

conservation and management plans to ensure that the designated uses of estuaries are protected and to restore and maintain—

- (1) chemical, physical, and biological integrity;
- (2) water quality;
- (3) the balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife; and
- (4) recreational activity;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) provides that the policy of the United States is to preserve, protect, develop, and, if possible, restore or enhance the resources of the coastal zones of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas 27 coastal and Great Lakes States and territories of the United States operate or contain a National Estuary Program or a National Estuarine Research Reserve;

Whereas scientific study leads to a better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas the Federal Government, State, local, and Tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities in a cost-effective manner, generating an average of 17 jobs for every \$1,000,000 invested and helping to reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas the week of September 19 through September 26, 2026, is recognized as “National Estuaries Week” to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal Government and State, local, and Tribal government officials, of the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) expresses support for the designation of “National Estuaries Week”;
- (2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Week;
- (3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to sustaining employment in the United States and to the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States;
- (4) recognizes that persistent threats undermine the health of estuaries;
- (5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;
- (6) supports the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and
- (7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 865—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS ENGAGED IN THE ARBITRARY OR WRONGFUL DETENTION OF AMERICAN ACADEMICS AND HAS OTHERWISE HARMED THE PROSPECTS FOR SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION AND PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. CURTIS) submitted the following resolution; which was re-

ferred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 865

Whereas the People’s Republic of China (referred to in this preamble as the “PRC”) has a long history of detaining United States citizens under dubious circumstances or depriving them of their freedom;

Whereas the PRC has used the arbitrary or wrongful detention of Americans and other foreign nationals for political purposes to obtain concessions from the United States and other countries, which undermines the legitimacy of the PRC’s judicial system;

Whereas current and previous Secretaries of State have determined, pursuant to section 302(e)(2)(A) of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741(e)(2)(A)), that at least 5 United States citizens have been wrongfully detained in the PRC since the wrongful detention designation was established on December 27, 2020;

Whereas the Department of State previously recommended that United States citizens traveling to the PRC reconsider such travel due to serious risks, including wrongful detention, but the China Travel Advisory was downgraded from Level 3 to Level 2 on November 27, 2024;

Whereas the PRC’s arbitrary or wrongful detention of United States citizens—

- (1) undermines the rule of law;
- (2) subjects United States citizens and their families to undue hardship; and
- (3) is unacceptably coercive to the United States Government;

Whereas, on November 5, 2024, the Government of the PRC arrested Dr. Youlin Chen, a United States citizen who has conducted transparent and open-source seismological research in cooperation with academics in the PRC, and has held him on baseless espionage charges for more than 600 days without a trial or access to his family;

Whereas the Government of the PRC deprived Dr. Chen of access to a lawyer for the first 434 days of his detention and interrogated him more than 100 times about his work without a lawyer present;

Whereas, despite high-level engagement between the United States Government and the Government of the PRC to resolve Dr. Chen’s case, the Government of the PRC has not yet taken any productive action to release Dr. Chen;

Whereas, on June 3, 2026, authorities of the PRC detained Min Zin, a United States citizen who is the executive director of a Myanmar-focused policy think tank, at the Kunming Changshui International Airport after he was invited to attend an academic event at a university in Yunnan province in the PRC;

Whereas the Kunming Municipal State Security Bureau has subjected Min Zin to detention and he has not yet had access to legal counsel;

Whereas the PRC’s practice of engaging in “hostage diplomacy” against the United States and other foreign countries runs contrary to its stated intent to promote academic cooperation and people-to-people exchanges and increases the risks for United States citizens and others considering travel to the PRC; and

Whereas, in advance of PRC leadership’s anticipated visit to Washington, D.C., in September 2026, the Government of the PRC has an opportunity to demonstrate its good faith and commitment to a constructive relationship of “strategic stability” by unconditionally releasing Dr. Youlin Chen and Min Zin: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) condemns the People’s Republic of China’s repeated pattern of arbitrary or wrong-

ful detention of United States citizens as unacceptable and a material harm to the bilateral relationship and the prospects for bolstering academic cooperation and people-to-people exchanges;

(2) urges the United States Government to make the safe return of United States citizens detained in China a top priority, including the return of Dr. Youlin Chen and Min Zin;

