

110th Congress At-a-Glance

Actions Completed

Abstinence Education: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-90) to extend abstinence education programs through December 31, 2007 (September 2007). A second extension (P.L. 110-173) to June 30, 2008, was approved in December 2007.

Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-275) to authorize \$50 million under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193) for abstinence-only education programs for unmarried teenagers and adults, and then voted to override the president's veto of the measure (July 2008).

Adoption: The Senate passed two resolutions (S. Res. 384/S. Res. 675) expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month (November 2007/September 2008). The House passed an identical resolution (H. Res. 1432) (September 2008).

Congress cleared the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (H.R. 6893) (P.L. 110-351).

Alice Mary Robinston: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 1272) "honoring and recognizing Alice Mary Robertson, who, while a member of Congress, became the first woman to preside over the floor of the House of Representatives" (October 2008).

Ann Richards: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 42) honoring former Texas Governor Ann Richards (February 2007).

Benazir Bhutto: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 912) condemning the assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, expressing condolences to her family and the families of the other victims of the attacks, and reaffirming the commitment of the United States to assist the people of Pakistan (January 2008).

Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-18) to reauthorize the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection program through FY2012 (March 2007).

Breast Cancer and Environmental Research: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-354) to create an Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee that will collect evidence on the environmental and genomic factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer (September 2008).

Breast Cancer Stamp: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-150) to extend until December 31, 2011, current law (P.L. 109-100) requiring the U.S. Postal Service to issue the breast cancer postage stamp (December 2007).

Central America: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 564) recognizing that violence, including violence against women, in Central America threatens peace and stability in the region (October 2007).

Child Abuse and Neglect: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 299) urging Congress to take steps to increase public awareness of child abuse and neglect (April 2007).

The House and Senate approved a resolution (S. Con. Res. 45) commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month (November/October 2007).

Child Care Workers: Congress approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 112) supporting the goals and ideals of a National Child Care Worthy Wage Day (May 2008).

Child Product Safety: Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-189) to reduce the incidence of child injury and death inside and around motor vehicles (February 2008).

Congress also approved the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-140) (December 2007).

Child Soldiers: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-340) to ensure that the United States does not act as a safe haven for individuals who participated in the recruitment and enlistment of child soldiers under the age of fifteen (September 2008).

Childhood Cancer: Congress approved the Carolyn Pryce Walker Conquer Childhood Cancer Act (P.L. 110-285) (July 2008).

The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 470) supporting efforts to increase childhood cancer awareness, treatment, and research (September 2007).

The Senate passed a resolution (S. Res. 563) supporting the goals and ideals of National Childhood Cancer Awareness Day (May 2008).

Children's Health: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 760) supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month (November 2007).

College Cost Reduction: Congress passed the College Cost Reduction Act (P.L. 110-84), a bill to increase student financial aid and encourage cooperative education programs in science and math for women and minorities (September 2007).

Consumer and Child Safety: Congress approved the conference report for the Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Act (P.L. 110-314), a bill to reauthorize the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) (July 2008). The CPSC creates and enforces safety rules for products and issues recalls for products deemed unsafe. P.L. 110-314 establishes a Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel to study, among other concerns, the potential health effects of phthalates on pregnant women and children.

The reauthorization also included the Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act. The act requires manufacturers of infant or toddler products to provide consumers with a postage-paid consumer registration form with each product, improve the effectiveness of product recalls, and permanently affix manufacturer contact information to each infant or toddler product.

Crime Victims' Rights: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 119) supporting the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week in order to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States (April 2007).

Cynthia Boles Dailard: The Senate passed a resolution (S. Res. 36) honoring women's health advocate Cynthia Boles Dailard (February 2007).

DNA Testing: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-360) to authorize \$151 million per year for FY2009-2014 for a program to mitigate the processing backlog of DNA samples used to investigate and prosecute sexual assault suspects (September 2008).

Darfur: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 726) calling on the president of the United States and the international community to take immediate steps to respond to, and prevent acts of, rape and sexual violence against women and girls in Darfur, Sudan; eastern Chad; and the Central African Republic (October 2007).

Death Gratuities: The House and Senate approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 175) addressing death gratuities for military children (July 2007).

Defense Authorization (FY 2008): Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-81) to authorize \$503.8 billion for the Department of Defense and the national security programs at the Department of Energy for FY2008 (January 2008). The measure, among other provisions, prohibits fee increases for TRICARE, the military health program. The measure includes provisions to improve medical care for members of the Armed Forces and veterans and to address the physical and mental health problems women veterans experience as they transition to civilian life. It also extends coverage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (P.L. 103-3) to caretakers of wounded servicemembers. The legislation allows a soldier's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin to take up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period to care for an injured servicemember. The report accompanying the bill directs the secretary of Defense to conduct a review of the "quality of life challenges" faced by military families overseas, including during pregnancy (see [The Source](#), 12/14/07).

