

havens for cybercriminals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should immediately launch international negotiations with the governments of the world's leading powers for new, effective extradition treaties with countries with which the United States has no current extradition authority, as well as renegotiate old, ineffective treaties, in order to combat more effectively international cybercriminals, including those who target the credit card information of United States citizens.

SENATE RESOLUTION 564—HONORING CONSERVATION ON THE CENTENNIAL OF THE PASSENGER PIGEON EXTINCTION

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 564

Whereas the Senate recognizes the importance of conserving natural habitats for bird populations and preserving the Nation's biodiversity;

Whereas the death of Martha, the last passenger pigeon, on September 1, 1914, at the Cincinnati Zoo, and the extinction of the passenger pigeon helped to catalyze the American conservation movement of the early 20th century, resulting in new laws and practices that prevented the extinction of many species;

Whereas the story of the passenger pigeon can serve as a cautionary tale and raise awareness of current issues related to human-caused extinction, explore connections between humans and the natural world, and inspire people to build sustainable relationships with other species;

Whereas the passenger pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) was once the most abundant bird in North America, with a population exceeding 3,000,000,000 and with flocks so large that they could darken the skies for hours and even days at a time;

Whereas due to unregulated market hunting in the 19th century and deforestation, the passenger pigeon population plummeted toward extinction;

Whereas Project Passenger Pigeon, a consortium of over 150 institutions, scientists, conservationists, educators, artists, musicians, filmmakers, and others throughout the Nation, is using the centenary of the extinction of the species to tell the story of the passenger pigeon; and

Whereas the story of the passenger pigeon, once a symbol of never-ending natural abundance, and its subsequent extinction is unique in the annals of the history of the United States:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commemoates the importance of this centenary, our natural heritage, the sustainability of our ecosystem, and the conservation of our Nation's wildlife.

SENATE RESOLUTION 565—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PERMANENTLY STORE NUCLEAR WASTE IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. BALDWIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 565

Whereas the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin are precious public natural resources, shared by the Great Lakes States and the Canadian Provinces;

Whereas since 1909, the United States and Canada have worked to maintain and improve the water quality of the Great Lakes through water quality agreements;

Whereas more than 40,000,000 people in Canada and the United States depend on the fresh water from the Great Lakes for drinking water;

Whereas Ontario Power Generation is proposing to build a permanent geological repository for nuclear waste less than one mile from Lake Huron in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada;

Whereas nuclear waste is highly toxic and can take tens of thousands of years to decompose to safe levels;

Whereas during the 1980s when the Department of Energy, in accordance with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.), was studying potential sites for a permanent nuclear waste repository in the United States, the Canadian Government expressed concern with locating a permanent nuclear waste repository within the shared water basins of the 2 countries; and

Whereas a spill of nuclear waste into the Great Lakes could have lasting and severely adverse environmental, health, and economic impacts on the Great Lakes and the people that depend on them for their livelihood: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate—

(1) the Canadian Government should not allow a permanent nuclear waste repository to be built within the Great Lakes Basin;

(2) the President and the Secretary of State should take appropriate action to work with the Canadian Government to prevent a permanent nuclear waste repository from being built within the Great Lakes Basin; and

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should work together with their Canadian Government counterparts on a safe and responsible solution for the long-term storage of nuclear waste.

SENATE RESOLUTION 566—CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 566

Whereas South Dakota joined the Union as a State on November 2, 1889;

Whereas South Dakota serves as a breadbasket for the United States and the world;

Whereas the agriculture industry in South Dakota produces a \$25,600,000,000 economic impact each year;

Whereas South Dakota is among the top 10 producers in the United States of 9 different crops;

Whereas South Dakota is among the top 10 producers in the United States in 5 different animal production areas;

Whereas South Dakota is a land of opportunity and free enterprise;

Whereas South Dakota consistently has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the United States;

Whereas South Dakota has an outstanding system of education at every level, teaching students to become leaders and innovators in a variety of fields;

Whereas South Dakotans have gone on to serve proudly and in disproportionately high numbers in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the USS South Dakota was commissioned in 1942 and valiantly served in the Pacific during World War II;

Whereas South Dakota is honored to be home to 9 Native American tribes;

Whereas South Dakota boasts the highest mountains between the Appalachians and the Rockies;

Whereas South Dakota supports environmental conservation as home to 6 National parks;

Whereas people from all over the United States travel to South Dakota every year to participate in an annual tradition of pheasant hunting that has spurred tourism and economic growth and has maintained a heritage important to South Dakotans for generations; and

Whereas South Dakota came to symbolize the commitment of the United States to freedom and democracy by way of the world-famous Mount Rushmore: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends and celebrates South Dakota and its people on the State's 125th anniversary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 567—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE POSSIBLE EASING OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM

Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CORKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 567

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Vietnam is an important emerging partner with which the United States increasingly shares strategic and economic interests, including improving bilateral and multilateral capacity for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, upholding the principles of freedom of navigation and peaceful resolution of international disputes, strengthening an open regional trading order, and maintaining a favorable balance of power in the Asia-Pacific region;

(2) the Government of Vietnam has recently taken modest but encouraging steps to improve its human rights record, including signing the United Nations Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly December 10, 1984, increasing registrations for places of worship, taking greater action to combat human trafficking, reviewing the Criminal Code, and beginning high-level engagement with the United States and international human rights nongovernmental organizations;

(3) in light of growing challenges in the Asia-Pacific region and some steps by the Government of Vietnam to improve its human rights record, the President should begin a process to ease the United States prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment to Vietnam, which is maintained under executive authority and can be changed without legislative action, but should not be changed without consultation with Congress;

(4) easing the prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment to Vietnam at this time solely with regard to maritime and coastal defense would further United States national security interests, but steps beyond this to ease further the prohibition would require the Government of Vietnam to take significant and sustained steps to protect human rights, including releases of prisoners of conscience and legal reforms;

(5) the United States Government should continue to support civil society in Vietnam, including advocates for religious freedom, press freedom, and labor rights who seek to use peaceful means to build a strong and prosperous Vietnam that respects human rights and the rule of law; and

(6) the United States Government should continue to engage the Government of Vietnam in a high-level dialogue and specify what steps on human rights would be necessary for the Government of Vietnam to take in order to continue strengthening the bilateral relationship, including to ease further the prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment.