(3) urges the Secretary of State to use all available tools to negotiate the release of all United States nationals being unlawfully or wrongfully detained in the People’s Republic of China, including by—

(A) considering adding a “D” indicator to the China Travel Advisory to make it clear to United States nationals considering travel to the People’s Republic of China that the country engages in the wrongful detention of United States citizens;

(B) raising the Travel Advisory Level on the PRC from Level 2 (exercise increased caution) to Level 3 (reconsider travel) to reflect the current travel risks; and

(C) reviewing the criteria for the designation of a country as a State Sponsor of Wrongful Detention pursuant to section 306A of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741d-1); and

(4) supports President Trump’s efforts to raise concerns about the continued detention of Dr. Chen and Min Zin to bring both United States citizens home to their loved ones safely and quickly.

SENATE RESOLUTION 866—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 2026 AS “SUBSTANCE USE & MISUSE PREVENTION MONTH” TO RAISE AWARENESS OF SUBSTANCE USE AND MISUSE IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Mr. SCHIFF) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 866

Whereas initiation of substance use during adolescence is associated with substance use and misuse in adulthood;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 56,800,000 people in the United States aged 12 and older participated in binge drinking;

Whereas, in 2025, more than 69,800,000 or 1 in 4 people in the United States aged 12 and older used an illicit drug, including cocaine and methamphetamine;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 44,600,000 people in the United States aged 12 and older had a substance use disorder;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 26,000,000 people in the United States aged 12 and older had an illicit drug use disorder;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 7,600,000 people in the United States aged 12 and older received substance use disorder treatment; and

Whereas, in 2025, more than 22,300,000 people in the United States aged 18 and older were in recovery from a substance use problem: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports—

- (1) effective programs to prevent substance use and misuse;
- (2) programs to help stem the drug addiction and overdose epidemic in the United States; and
- (3) the designation of October 2026 as “Substance Use & Misuse Prevention Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 867—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2026, AS “INTER-SCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION WEEK”

Mr. HUSTED (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 867

Whereas the Senate recognizes that interscholastic athletic administrators are educational leaders, and that the work of interscholastic athletic administrators advances physical, academic, social, emotional, and leadership development through education-based athletics;

Whereas the role of athletic administrators in the educational landscape has expanded far beyond managing sports programs;

Whereas athletic administrators serve as essential educational leaders who shape school culture, foster safe and inclusive learning environments, ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations, develop leadership through athletics, protect the well-being of student athletes, and strengthen relationships among schools, families, and communities;

Whereas well-supported athletic administrators play a significant role in the success of educational institutions by playing a vital role in risk management through emergency preparedness, student safety, and protection of school districts, and through sound leadership, responsible governance, and fostering a positive and effective athletic environment;

Whereas interscholastic athletic programs play a critical role in forming a well-rounded educational experience for students and ensuring that all youth have access and opportunities to participate in sports;

Whereas school sports remain an affordable opportunity for families, as the cost of non-school sports is rising;

Whereas participation in sports is proven to improve concentration, memory, and academic behavior, such as school attendance;

Whereas participation in sports results in higher levels of confidence and self-esteem and reduces the risk of suicidal thoughts and other mental health struggles in teenagers and young adults;

Whereas research shows that participation in sports can reduce the rate of youth violence and crime by providing youth with access to personal and professional growth opportunities;

Whereas participation in sports plays a critical role in the development of leadership skills and resiliency in students;

Whereas interscholastic athletic administrators—

(1) serve as leaders and experts, working tirelessly every day to ensure the safety and well-being of all student athletes;

(2) often work long and unpredictable hours to ensure that every student athlete has access to the training and assistance they need; and

(3) are dedicated to the athletic, academic, and personal development of students and players, building mature and hardworking young men and women;

Whereas more than 8,000,000 high school student athletes in the United States rely on the hard work of interscholastic athletic administrators for guidance, coaching, and mentorship;

Whereas the athletic programs led by interscholastic athletic administrators promote values of leadership, service, hard work, and teamwork in schools and communities; and

Whereas interscholastic athletic administrators serve on the front lines of education, creating opportunities that teach civic engagement, character, teamwork, perseverance, and servant leadership while preparing students for success beyond graduation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 14 through September 20, 2026, as “Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Week”;