Defense Authorization (FY2009): Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-417) to authorize \$612.5 billion for the Department of Defense and the national security programs at the Department of Energy for FY2009 (September 2008). The measure includes a 3.9 percent pay raise for military personnel, \$3.2 billion for new family housing, and \$25 billion for defense health care programs. The legislation authorizes up to 21 days of paternity leave, in addition to any leave to which the service member is entitled, following the birth of a child; encourages the Department of Defense Education Activity to develop a comprehensive research-based financial literacy curriculum for grades kindergarten through 12; and authorizes the secretary of Defense to "carry out programs to provide training and education to spouses of members of the armed forces on active duty who are pursuing portable careers.

The Senate report accompanying the bill includes a recommendation that the Army devote \$1.5 billion in FY2009 for family support programs, including child care, youth programs, and community recreation. The report also recommended requiring that alleged crimes, including sexual assault, are reported to appropriate authorities in Iraq and Afghanistan and that contractor employees receive appropriate victim and witness services (see [The Source](#), 9/12/08).

Democratic Republic of the Congo: The House passed H. Res. 1227, a resolution condemning sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and calling on the international community to take immediate actions to respond to the violence (September 2008).

Domestic Violence: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 590) supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, commemorated each October, and expressing the sense of the House that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence issues (September 2007).

Drug Endangered Children: Congress cleared the Drug Endangered Children Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-345) (September 2008).

Early Childhood Education: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 164) designating the week of April 22, 2007, as Week of the Young Child and recognizing the importance of early childhood education (April 2007).

Economic Stimulus: Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-185) that provides, among other provisions, tax rebates of \$600 and \$1,200 for individual and joint taxpayers, respectively, and rebates of \$300 to families for every dependent child under age 17. The bill also includes rebates of at least \$300 for individual taxpayers (\$600 for joint filers) who have qualifying incomes of at least \$3,000 (February 2008).

Ensign DeCarol Davis: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1241) honoring Ensign DeCarol Davis as the first African American woman to serve as the valedictorian of the Coast Guard Academy (July 2008).

Farm Bill: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-234) to reauthorize the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-171), known as the Farm Bill. A clerical error forced the House and Senate to approve the entire bill (P.L. 110-246) a second time (May/June 2008). Congress voted to override the president's veto of both bills (May/June 2008). The Farm Bill reauthorizes several programs, including the Food Stamp Act (P.L. 108-269); the United States Department of Agriculture's Snack program, which provides healthy snacks to students during after-school programs; the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program (P.L. 480); the National School Breakfast and Lunch program; and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

Fatherhood: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 474) commending fathers who are caring parents and calling on fathers across the United States to use Father's Day to rededicate themselves to their children (June 2007).

The House also passed a resolution (H. Res. 1243) recognizing the immeasurable contributions of fathers to the healthy development of children, supporting responsible fatherhood, and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father's Day (June 2008).

Fetal Alcohol Awareness Day: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 285) designating September 9, 2007, as National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day (July 2007). The Senate passed a second resolution designating September 9, 2008, as National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day (September 2008).

Financial Literacy: The House approved H. Res. 1079, a resolution supporting April as "Financial Literacy Month" (April 2008).

Foster Parents: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 179) to establish a National Foster Parents Day (April 2007). The House also passed a resolution (H. Res. 263) recognizing National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to improve foster care systems nationwide (May 2007).

Gasoline Burn Prevention Act: Congress approved the Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (P.L. 110-278), clearing the measure for the president's signature (June 2008).

Gender-Based Persecution: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 32) denouncing gender-based persecution (October 2007).

Genetic Discrimination: Congress approved a bill (P.L. 110-233) to prohibit employers and health insurance companies from discriminating against applicants based on their, or a family member's, genetic information (April 2008).

Girl Scouts: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 136) commending the Girl Scouts of the United States of America on the occasion of their 95th anniversary (March 2007).

Gold Star Mothers: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 605) supporting the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day to honor women who have lost a daughter or son during military combat (September 2007).

Guatemala: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 100/S. Res. 178) concerning the murders of women and girls in Guatemala since 2001 (May 2007/March 2008).

Gun Control: The House and Senate approved a bill (P.L. 110-180) to expand the National Instant Criminal Background Check System to make more electronic data available to states for checking the criminal and mental health records of people who want to purchase guns, including misdemeanor domestic violence records (June/December 2007).

Head Start Reauthorization: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-134) to reauthorize the Head Start program at \$7.3 billion in FY2008, \$7.5 billion in FY2009, and \$7.9 billion in FY2010 (November 2007).

Health Centers Reauthorization: Congress passed legislation (P.L. 110-355) to authorize \$2.065 billion for FY2008, \$2.313 billion for FY2009, \$2.602 billion for FY2010, \$2.94 billion for FY2011, and \$3.337 billion for FY2012 for federal health centers (September 2008). Health centers provide cost-effective, quality health care to poor and underserved communities. Services include pap smears and mammograms.

