IN GRANTING CERTAIN STATE CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES AS A CONDITION ON THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FOR VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4102A(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9)(A) As a condition of a grant or contract under which funds are made available to a State in order to carry out section 4103A or 4104 of this title for any program year, the Secretary shall require the State—

“(i) to demonstrate that when the State approves or denies a certification or license described in subparagraph (B) for a veteran the State takes into consideration any training received or experience gained by the veteran while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces; and

“(ii) to disclose to the Secretary in writing the following:

“(I) Criteria applicants must satisfy to receive a certification or license described in subparagraph (B) by the State.

“(II) A description of the standard practices of the State for evaluating training received by veterans while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces and evaluating the documented work experience of such veterans during such service for purposes of approving or denying a certification or license described in subparagraph (B).

“(III) Identification of areas in which training and experience described in subclause (II) fails to meet criteria described in subclause (I).”

“(B) A certification or license described in this subparagraph is any of the following:

“(i) A license to be a State tested nursing assistant or a certified nursing assistant.

“(ii) A commercial driver’s license.

“(iii) An emergency medical technician license EMT-B or EMT-I.

“(iv) An emergency medical technician-paramedic license.

“(C) The Secretary shall share the information the Secretary receives under subparagraph (A)(ii) with the Secretary of Defense to help the Secretary of Defense improve training for military occupational specialties so that individuals who receive such training are able to receive a certification or license described in subparagraph (B) from a State.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a program year beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2947. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to pre-

scribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1084. PROVISION OF STATUS UNDER LAW BY HONORING CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES AS VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 107 the following new section:

“§ 107A. Honoring as veterans certain persons who performed service in the reserve components

“Any person who is entitled under chapter 1223 of title 10 to retired pay for nonregular service or, but for age, would be entitled under such chapter to retired pay for nonregular service shall be honored as a veteran but shall not be entitled to any benefit by reason of this section.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 107 the following new item:

“107A. Honoring as veterans certain persons who performed service in the reserve components.”

SA 2948. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 602. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

Section 403(b)(7)(E) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2012” and inserting “December 31, 2013”.

SA 2949. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title V, add the following:

SEC. 526. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY INCREASE IN ACCUMULATED LEAVE CARRY-OVER FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Section 701(d) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2013” and inserting “September 30, 2015”.

SA 2950. Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy,

to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2844. GOLD STAR MOTHERS NATIONAL MONUMENT, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding section 2409(b) of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary of the Army shall permit the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation (a nonprofit corporation established under the laws of the District of Columbia) to establish an appropriate monument in Arlington National Cemetery or on Federal land in its environs under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army to commemorate the sacrifices made by mothers, and made by their sons and daughters who as members of the Armed Forces make the ultimate sacrifice, in defense of the United States. The monument shall be known as the “Gold Star Mothers National Monument”.

(b) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—The Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the monument, and no Federal funds may be used to pay such expenses.

SA 2951. Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1048. PROHIBITION ON DIVESTMENT, RETIREMENT, OR TRANSFER OF ARMY C-23 AIRCRAFT DURING FISCAL YEAR 2013.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—None of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2013 for the Army may be obligated or expended to divest, retire, transfer, or prepare to divest, retire, or transfer, any of the 38 C-23 aircraft assigned to the Army as of October 1, 2012.

(2) SUSTAINMENT IN OPERATIONALLY VIABLE STATE.—The Army shall sustain the C-23 aircraft described in paragraph (1) in an operationally viable state during fiscal year 2013.

(b) FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUSTAINMENT AND OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2013 by section 301 and available for operation and maintenance for the Army as specified in the funding table in section 4301, \$9,200,000 may be available for the sustainment and operation of the C-23 aircraft specified in subsection (a) during fiscal year 2013.

SA 2952. Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year