(2) commends the commitment and leadership of interscholastic athletic administrators;

(3) recognizes the critical role school athletic programs play in student leadership development; and

(4) commends the leadership of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in advancing education-based athletics through professional development, leadership training, certification, mentoring, and advocacy on behalf of interscholastic athletic administrators across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 868—RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 20, 2026, AS “NATIONAL LGBTQ+ SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS DAY”

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:

S. RES. 868

Whereas lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (referred to in this preamble as “LGBTQ+”) servicemembers and veterans have honorably served in the Armed Forces in every war to which the United States was a party, beginning with the Revolutionary War;

Whereas LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans have served in the Armed Forces despite discriminatory policies based on who they love or how they identify;

Whereas, on April 27, 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed Executive Order 10450 (18 Fed. Reg. 2489; relating to security requirements for Government employment), which declared “sexual perversion” to be a security risk and grounds for denying Federal employment;

Whereas Executive Order 10450, which was eventually repealed by President Barack Obama in 2017, contributed to the “Lavender Scare” of the 1950s by banning gay and lesbian people from working in the Government, including in the Armed Forces, and was similarly applied to transgender people as early as 1960;

Whereas, beginning in 1963, Army medical standards explicitly disqualified transgender people from serving in the Army, and for 30 years, beginning in the mid-1980s, Department of Defense regulations explicitly disqualified transgender people from military service;

Whereas, in 1982, the Department of Defense implemented a policy stating that “homosexuality is incompatible with military service”, and between 1980 and 1990, an average of 1,500 military servicemembers were discharged every year on the basis of their sexual orientation;

Whereas, in 1993, as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year

1994 (Public Law 103-160; 107 Stat. 1547), Congress enacted the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, which declared that the presence of gay, lesbian, and bisexual people in the Armed Forces was an “unacceptable risk” to morale, good order, discipline, and unit cohesion, and required the Armed Forces to discharge servicemembers who—

(1) engaged in, attempted to engage in, or solicited “homosexual acts”;

(2) stated that they were homosexual or bisexual; or

(3) married or attempted to marry a same-sex partner;

Whereas the Department of Defense has acknowledged that 13,472 personnel were discharged from the Armed Forces under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, and an additional 19,365 personnel were discharged between 1980 and 1993 under similar policies that targeted servicemembers based on sexual orientation;

Whereas the White House estimates that more than 100,000 servicemembers have been discharged from the Armed Forces for their sexual orientation or gender identity;

Whereas, on September 20, 2011, the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy was officially repealed, following President Barack Obama’s certification of the repeal on July 22, 2011, as required by the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell Repeal Act of 2010 (10 U.S.C. 654 note; Public Law 111-321);

Whereas, on June 30, 2016, the Department of Defense announced an end to the ban on transgender servicemembers across all components of the Department of Defense;

Whereas, on July 26, 2017, President Donald J. Trump announced that transgender people would not be allowed to serve in the military;

Whereas, on January 25, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed Executive Order 14004 (86 Fed. Reg. 7471; relating to enabling all qualified Americans to serve their country in uniform), which repealed the 2017 ban on transgender military servicemembers;

Whereas, on June 26, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden pardoned veterans who had been convicted in military courts for consensual sodomy between 1951 and 2013 under former article 125 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice;

Whereas, on January 27, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order 14183 (90 Fed. Reg. 8757; relating to prioritizing military excellence and readiness), which reinstated the ban on transgender servicemembers and directed the Department of Defense to stop respecting transgender people’s correct pronouns and to prohibit transgender people from using facilities that align with their gender identity;

Whereas, on February 7, 2025, the Secretary of Defense issued a memorandum halting all gender-affirming medical procedures for servicemembers;

Whereas, on February 26, 2025, the Department of Defense announced that transgender and nonbinary servicemembers are “no longer eligible for military service” and “will be processed for separation from military service”;

Whereas, on March 17, 2025, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced that it will no longer offer gender-affirming hormone therapy to veterans who were not already receiving such care; and

Whereas challenges still exist for LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans seeking equitable treatment in service and access to benefits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes September 20, 2026, as “National LGBTQ+ Servicemembers and Veterans Day”;