

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 322—RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFUSAL OF ROSA LOUISE PARKS TO GIVE UP HER SEAT ON A BUS ON DECEMBER 1, 1955

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. Kaine, Mr. REID, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SASSE) submitted the following resolution, which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 322

Whereas many historians date the beginning of the modern civil rights movement in the United States as December 1, 1955;

Whereas Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama, the first child of James and Leona (Edwards) McCauley;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a Caucasian man, and her stand for equal rights became legendary;

Whereas news of the arrest of Rosa Louise Parks resulted in approximately 42,000 African-Americans boycotting Montgomery buses for 381 days, beginning on December 5, 1955, until the bus segregation law was changed on December 21, 1956;

Whereas the United States Supreme Court ruled on November 13, 1956, that the Montgomery segregation law was unconstitutional, and on December 20, 1956, Montgomery officials were ordered to desegregate buses;

Whereas the civil rights movement led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which broke down the barrier of legal discrimination against African-Americans;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks has been honored as the “first lady of civil rights” and the “mother of the freedom movement”, and her quiet dignity ignited the most significant social movement in the history of the United States;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks was the recipient of many awards and accolades for her efforts on behalf of racial harmony, including—

(1) the Congressional Gold Medal;
(2) the Spingarn Award, which is the highest honor of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for civil rights contributions; and

(3) the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest civilian honor in the United States;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks was named 1 of the 20 most influential and iconic figures of the 20th century;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks sparked 1 of the largest movements in the United States against racial segregation, and by her quiet courage symbolizes all that is vital about nonviolent protest because of the way she endured threats of death and persisted as an advocate for the basic lessons she taught the people of the United States;

Whereas Rosa Louise Parks and her husband Raymond Parks relocated to Michigan in 1957, and remained in Michigan until the death of Rosa Louise Parks on October 24, 2005;

Whereas, in November 2005, Congress authorized the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a statue of Rosa Louise Parks to be placed in the Capitol; and

Whereas the bus on which Rosa Louise Parks sparked a new era in the quest for

freedom and equality in the United States is—

(1) 1 of the most significant artifacts of the civil rights movement in the United States; and

(2) on permanent display in the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and celebrates the 60th anniversary of the refusal of Rosa Louise Parks to give up her seat on a bus on December 1, 1955;

(2) commemorates the legacy of Rosa Louise Parks to inspire all people of the United States to stand up for freedom and the principles of the Constitution; and

(3) endeavors to work with the same courage, dignity, and determination exemplified by a civil rights pioneer, Rosa Louise Parks, to address modern inequalities and injustices.

Mr. DURBIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gayle Smith, of Ohio, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 30 minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, 2 months ago I came to the Senate floor to urge the majority leader to schedule a vote on the nomination of Gayle Smith to serve as Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, also known as USAID. Here we are, 7 months after the President nominated her to fill this position. The Senate will have a chance in a few minutes to vote on Gayle Smith’s nomination to head USAID.

I fully expect that today’s vote will lead to her confirmation. We are witnessing a humanitarian crisis in Syria and across the Middle East that grows worse by the day, posing a risk to European stability and cohesion. Having someone at the head of USAID is absolutely critical. The United States, with

our unparalleled capacity to mobilize international support for humanitarian relief, should continue to play a leading role in assisting both Syrian refugees and the neighboring countries that are hosting them.

Having an effective leader such as Gayle Smith at USAID is a critical part of that effort. Last month I had the opportunity to lead a delegation of three other Senators to Greece and Germany. Senator DURBIN, Senator WARREN, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and I all went to see firsthand the plight of refugees from the war in Syria and the incredible burden that both Greece and Germany are under as a result of these unprecedented refugee flows.

Many of us—and we heard this when we were in Greece—believed that the rate of refugee arrivals would slow with the coming of cold weather. In fact, the exact opposite has happened, and the humanitarian situation has only become worse.

Of course, USAID’s work is not only limited to the situation in Syria; it extends to the 60 countries and regional USAID missions around the world, including in Afghanistan, where USAID development work is critical to the long-term success and security of that country.

