

(2) celebrates and acknowledges the economic, cultural, and historic significance of the Hoover Dam;

(3) recognizes the past, present, and future benefits of the construction of the Hoover Dam to the agricultural, industrial, and urban development of the Southwestern United States; and

(4) joins the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and the people of the United States in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Hoover Dam.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 658—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 17, 2010, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”**

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 658

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by institutions and individuals that influence youth to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young people to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of our youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of

the young people of the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into their teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 17, 2010, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 659—SUPPORTING “LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL”, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BURR, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 659

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs support working families by ensuring that the children in such families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of the youth of the Nation, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of the children in the United States;

Whereas “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 21, 2010, highlights the critical importance of high-quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas many afterschool programs across the United States are struggling to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 660—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAM PROMOTING ADVANCEMENTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS MADE BY OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES**

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

S. RES. 660

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are vital fields of increasing importance in driving the economic engine and ensuring the security of the United States;

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics have played, and will continue to play, critical roles in helping to develop clean energy technologies, find life-saving cures for diseases, solve security challenges, and discover new solutions for deteriorating transportation and infrastructure;

Whereas the United States is recognized as an international leader in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and a destination for individuals from all over the world studying in those fields;

Whereas in partnership with countries and individuals across the globe, the people of the United States have made advances in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that have advanced the knowledge and improved the condition of human beings everywhere;

Whereas international scientific cooperation enhances relationships among participating countries by building trust and increasing understanding between those countries and cultures through the collaborative nature of scientific dialogue;

Whereas partnerships between the people of other countries and the people of the United States are the most effective form of public diplomacy, helping to counter misconceptions based on fear, ignorance, and misinformation;

Whereas consistent polling and scholarly research have shown that even countries that disagree with some aspects of United States foreign policy admire the leadership of the United States in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

Whereas international scientific cooperation has produced successful engagement and led to improved relations with countries that exhibited hostility to the United States in the past, including Russia and the People's Republic of China: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends individuals and institutions that participate in and support advancements in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, especially through international partnerships;

(2) supports the Science Envoy Program as representative of the commitment of the United States to collaborate with other countries to promote the advancement of science and technology throughout the world based on issues of common interest and expertise; and

(3) encourages the Secretary of State to establish a public diplomacy program that uses embassies of the United States and the resources of the Smithsonian Institution and other such institutions—

(A) to establish engaging exhibits that provide examples of cooperation between institutions and the people of the United States and the institutions and people of the host country in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;