Healthy Start: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-339) to reauthorize the Healthy Start Program through FY2013 (September 2008). The program awards grants to public and private organizations to reduce infant mortality, the number of low birth weight babies, and the number of preterm births.

Heart Disease: The House approved resolution (H. Res. 972) supporting the goals of American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day (February 2008).

Higher Education Reauthorization: Congress approved the conference report for the College Opportunity and Affordability Act (P.L. 110-315), a bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA) (P.L. 105-244) through FY2013 (July 2008).

HIV/AIDS: Congress passed the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act (P.L. 110-293), to authorize \$48 billion through FY2013 for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) (July 2008).

Immigrant Benefits: Congress passed the SSI [Supplemental Security Income] Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act (P.L. 110-328) (September 2008). The measure will extend through FY2011 SSI benefits eligibility for certain "humanitarian immigrants," such as victims of human trafficking.

International Women's Day: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 140/S. Res. 102) supporting the goals of International Women's Day (March 2007).

Internet Safety: Congress cleared legislation (P.L. 110-401), the Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology To Eradicate Cyber Threats (PROTECT) Our Children Act of 2008 (September 2008). The same month, Congress also approved legislation (P.L. 110-358 and P.L. 110-400) to protect children from online child predators and to increase penalties for cybercrimes involving children, respectively (September 2008).

The Senate and House approved resolutions (S. Res. 205/ H. Res. 455) designating June 2007 as National Internet Safety Month (May/June 2007).

The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 567) designating June 2008 as National Internet Safety Month (May 2008). The House approved a similar resolution (H. Res. 1260) (July 2008).

Internally Displaced Persons: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 426) supporting efforts to assist internally displaced persons in Colombia (July 2007). Women and children comprise the majority of individuals displaced in Colombia.

Interracial Marriage: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 431) to commemorate the 1967 Supreme Court *Loving v. Virginia* ruling that ended the ban on interracial marriage in the United States (June 2007).

Irena Sendler: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Con. Res. 361/S. Con. Res. 96) commemorating Irena Sendler for saving the lives of thousands during the Holocaust and remembering her legacy of courage, selflessness, and hope (July 2008/September 2008).

Japanese "Comfort Women": The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 121) calling on the Japanese government to formally apologize for its military's enslavement of young women during the Japanese occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands in the 1930s and World War II (July 2007).

Jo Ann Davis: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 717) expressing the sorrow of the House over the death of Rep. Jo Ann Davis (R-VA) on October 6, 2007 (October 2007).

Congress approved a bill (P.L. 110-226) to designate a U.S. Postal Service facility in Gloucester, Virginia as the "Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office" (April 2008).

Juanita Millender-McDonald: The House and Senate passed resolutions (H. Res. 328/S. Res. 165) expressing the sorrow of the House over the death of Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA) on April 22, 2007 (April 2007).

Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-441) to designate a portion of California State Route 91 in Los Angeles County, California, as the Juanita Millender-McDonald Highway in honor of the late congresswoman (October 2008).

Julia Carson: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 880) expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Rep. Julia Carson (D-IN) on December 15, 2007 (December 2007).

Congress approved a bill (P.L. 110-225) to designate a United States Postal Service facility in Indianapolis, Indiana as the "Julia M. Carson Post Office Building" (April 2008).

Katherine Dunham: the House approved H. Res. 655, a resolution that honors the life and accomplishments of Katherine Dunham (July 2008).

Lady Bird Johnson: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 533/S. Res. 271) honoring former first lady Lady Bird Johnson (July 2007).

Lesotho: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 294/S. Res. 103) commending the Kingdom of Lesotho on the occasion of International Women's Day, for enactment of a law to improve the status of married women and ensure the access of married women to property rights (July/March 2007).

Lois Browne Evans: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 248) honoring the life and achievements of Dame Lois Browne Evans, the first female barrister and attorney general of Bermuda and the first female opposition leader in the British Commonwealth (July 2007).

Lung Cancer: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 335) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the president should declare lung cancer a public health priority and implement a comprehensive interagency program to reduce the lung cancer mortality rate by at least 50 percent by 2015 (November 2007). Two-thirds of nonsmokers diagnosed with lung cancer are women.

Mammography: The Senate passed a resolution (S. Res. 343) designating October 19, 2007, as National Mammography Day (October 2007). The Senate passed a second identical resolution (S. Res. 698) in October 2008.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 807) honoring Marjory Stoneman Douglas, an environmental activist (March 2008).

Martha Coffin Wright: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 588) recognizing the accomplishments of Martha Coffin Wright in pursuing equal rights for women while recognizing her 200th birthday and induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame (October 2007).

Maternal Mortality: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 1022/S. Res. 616) reflecting Congress' commitment to reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad (May 2008/October 2008).

Math and Science Education: Congress passed the 21st Century Competitiveness Act (P.L. 110-69) (August 2007). The legislation requires the Department of Education to establish a program and provide mentors for women and underrepresented minorities in careers in math, science, and engineering. The legislation also included the provisions of the 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act.