SENATE RESOLUTION 568—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2014 AS “NATIONAL SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 568

Whereas sepsis is a medical condition resulting from an immune system response to an infection;

Whereas the overwhelming flood of immune chemicals released into the blood to fight an infection can impair blood flow, injuring organs;

Whereas sepsis is a serious community-acquired infection and a leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas in severe cases of sepsis, a patient can experience a drop in blood pressure, a weakened heart, and septic shock, causing potentially fatal multiple organ failure;

Whereas approximately 1,000,000 individuals in the United States are infected with sepsis each year;

Whereas sepsis has killed over 4,000,000 individuals in the United States between 2004 and 2014;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that approximately 50 percent of individuals infected with sepsis die, accounting for more deaths in the United States than prostate cancer, breast cancer, and AIDS combined;

Whereas according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, sepsis is the most expensive cause of hospitalization in the United States, with an annual cost of \$24,000,000,000;

Whereas the number of sepsis deaths is on the rise in the United States;

Whereas an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association reports that more than 80 percent of individuals who die from sepsis arrive at the hospital with sepsis;

Whereas early recognition, diagnosis, and treatment can prevent sepsis fatalities; and

Whereas September 2014 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Sepsis Awareness Month” to raise awareness of sepsis and encourage educating patients, families, health care professionals, and government agencies on the importance of early detection as the key for patients to survive sepsis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the month of September 2014 as “National Sepsis Awareness Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 569—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, AS “NATIONAL FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY” TO RAISE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE THE PREVENTION OF FALLS AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 569

Whereas adults who are age 65 or older (referred to in this preamble as “older adults”) are the fastest-growing population in the United States;

Whereas the number of older adults in the United States is expected to increase from 35,000,000 older adults in 2000 to 79,700,000 older adults in 2040;

Whereas each year, 1 out of every 3 older adults in the United States falls;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults;

Whereas in 2012, more than 2,400,000 older adults were treated in hospital emergency departments for fall-related injuries, and more than 722,000 older adults were subsequently hospitalized from such injuries;

Whereas in 2011, more than 22,900 older adults in the United States died from injuries related to unintentional falls;

Whereas in 2010, the total direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults, adjusted for inflation, was \$30,000,000,000;

Whereas between 2004 and 2014, the rate of death from falls of older adults in the United States has risen sharply;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of increase in falls does not decrease, the annual cost of injuries from falls will reach an estimated \$67,700,000,000 by 2020; and

Whereas evidence-based programs show promise in reducing falls by utilizing cost-effective strategies, such as exercise programs to improve balance and strength, medication management, vision improvement, comprehensive clinical assessments, and reduction of home hazards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 23, 2014, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that there are proven, cost-effective falls prevention programs and policies;

(3) commends the 72 member organizations of the Falls Free® Coalition, and the falls prevention coalitions in 42 States and the District of Columbia, for their efforts to work together to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among adults who are age 65 or older (referred to in this resolution as “older adults”);

(4) encourages businesses, individuals, Federal, State, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to raise awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults in the United States;

(5) urges the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to continue developing and evaluating interventions to prevent falls among older adults that will translate into effective community-based falls prevention programs;

(6) urges the Administration for Community Living, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and their partners to continue to promote evidence-based programs and services in communities across the United States to reduce the number of older adults at risk of falling;

(7) encourages State health departments and State Units on Aging, which provide significant leadership in reducing injuries and related health care costs, to collaborate with organizations and individuals to reduce falls among older adults in the United States; and

(8) encourages experts in the field of falls prevention to share best practices so that others can replicate their success.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today, I wish to bring awareness to the growing problem of falls amongst our seniors, the fastest-growing population in the United States. Each year, one out of every three older Americans over age 65 falls, resulting in more than 2,400,000 older hospital emergency department visits and more than 22,900 deaths resulting from injuries sustained in unintentional falls. The costs associated with these falls are equally alarming: in 2010, the direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults was \$30,000,000,000. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of falls does not decrease, the annual cost of injuries resulting from falls will reach an estimated \$67,700,000,000 by 2020.

These staggering numbers are alarming, and we must work to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults by utilizing cost-effective strategies to improve balance and strength through exercise programs, improve comprehensive clinical assessments, and reduce hazards in seniors’ homes. That is why today I have put forth this Resolution to designate September 23, 2014, as National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. I thank my colleagues, Senator COLLINS, my partner on the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and Senators MIKULSKI and SANDERS for joining with me in support of National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. National Falls Prevention Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults. The 72 member organizations of the Falls Free Coalition and the falls prevention coalitions in 42 States and the District of Columbia have worked tirelessly to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among older Americans. We will continue to foster and encourage these coalitions and ensure the safety and independence of our older adults as they age in their homes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 570—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 17, 2014, AS “NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DAY”

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. MIKULSKI,