I am relieved that we are finally going to get to vote on Gayle Smith and that the majority has overcome the objections of the one Member who, for the last 7 months, has been holding up her nomination. That Member was willing to put at risk the massive investment of resources the United States has made in Afghanistan and other parts of the world just to score political points on an issue that was completely outside of Gayle Smith’s portfolio at USAID.

As things have moved on Gayle Smith, I am hoping this type of obstruction is going to end, and we will soon vote not only on Ms. Smith’s nomination but also to confirm other critical national security nominees, especially the pending Foreign Service nominations that have been approved by the Foreign Relations Committee and that could be voted on by the full Senate today.

For example, in May the President nominated Tom Melia to be Assistant Administrator for USAID for Europe and Eurasia. This is a critical position not only because of the development work but because these are two regions that are under extreme pressure from Vladimir Putin. These regions would both benefit from USAID programs that would bolster their ability to act independently of Russian influence. Tom Melia is still unconfirmed, despite the fact that the Foreign Relations Committee approved his nomination in July. In addition, the nominee to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Sweden has been pending for over a year. Sweden has become a much more critical ally in terms of the refugee issue that Europe is facing. The nominee to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Norway—again another critical ally—has been pending

since May. The nominee to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, a critical post for the United States, one of our neighbors and main allies in this hemisphere—these have all been pending since June.

At a time when the world is facing national security challenges on a number of fronts and nations are looking to the United States for leadership, we cannot afford to sideline ourselves by failing to confirm nominees for these diplomatic posts.

I recognize Senator CORKER, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as well as his Democratic counterpart, Senator CARDIN, who have worked very hard to secure the confirmation vote for Gayle Smith to serve as Administrator for USAID. I know we are working hard to get these other nominees to the floor, but at a time when our leadership is so important, when there are so many challenges facing us around the world, to fail to have those key spokespersons for the United States in positions of so many critical situations is unacceptable. We need to move these nominees. We need to continue the work of U.S. foreign policy.

I am sure we will have a very broad bipartisan vote in support of Gayle Smith. What is unfortunate is that we couldn't have done it 7 months ago when she passed through the committee.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, first I thank Senator SHAHEEN for her leadership on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and for her leadership with regard to the nomination of Gayle Smith to be the Administrator of USAID.

This is the U.S. Agency for International Development. I mention that because we are talking about a national security position. Our national security depends on having a strong military, but it also depends upon having a strong position in international development assistance in dealing with our diplomacy. The director of USAID is a critical member of our national security team.

We couldn't have a stronger person for that position than Gayle Smith. I wholeheartedly support her confirmation.

I thank Senator CORKER, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for the manner in which this nomination has been brought forward. He has been a strong proponent of Gayle Smith, and I thank him very much for his help in getting this nomination to the floor.

I said that I couldn't find a stronger person to fill this position. She is currently a Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director at the National Security Council, where she is responsible for global development, democracy, and humanitarian assistance issues. She was previously a senior fel-

low at the Center for American Progress, cochair of the Enough Project, and the cofounder of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network. During the Clinton administration, Gayle Smith served as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the NSC, so she has broad experience over a long career in Foreign Service and in serving in regard to development assistance issues.

For over 37 years of her professional career she has served in Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea. She has worked as a journalist and as a consultant to aid groups. She has worked as a senior adviser to the Administrator and Chief of Staff for USAID/East Africa. She has served twice on the National Security Council as Special Assistant to the President. She has been hailed as a strong and effective advocate on global development issues. She was voted out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on which I serve as a ranking member, by a unanimous vote. I am very pleased that we are now able to vote tonight for her confirmation to be the Administrator of the USAID.

I have already pointed out that this is a position critically important to our national security, but let me also point out that the world is facing a host of humanitarian crises—including food insecurity and displacement in Syria, the Europe migration crisis, the Rohingya refugee crisis of Southeast Asia, and the millions of people who are displaced and starving in South Sudan, which require American leadership and assistance.

Growing humanitarian needs worldwide are outstripping available resources. The Administrator of USAID is a key leadership post in the effort of the United States to shape the world's reaction to crisis and instability.