Mental Health Parity: Congress approved the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-343). The law requires insurers that provide coverage for mental health disorders to do so at the same rate at which they cover physical disorders (October 2008).

Mentoring: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 29/S. Res. 61) designating January 2007 as National Mentoring Month (January/February 2007). The House passed a second resolution (H. Res. 908) designating January 2008 as National Mentoring Month (January 2008).

Mercury 13 Women: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 421) honoring the 13 women pilots who participated in a rigorous women's astronaut testing program in 1961 and came to be known as the "Mercury 13" (June 2007).

Methamphetamine Awareness: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 366) designating November 2007 as National Methamphetamine Awareness Month (November 2007). The resolution finds that three-fifths of the nation's sheriffs reported increased methamphetamine use by women and half of the nation's sheriffs reported increased use by teens. The Senate passed a second identical resolution (S. Res. 703) in October 2008.

Minimum Wage: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-28) to raise the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 over two years (May 2007).

Minority HIV/AIDS: The House and Senate approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 426) recognizing the tenth anniversary of the Minority AIDS Initiative (September 2008/October 2008).

Missing Children: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1142) recognizing May 25, 2008, as National Missing Children's Day (May 2008).

Missing Persons: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 303) expressing the sense of the House that there should be a day established to heighten awareness of missing persons (September 2007).

Mother's Day: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1113) celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting Mother's Day (May 2008).

NASA Reauthorization: Congress cleared legislation (P.L. 110-422) to reauthorize programs at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (September 2008). The measure contains provisions to assist women-owned small businesses and encourage women to obtain degrees in NASA-related fields.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: Congress passed the Protecting Our Children Comes First Act (P.L. 110-240). The bill would reauthorize the annual grant (P.L. 108-96) to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at \$40 million in FY2008 and "such sums as may be necessary" for FY2009 through 2013 (May 2008).

National Children and Families Day: The House and Senate approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 62) supporting the goals and ideals of a National Children and Families Day (March/May 2007).

Newborn Screening: Congress passed the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act (P.L. 110-204) (April 2008). Congress also passed a bill (P.L. 110-237) to authorize funding levels and make technical changes (April 2008).

Osteoporosis: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 369) supporting National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month (May 2008).

Ovarian Cancer: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 671/S. Res. 311) supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month (September 2008/September 2007).

Pell Grants: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-84) to amend the Higher Education Act (HEA) (P.L. 105-244) to increase student eligibility for Pell Grants and lower interest rates on student loan programs (September 2007).

Prenatal Conditions: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-374) to authorize \$5 million per year for FY2008-2012 to provide “scientifically sound information and support services” to women who receive a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome or other prenatal or postnatal disorders (September 2008).

Prisoner Re-entry: Congress approved a bill (P.L. 110-199) to, among other provisions, authorize grants to state and local governments, territories, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations that assist incarcerated parents (April 2008).

Rosa Parks: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-20) to extend to December 1, 2009, the deadline for the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of civil rights leader Rosa Parks for display in the Capitol’s Statuary Hall (November 2007).

Runaway and Homeless Youth: Congress passed the Runaway and Homeless Youth Protection Act (P.L. 110-378) to reauthorize a program (P.L. 93-415) that supports state and community efforts to assist homeless youths (September 2008).

The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 1375/S. Res. 646) supporting National Runaway Prevention Month (September 2008).

Sally Ride: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1313) celebrating the 25th anniversary of the first American woman in space, Dr. Sally K. Ride, and honoring her contributions to the space program and science education (July 2008).

School Breakfast: The House and Senate approved resolutions (H. Res. 1013/S. Res. 474) expressing the sense of Congress that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on classroom performance (March 2008).

School Counseling: The Senate passed a resolution (S. Res. 23) designating February 5-9, 2007, as National School Counseling Week (February 2007). Both the House and Senate passed resolutions (H. Res. 932/S. Res. 436) recognizing February 4-8, 2008 as National School Counseling Week (January 2008).

Sexual Assault: The House and Senate passed resolutions (S. Con. Res. 77/H. Con. Res. 330) supporting National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (April 2008).

Shaken Baby Syndrome: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 163) designating the week of April 16, 2007, as National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week (April 2007).

Slavery: The House Foreign Relations Committee approved a resolution (H. Res. 158) commemorating the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the British slave trade (March 2007).

Small Business Administration (SBA) Extension: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-57) to temporarily reauthorize the SBA through December 15, 2007 (July 2007). A second extension (P.L. 110-136) of the SBA to May 23, 2008, was approved in December 2007. Congress approved another bill (P.L. 110-235) to extend SBA programs until May 20, 2009 (May 2008). Programs under the SBA reauthorization bill include the Women’s Business Center, Small Business Development Center

programs, the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs, loan programs for women-owned businesses, and the National Women's Business Council.

