## 111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

## S. RES. 147

To designate the week beginning on the second Saturday in May as National Travel and Tourism Week.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 12, 2009

Ms. Klobuchar (for herself and Mr. Martinez) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

## **RESOLUTION**

To designate the week beginning on the second Saturday in May as National Travel and Tourism Week.

- Whereas business and leisure travel are vital to the United States, enhancing our economic prosperity, healthcare, education, cultural understanding, and public diplomacy;
- Whereas the travel industry is the fifth largest employer in the United States, supporting 7.7 million American workers and creating one of every eight nonfarm jobs across the country;
- Whereas domestic and international travel last year generated an estimated \$740 billion in direct expenditures and \$115 billion in Federal, State and local tax revenues;

- Whereas international travel to the United States is a critical tool for enhancing America's image abroad and has significantly benefited the Nation's balance of trade for over 20 years;
- Whereas overseas visits to the United States are still 633,000 below pre-September 11 levels;
- Whereas the U.S. must keep better pace with the expanding global travel market starting with a nationally coordinated travel promotion program to attract millions of new international visitors;
- Whereas meetings, events, and incentive travel programs are core business functions that help companies to strengthen business relationships, align and educate employees and customers, and reward business performance;
- Whereas travel and tourism can serve as a catalyst to help stimulate the national economy;
- Whereas the Congress designated the first National Tourism Week in 1984 and encouraged celebrations in all 50 States and the Territories; and
- Whereas National Tourism Week has been observed and celebrated each May since: Now, therefore, be it
- 1 Resolved, That the Senate—
- 2 (1) designates the week beginning on the sec-
- ond Saturday in May of each year as National Trav-
- 4 el and Tourism Week;
- 5 (2) invites Governors, mayors, and other elected
- 6 officials from across the country to issue proclama-

- tions on such week to raise awareness of the valueof travel to the welfare of the Nation; and
- 3 (3) requests that the President issue a procla-4 mation each year encouraging the people of the 5 United States to observe such week with appropriate 6 ceremonies and activities.

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