

Whereas older people in the United States rely on Federal programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and, in the case of veterans, TRICARE and the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs, for financial security and high-quality, affordable health care;

Whereas the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) provides federally funded community-based social services and nutritional support programs to nearly 2,600,000 older people in the United States each year;

Whereas many people in the United States are living longer, working longer, and enjoying healthier, more active lifestyles than in past generations;

Whereas older people play an important role by continuing to contribute experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments;

Whereas older people are active community members involved in volunteering, mentorship, arts and culture, and civic engagement; and

Whereas recognizing the successes of older people in the community encourages ongoing participation and further accomplishments: Now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2013 as “Older Americans Month”;

(2) recognizes May 2013 as the 50th anniversary of “Older Americans Month”; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to provide opportunities for older people to continue to flourish by—

(A) emphasizing the importance of older people and their leadership by publicly recognizing their continued achievements;

(B) presenting opportunities for older people to share their wisdom, experience, and skills; and

(C) recognizing older people as a valuable asset in strengthening the communities of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 138—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 14TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE CELEBRATED THE WEEK OF MAY 5 THROUGH MAY 11, 2013

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 138

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and that enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when too many students want to attend a single charter school;

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas charter schools provide thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are authorized by a designated public entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, charter schools are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for the financial and other operations of the charter schools;

Whereas charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools often set higher expectations for students in addition to the requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) to ensure that charter schools are of high quality and are truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 42 States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas more than 6,000 charter schools are serving more than 2,300,000 children;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) in 110 school districts, more than 10 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools;

(2) in 25 school districts, more than 20 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools; and

(3) in 7 districts, at least 30 percent of public school students are enrolled in charter schools;

Whereas charter schools improve the achievement of students they enroll and stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools—

(1) give parents the freedom to choose public schools;

(2) routinely measure parental satisfaction levels; and

(3) must prove their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and the communities they serve;

Whereas an estimated 610,000 students were on waiting lists to attend charter schools before the beginning of the 2011–2012 academic year; and

Whereas the 14th annual National Charter Schools Week is scheduled to be celebrated the week of May 5 through May 11, 2013: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for—

(A) their ongoing contributions to education;

(B) impressive strides made in closing the academic achievement gap in schools in the United States; and

(C) improving and strengthening the public school system in the United States;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of the 14th annual National Charter Schools Week, a weeklong celebration to be held the week of May 5 through May 11, 2013, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for charter schools.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 858. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, to provide for the conservation and develop-

ment of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 859. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 860. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 861. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 862. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 863. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 864. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 865. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 866. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 867. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 868. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. VITTER, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. JOHANNIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 869. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 870. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 871. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 872. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 873. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra.

SA 874. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 875. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 876. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 877. Mr. NELSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 878. Mr. UDALL of New Mexico submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 879. Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 880. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 881. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 882. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 883. Mr. REID (for Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SCHUMER)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. REID of NV to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 884. Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 885. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 886. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 887. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 888. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 889. Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 858.** Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:  
**SEC. 5** \_\_\_\_\_. **LAND CONVEYANCE AT OPTIMA LAKE, TEXAS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) **FAIR MARKET VALUE.**—The term “fair market value” means the amount for which a willing buyer would purchase and a willing seller would sell a parcel of land, as determined by a qualified, independent land appraiser.

(2) **PREVIOUS OWNER OF LAND.**—The term “previous owner of land” means a person (including a corporation) that conveyed, or a direct descendant of an individual who conveyed, land to the Corps of Engineers for use in the Optima Lake project in Texas County, Oklahoma.

(b) **DEAUTHORIZATION OF PROJECT.**—The Corps of Engineers project relating to Optima Lake in Texas County, Oklahoma is deauthorized, including any operation, maintenance, or other activities relating to the project that are ongoing as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) **CONVEYANCES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land acquired by the United States for the Optima Lake project in Texas County, Oklahoma in accordance with this subsection.