I would go into a bit of detail on just one of the crises that the Administrator of USAID faces so that everyone can truly understand the scale we are talking about. As a result of the war in South Sudan, 1.5 million people are internally displaced. More than 730,000 have crossed borders into Sudan, Ethiopia, and Uganda as refugees. The number of people facing severe food insecurity has almost doubled since the start of the year, from 2.5 million to an estimated 4.6 million people, including approximately 874,000 children under the age of 5. This is just one example and I could give you many more examples why it is critically important that we have a confirmed Administrator for USAID.

Gayle Smith is the right person for the right time to serve our country. I encourage my colleagues to support her nomination. This is a person who will serve our country, continue to serve our country well, and I am proud to support her.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 387, 388, 390, 391, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment in the grade indicated to the United States Coast Guard under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(d):

To be rear admiral

Peter J. Brown
Scott A. Buschman
Michael F. McAllister
June E. Ryan
Joseph M. Vojvodich

AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Robert J. Becklund

ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Arlen R. Royalty

NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Michelle C. Skubic

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AIR FORCE

PN807 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning DONNETTE A. BOYD, and ending PAUL D. SUTTER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2015.

PN810 AIR FORCE nominations (37) beginning MARIA J. BELMONTE, and ending DEVERIL A. WINT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2015.

PN923 AIR FORCE nomination of Alan D. Murdock, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

ARMY

PN856 ARMY nomination of David M. Jackson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 16, 2015.

PN905 ARMY nomination of Tarnjit S. Saini, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 8, 2015.

PN924 ARMY nominations (16) beginning OLGA M. ANDERSON, and ending ERIC W. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

PN925 ARMY nominations (17) beginning JIMMY C. DAVIS, JR., and ending ROBERT E. WICHMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

PN926 ARMY nomination of Spencer T. Price, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

NAVY

PN907 NAVY nomination of Jessica L. Morera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 8, 2015.

PN908 NAVY nomination of Kari J. Tereick, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 8, 2015.

PN928 NAVY nominations (52) beginning JOSHUA C. ANDRES, and ending BETHANY R. ZMITROVICH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

PN929 NAVY nomination of Calvin M. Foster, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

PN930 NAVY nomination of Tara A. Feher, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS IN EUGENICS COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 139, S. 1698.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1698) to exclude payments from State eugenics compensation programs from consideration in determining eligibility for, or the amount of, Federal public benefits.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1698) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1698

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act”.

SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF PAYMENTS FROM STATE EUGENICS COMPENSATION PROGRAMS FROM CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR, OR THE AMOUNT OF, FEDERAL PUBLIC BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, payments made under

a State eugenics compensation program shall not be considered as income or resources in determining eligibility for, or the amount of, any Federal public benefit.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) FEDERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT.—The term “Federal public benefit” means—

(A) any grant, contract, loan, professional license, or commercial license provided by an agency of the United States or by appropriated funds of the United States; and

(B) any retirement, welfare, health, disability, public or assisted housing, postsecondary education, food assistance, unemployment benefit, or any other similar benefit for which payments or assistance are provided to an individual, household, or family eligibility unit by an agency of the United States or by appropriated funds of the United States.

(2) STATE EUGENICS COMPENSATION PROGRAM.—The term “State eugenics compensation program” means a program established by State law that is intended to compensate individuals who were sterilized under the authority of the State.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFUSAL OF ROSA LOUISE PARKS TO GIVE UP HER SEAT ON A BUS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 322, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 322) recognizing the 60th anniversary of the refusal of Rosa Louise Parks to give up her seat on a bus on December 1, 1955.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 322) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 1; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to

allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned immediately following the resumption of legislative session upon disposition of the Smith nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON SMITH NOMINATION

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I yield back.

Mr. CARDIN. I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Smith nomination?

Mr. INHOFE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 310 Ex.]

YEAS—79

Alexander	Carper	Durbin
Baldwin	Casey	Enzi
Barrasso	Cassidy	Ernst
Bennet	Coats	Feinstein
Blumenthal	Cochran	Fischer
Booker	Collins	Franken
Boozman	Coons	Gardner
Boxer	Corker	Gillibrand
Brown	Cornyn	Grassley
Cantwell	Cotton	Hatch
Capito	Daines	Heinrich
Cardin	Donnelly	Heitkamp