Stalking Awareness: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 24) designating January 2007 as National Stalking Awareness Month (January 2007). The Senate passed a second resolution (S. Res. 414) designating January 2008 as National Stalking Awareness Month (December 2007); the House approved an identical resolution (H. Res. 852) (January 2008).

State Children's Health Insurance Program Extension: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-173) to extend the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) through March 31, 2009 (December 2007).

Stephanie Tubbs Jones: The House and Senate passed resolutions (H. Res. 1415/S. Res. 654) expressing the condolences of the House and Senate over the passing of Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH) (September 2008).

Student Loans: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-84) to reduce interest rates on need-based federal college loans (September 2007).

Suffragists: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 105) supporting the goals and ideals of National Suffragists Day (May 2007).

Supplemental Appropriations (FY2008): Congress approved the FY2008 Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 110-252), a bill to provide \$161.8 billion for military operations, including \$34.4 billion for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq (June 2008). The legislation also included \$24.7 billion for several domestic and international programs, including expanded education benefits to veterans under the GI Bill (P.L. 78-346), military family housing, international food assistance, and military child care assistance.

Susan G. Komen Foundation: The Senate passed a resolution (S. Res. 169) recognizing the Susan G. Komen for the Cure on its leadership in the breast cancer movement on its 25th anniversary (April 2007).

Tax Relief: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-166) to prevent for one year the AMT from affecting an additional 21 million taxpayers in tax year 2007 (December 2007). Congress also approved legislation (P.L. 110-343) that lowered the threshold for taxpayers to receive the refundable child tax credit from \$12,050 of earned income to \$8,500 beginning in tax year 2009 (October 2008).

Teen Dating Violence: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Res. 388) designating the week of February 4 through February 8, 2008, as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week (December 2007).

Title IX: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 406) celebrating the accomplishments of Title IX, and recognizing the need to continue pursuing educational opportunities for women and girls (June 2007).

Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA): Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-90) to extend Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) through December 31, 2007 (September 2007). A second extension (P.L. 110-173) to June 30, 2008, was approved in December 2007. TMA (P.L. 109-432) provides continued medical coverage for certain families who become ineligible for Medicaid because of increased earnings or child support payments.

The House approved the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (P.L. 110-275), which, among other provisions, would extend the TMA program (P.L. 109-432) until the end of the third quarter of FY2009 (June 2008). The Senate approved the bill, and Congress then voted to override the president's veto of the Medicare bill (July 2008).

Underage Drinking: The House approved H. Res. 1042, a resolution supporting the "We Don't Serve Teens" campaign (September 2008).

Unidentified Remains: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 340) on the importance of providing a voice for the victims and victims' families involved in missing persons cases and unidentified human remains cases (September 2007).

Veterans' Business Programs: Congress approved the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-186) (December 2007). The legislation requires the SBA to establish a Women Veterans Business Training Resource Program to collect information on resources available to women veterans for business training, including vocational and technical education; general business skills, such as marketing and accounting; and business assistance programs targeted to women veterans.

Veterans' Health: See Defense Authorization (FY2008) under "Actions Completed."

Women and STEM: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1180) recognizing the efforts of outstanding women scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians (STEM) in the United States and around the world (June 2008).

Women Prisoners: Congress cleared legislation (P.L. 110-416) that will, among other provisions, provide \$5 million per year for grants to state, local, and tribal governments for mental health treatment of female prisoners and their families (September 2008).

Women Veterans: The House approved a resolution (H. Res. 1054) honoring the service and achievements of women in the armed forces and female veterans (May 2008).

See also Defense Authorization (FY2008 and FY2009) under "Actions Completed."

Women's Health Week: The Senate approved a resolution (S. Con. Res. 81) declaring May 11-17, 2008, as National Women's Health Week (May 2008). The House approved its version of the resolution (H. Con. Res. 331) (May 2008).

Women's History Month: The House passed a resolution (H. Res. 1021) declaring March 2008 as "Women's History Month" (April 2008).

Work Opportunity Tax Credit: Congress approved legislation (P.L. 110-28) to extend the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) through August 31, 2011 (May 2007). The WOTC, authorized by the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-188), encourages employers to hire eight targeted groups of job seekers by reducing employers' federal income tax liability. The eight targeted groups include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients, 18-24-year-old food stamp recipients, disabled veterans, ex-felons hired within a year of release from prison or the date of their conviction, and Supplemental Security Income recipients.

Outstanding Actions

Abused Children: The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill (S. 627) to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-415) to authorize \$5 million annually for FY2008-2012 to address the health and well-being of abused infants and toddlers (March 2007).

Afghanistan: The House passed legislation (H.R. 2446) that would provide economic, health, and educational aid to women and girls in Afghanistan (June 2007).

African Health: The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the African Health Capacity Investment Act (S. 805) (September 2007). The bill would authorize \$150 million in FY2008 for financial and technical health assistance to African countries to help treat and prevent HIV/AIDS and other major diseases and reduce maternal and child mortality rates by improving health care capacity and the retention of medical health professionals.

