

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 637

To honor the visionary and extraordinary work of Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM on the Roadrunner supercomputer.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2008

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

## RESOLUTION

To honor the visionary and extraordinary work of Los Alamos National Laboratory and IBM on the Roadrunner supercomputer.

Whereas on May 26, 2008, the Roadrunner supercomputer of the Los Alamos National Laboratory broke a historic barrier by being powerful enough to run at a petaflop, 1,000,000,000,000,000 calculations per second, making the Roadrunner supercomputer the fastest computer in the world;

Whereas International Business Machines Corporation (referred to in this resolution as “IBM”) and Los Alamos National Laboratory overcame the challenges of technological innovation to achieve a petaflop ahead of schedule;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer will enable the United States to tackle new and more challenging problems;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer will be primarily devoted to national security in the United States and will be used for ensuring the safety and reliability of the weapons stockpile of the United States and for research in astrophysics, materials science, energy research, medicine, and biotechnology;

Whereas Cell-based supercomputer technology of IBM is the most energy efficient in the world;

Whereas the new high-performance computing capabilities enabled by hybrid Opteron-Cell machines of IBM in the Roadrunner supercomputer of Los Alamos National Laboratory enhance and improve United States competitiveness;

Whereas from maintaining employment records for millions of people of the United States, to providing technology to help the United States run the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System, land on Mars, end the physical testing of atomic weapons, and now help national security by ensuring the safety of the nuclear weapons stockpile of the United States and researching issues of critical importance such as human genome science and climate change, the partnership of IBM with the Federal Government and the dedication of that partnership to solving critical problems that are seemingly impossible have remained unrivaled and relentless for more than 80 years;

Whereas the Roadrunner supercomputer is the most recent achievement of long-standing science and technology leadership of Los Alamos National Laboratory, from the

Manhattan Project to the role of the Laboratory today as a premier national security science laboratory; and

Whereas, the Roadrunner supercomputer funding was initiated with \$35,000,000 in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–103): Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate honors the visionary and  
2 extraordinary work of Los Alamos National Laboratory  
3 and IBM for—

4           (1) pushing the barriers of science and pro-  
5 viding the United States with historical high-per-  
6 formance computing capabilities that will allow some  
7 of the most challenging problems in science and en-  
8 gineering to be solved; and

9           (2) achieving the capability to make petaflop  
10 calculations, which—

11           (A) is considered a crucial milestone inter-  
12 nationally;

13           (B) is considered a sign of the competitive-  
14 ness of the United States in the critical new  
15 area of high-performance computing capability;  
16 and

17           (C) will allow the United States to solve  
18 even bigger and more complex problems from  
19 the safety of the nuclear deterrent of the

- 1 United States to human genome science and cli-
- 2 mate change.