(2) **FIRST PURCHASE OPTIONS.**—

(A) **STATE OF OKLAHOMA.**—The Secretary shall give the State of Oklahoma through an Act passed by the legislature of that State and signed by the Governor of that State the first option to purchase the land described in paragraph (1).

(B) **PREVIOUS OWNERS OF LAND.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—If the State of Oklahoma has not acted to purchase the land by the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall give a previous owner of land the option to purchase the land described in paragraph (1).

(ii) **APPLICATION.**—

(I) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the official date of notice to the previous owner of land under paragraph (5), a previous owner of land who desires to purchase the land described in paragraph (1) that was owned by that previous owner of land, or by the individual from whom the previous owner of land is descended, shall file an application to purchase the land with the Secretary.

(II) **FIRST TO FILE HAS FIRST OPTION.**—If more than 1 application is filed to purchase a parcel of land described in paragraph (1), the first option to purchase the parcel of land shall be determined based on the order in which applications for the parcel of land were filed.

(iii) **IDENTIFICATION OF PREVIOUS OWNERS OF LAND.**—If the State of Oklahoma has failed to purchase the land within the period described in clause (i), the Secretary shall, not later than 90 days after that date, identify each previous owner of the land described in paragraph (1).

(iv) **CONSIDERATION.**—Consideration for land conveyed under this section shall be an amount equal to the fair market value of the land.

(3) **DISPOSAL.**—Any land described in paragraph (1) that is not purchased under paragraph (2) within the applicable time period shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal law.

(4) **EXTINGUISHMENT OF EASEMENTS.**—All flowage easements acquired by the United States for use in the Optima Lake project in Texas County, Oklahoma, are extinguished.

(5) **NOTICE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the State of Oklahoma has failed to purchase the land within the period described in paragraph (2)(B)(i), the Secretary shall notify of the conveyance under this section—

(i) by United States mail, each person identified as a previous owner of land under paragraph (2)(B)(iii) by not later than 90 days after the date of identification; and

(ii) by publication in the Federal Register, the general public by not later than 90 days after the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) **CONTENTS OF NOTICE.**—Notice under this subsection shall include—

(i) a copy of this section;

(ii) information sufficient to separately identify each parcel of land subject to this section; and

(iii) specification of the fair market value of each parcel of land subject to this section.

(C) **OFFICIAL DATE OF NOTICE.**—The official date of notice under this section shall be the later of—

(i) the date on which actual notice is mailed; or

(ii) the date of publication of the notice in the Federal Register.

(d) **FLOOD CONTROL GATES.**—Prior to the conveyance of any land under this section, the Secretary shall disable or remove, whichever option is most cost-effective, any flood control gate on the dam constructed by the Corps of Engineers in carrying out the Optima Lake project.

(e) **RESTRICTION.**—The Secretary shall carry out this section, including all land conveyances under this section, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(f) **EFFECT OF ACT.**—Nothing in this section affects the jurisdiction of the State of Oklahoma (including localities) over any existing road or rights-of-way on the land described in subsection (c)(1).

(g) **OFFSET.**—An amount that equals the amount necessary to offset, in the aggregate, any net increase in spending and foregone revenues resulting from the implementation of this section shall be derived from the proceeds of the sale of the land described in subsection (c)(1).

**SA 859.** Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 601, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:  
**SEC. 5** \_\_\_\_\_. **GREATER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN SEVERE FLOODING AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT STUDY.**

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **GREATER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN.**—The term “greater Mississippi River Basin” means the area covered by hydrologic units 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11, as identified by the United States Geological Survey as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) **LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER.**—The term “lower Mississippi River” means the portion of the Mississippi River that begins at the confluence of the Ohio River and flows to the Gulf of Mexico.

(3) **MIDDLE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.**—The term “middle Mississippi River” means the portion of the Mississippi River that begins at the confluence of the Missouri River and flows to the lower Mississippi River.

(4) **SEVERE FLOODING AND DROUGHT.**—The term “severe flooding and drought” means severe weather events that threaten personal safety, property, and navigation on the inland waterways of the United States.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall carry out a study of the greater Mississippi River Basin—

(1) to improve the coordinated and comprehensive management of water resource