AIDS in Prison: The House approved the Stop AIDS in Prison Act of 2007 (H.R. 1943) (September 2007). The Senate Judiciary Committee passed the bill in September 2008.

Alice Paul: The House passed a bill (H.R. 406) to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Alice Paul in recognition of her role in the women's suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women (May 2008).

Arthritis Prevention: The House approved the Arthritis Prevention, Control and Cure Act (H.R. 1283) (September 2008).

Breast Cancer Awareness: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 230) supporting the observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October 2007).

Breast Cancer Patient Protection: The House approved the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act (H.R. 758) (September 2008).

Cancer Screening: The House approved the Cytology Proficiency Improvement Act of 2007 (H.R. 1237) (April 2008).

Child Care: Congress passed legislation (H.R. 1591) that authorized \$50 million per year for FY2008-2012 to establish a small business child care grant program. President Bush vetoed the measure; the House failed to override the president's veto (May 2008).

Child Custody: The House approved the Military Child Custody Protection Act (H.R. 6048) (May 2008).

Child Labor: The House approved a bill (H.R. 2637) that would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) of 1938 (P.L. 75-718) to address violations of child labor, minimum wage, and overtime laws (June 2007).

Child Protection: The Senate Judiciary Committee passed Child Protection Improvements Act (S. 2756) (May 2008). The bill would better enable the private sector to learn from the Federal Bureau of Investigation whether potential employees or volunteers who might interact with children have criminal histories. S. 2756 would amend and make permanent the PROTECT Act (P.L. 108-21), a pilot program to prevent child abduction and the sexual exploitation of children.

Child Safe Viewing: The Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee approved the Child Safe Viewing Act (S. 602) (August 2007).

Children and Disasters: The House passed a bill (H.R. 3495) to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters and a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters (November 2007). The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee passed the Addressing the Disaster Needs of Children Act (S. 1970) (November 2007).

Darfur: The House approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 7) calling on "the League of Arab States and each Member State individually to declare the systematic torture, rape, and displacement of Darfurians a genocide" and to increase their efforts to end it (April 2007).

Early Childhood Education: The House Education and Labor Committee approved the Providing Resources Early for Kids (PRE-K) Act (H.R. 3289) (June 2008).

Equal Pay: The House passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (H.R. 2831) (July 2007). The House also approved the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 1338) (July 2008).

Family and Medical Leave: The House approved H.R. 2744, the Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections, a bill to extend the Family and Medical Leave Act (P.L. 103-3) to flight crews (May 2008).

The House approved the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act (H.R. 5781) (June 2008).

See also Defense Authorization (FY2008) under "Actions Completed."

Financial Services Diversity: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 140) recognizing the low numbers of minorities and women in the financial services industry and expressing the sense of Congress that the industry should take active measures to increase its demographic diversity (September 2007).

Frances E. Allen: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) to honor Frances E. Allen, a pioneer for women in the computer science industry (May 2007).

Global Poverty: The House approved a bill (H.R. 1302) that would require the president to declare as United States policy the reduction of global poverty (September 2007).

Harriet Ross Tubman: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 310) expressing support for a national day of remembrance for Harriet Ross Tubman (April 2008).

Hate Crimes: The House passed the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 (H.R. 1592), a bill that would include attacks based on gender, sexual orientation, and disability in the definition of federal hate crimes (May 2007). The Senate passed the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 by adding it to H.R. 1585, the FY2008 Defense Authorization bill (September 2007). However, the provision was stripped from H.R. 1585 during the House-Senate conference (December 2007).

Heart Disease: The House approved the Heart Disease Education, Analysis Research, and Treatment (HEART) for Women Act (H.R. 1014) (September 2008).

The House approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 52) designating February 2007 as American Heart Month (February 2007).

Homelessness: The House approved the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (H.R. 7221) (October 2008). The measure would, among other provisions, include any person fleeing domestic violence in the definition of homeless; preventing project sponsors from denying emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing to families with children under age 18; and prohibit domestic violence victim service providers from disclosing "personally identifying information" (October 2008). The Senate approved a similar bill (S. 1518) in November 2007.

The House Financial Services Committee passed the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (H.R. 840) (July 2008). The measure would provide relocation assistance and victim services for individuals who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and are in danger of becoming homeless because of the violence or abuse, and includes in the definition of "homeless individuals" individuals fleeing domestic violence.

Housing Vouchers: The House approved the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (H.R. 1851) (July 2007). The Section 8 program provides monetary vouchers for low-income families to obtain privately-owned rental housing. Section 8 is the largest federal program designed to provide affordable housing to low-income families, serving more than two million households.

Indian Child Abuse Prevention: The Senate passed a bill (S. 398) to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (P.L. 101-630) to identify and remove barriers to reducing child abuse. The legislation would reauthorize the Indian Child Abuse treatment grant program for FY2008-2012 (May 2007).

Indian Health Care: The Senate approved a bill (S. 1200) to reauthorize the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 94-437) through FY2017 (February 2008). The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health passed a similar bill (H.R. 1328) in November 2007.

Indian “Untouchables”: The House passed a resolution (H. Con. Res. 139) that expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should address discrimination against India’s “untouchables” (Dalits) and the forest tribes of India (Tribals) (July 2007).

International Food Aid: The House Foreign Affairs Committee approved legislation (H.R. 2844) to reauthorize the international food programs of the Agriculture Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (P.L. 83-480) (June 2007).

See also Supplemental Appropriations (FY2008) under “Actions Completed.”

Internet Safety: The Senate passed a bill (S. 1965) to protect children from cybercrime and child pornography (May 2008). The Senate Judiciary Committee passed the Internet Safety Education Act (S. 2344) in December 2007.

The House approved several bills (H.R. 3461, H.R. 4134, and H.R. 4136) to protect children from online child predators and to increase penalties for cybercrimes involving children (November 2007). The House passed the Securing Adolescents from Exploitation Online (SAFE) Act of 2007 (H.R. 3791) (December 2007). The bill would require “all electronic service communications providers and remote computing service providers” to report violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws.

Lead Exposure: The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee approved the Pregnant Women and Children from Dangerous Lead Exposures Act (S. 3495) (September 2008).

Margaret Truman Daniel: The House approved a resolution (H. Con. Res. 292) honoring Margaret Truman Daniel and her lifetime of accomplishments (March 2008). The Senate Judiciary Committee approved the resolution in April 2008.

Media Ownership: The Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee approved a bill (S. 2332) to promote transparency in adopting the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) new media ownership rules and increase the representation of women and minorities in broadcast media ownership (December 2007).

Methamphetamine: The House approved the Meth Free Families and Communities Act (H.R. 6901) (September 2008).

Microloans: The House approved the Microloan Amendments and Modernization Act (H.R. 3020), a bill that would amend the Small Business Act (P.L. 85-536) to update the Small Business Administration’s (SBA) current microloan program (September 2007).

Military Order of the Purple Heart: The House approved legislation (H.R. 1119) to amend the congressional charter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (36 U.S.C. §140503(b)) to include spouses (November 2007).

Missing Children: The House approved the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2008 (H.R. 1684). Included in the bill is a provision that would require the Department of Homeland Security to provide information to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to assist in the location of missing children (May 2007).

The House passed H.R. 5464, the A Child Is Missing Act (July 2008), a bill to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children by providing the A Child is Missing Alert and Recovery Center with \$5 million in annual grants from FY2009-2014.

Mother's Day: The House passed H.R. 2268, the Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (June 2008).

Native American Family Violence: The Senate Indian Affairs Committee approved a bill (S. 398) to reauthorize the Indian Child Abuse Treatment Grant Program through FY2012 (May 2007).

Native American Mental Health: The Senate Indian Affairs Committee approved a bill (S. 322) to authorize \$1.5 million each year for FY2008-2011 to establish a demonstration project to test the use of telemental health services (February 2007).

Native American Methamphetamine Use: The House approved a bill (H.R. 545) to include territories and tribal governments as eligible grant recipients under the Community Oriented Policing Methamphetamine Hot Spots program, the Drug-Endangered Children program, and the Pregnant and Parenting Women Offenders program (March 2007).

Parental Training: the House Education and Labor Committee passed the Education Begins at Home Act (H.R. 2343) (June 2008). The measure provides quality early childhood home visitation programs to pregnant women and parents of children from birth through kindergarten.

Pell Grants: The House passed a bill (H.R. 990) to repeal a provision that prohibits low-income students from receiving Pell Grant awards in excess of their tuition (February 2007).

Postpartum Depression: The House approved the Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act (H.R. 20) (October 2007).

School Safety: The Senate Judiciary Committee approved the School Safety and Law Enforcement Act (S. 2084) (August 2007).

Senior Executive Service: The House approved the Senior Executive Service Diversity Assurance Act (H.R. 3774) (June 2008). The bill would establish a Senior Executive Service (SES) Resource Center within the Office of Personnel Management to help improve SES efficiency and its recruitment of diverse individuals to top-level positions, including oversight of the executive pay system; development of training programs for senior executives; and collection and maintain statistics on the composition of the SES based on gender, race, ethnicity, age, and persons with disabilities. The Center also would conduct continuing programs for the recruitment of women, members of racial and ethnic minority groups, and the disabled for Senior Executive Service positions.

Sex Offenders: The House approved the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2008 (H.R. 1684). Included in the bill is a provision that would require the Department of Homeland Security to provide information to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to assist in the location of registered sex offenders (May 2007).

Small Business Contracting: The House approved the Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act (H.R. 1873) (May 2007). Among other provisions, the bill would increase the government's procurement goal for small disadvantaged and women-owned businesses from five percent to eight percent. In October 2007, the House approved a bill (H.R. 3867) to expand federal procurement opportunities for 8(a), women-owned, HUBZones, and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses. The Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee approved a similar bill (S. 2300) (November 2007).

Small Business Investment: The House approved the Small Business Investment Expansion Act (H.R. 3567). The bill would amend the Small Business Act of 1958 (P.L. 85-536) to expand opportunities for investments in small businesses (September 2007). The bill contains provisions regarding increased investments in women-owned and socially disadvantaged small businesses.

Small Business Lending: The House passed the Small Business Lending Improvements Act (H.R. 1332) (April 2007). The bill would make permanent the Community Express program. The Senate Small

Business and Entrepreneurship Committee approved a similar measure (S. 1256) (May 2007). In October 2007, the House Small Business Committee passed a bill (H.R. 3866) that would reauthorize through FY2009 several SBA lending programs, including the Women's Business Center and Small Business Development Center programs and the National Women's Business Council.

Small Business Administration (SBA) Reauthorization: The House passed a bill (H.R. 3866) to reauthorize programs within the SBA through FY2009 (November 2007).

See Small Business Administration Extension under "Actions Completed."

State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization: The House and Senate passed legislation (H.R. 976) to reauthorize SCHIP through 2012 (September 2007). The president vetoed H.R. 976 on October 3, 2007. A second bill (H.R. 3963) to reauthorize SCHIP was approved by the House and Senate in October 2007; the President vetoed it on December 12, 2007.

See State Children's Health Insurance Programs Extension under "Actions Completed."

Stem Cells: Congress approved a bill (S. 5) that would allow federal funding to be used to conduct and support human embryonic stem cell research (June 2007). President Bush vetoed the measure in June 2007.

Stroke: The House approved a bill (H.R. 477) that would authorize grants for an education campaign about the warning signs of, and treatment options for, stroke; medical professional development programs for stroke and traumatic injury treatment and prevention; and for grants to states and private organizations to conduct a five-year pilot project to improve stroke patient outcomes by coordinating health care delivery through telehealth networks (March 2007). The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee approved a similar bill (S. 999) (March 2008).

Tobacco Regulation: The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee passed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (S. 625) (August 2007). The House approved similar legislation (H.R. 1108) (July 2008).

Torture: The House approved a bill (H.R. 1678) to authorize \$25 million in FY2008 and 2009 for the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to torture treatment programs in the United States, \$12 million for the U.S. Agency for International Development to provide grants to foreign treatment centers supporting torture victims, and \$12 million annually for the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (April 2007). The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the measure in September 2007.

Trafficking: The House approved a bill (H.R. 2399) that would strengthen the prosecution and punishment of those who smuggle illegal immigrants into the United States (May 2007).

The House approved the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3887) that would reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (P.L. 106-386) programs through FY2011-2012 (December 2007). The Senate approved its version of the bill (S. 3061) on July 31 (July 2008).

The Senate passed the Trafficking in Persons Accountability Act (S. 1703). The bill would grant United States courts the "extra-territorial jurisdiction" to prosecute cases of peonage, slavery, sales of persons into involuntary servitude, forced labor, trafficking in persons, and sex trafficking of children if the offender is a United States citizen or is a legal immigrant with permanent residence.

The Senate passed a resolution (S. Con. Res. 40) supporting the goals of the annual National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness (June 2007).

Tuberculosis Prevention: The House approved the Stop Tuberculosis Now Act (H.R. 1567) that would increase assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis (November 2007). The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the measure in September 2007.

Veterans' Mental Health: The House approved a bill (H.R. 327) that would establish a comprehensive program to reduce suicide among veterans (March 2007). The Senate passed similar legislation (S. 479) (June 2007).

Veterans' Outreach: The House passed legislation (H.R. 67) to improve outreach activities for veterans and their families (May 2007).

Violence Against Women: The Senate Judiciary Committee approved the National Domestic Violence Volunteer Attorney Network Act (S. 1515) (May 2008). The bill would provide resources to, and support for, attorneys handling domestic violence cases.

Water Quality: The Senate approved three bills to improve the quality of water and protect the health of pregnant women, infants, and children: the Protecting Pregnant Women and Children from Perchlorate Act (S. 150), the Perchlorate Monitoring and Right-to-Know Act (S. 24), and the TCE [Toxic Chemical Exposure] Reduction Act (S. 1911) (September 2008).

Women's Business Centers: The House passed a bill (H.R. 2397) that would revise the current funding formula for Women's Business Centers. The bill also would require the National Women's Business Council to report on the problems hindering the success of women entrepreneurs (June 2007). The Senate Small Business Committee approved similar legislation (S. 1671) (June 2007).

Women's Rights History Trail: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee approved the National Women's Rights History Project Act (S. 1816) (September 2008).

Women's Veteran's Business Programs: The House approved legislation (H.R. 2366) that would require the Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD) to provide technical assistance to servicemembers interested in starting small businesses and would establish the Women Veterans Business Training Program within the OVBD (June 2007).

See also Veterans Business Programs under "Actions Completed."