

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 403—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 24, 2016 AS “NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ASSESSMENT CENTER WEEK” IN CELEBRATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDUSTRIAL ASSESSMENT CENTERS

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 403

Whereas Industrial Assessment Centers (IACs) are university-led programs funded by the Department of Energy that provide energy efficiency assessments to small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises in the United States for improving energy efficiency and reducing water usage and waste;

Whereas IACs increase the energy efficiency, productivity, sustainability, and competitiveness of manufacturers in the United States;

Whereas, since the inception of the IAC program in 1976, IACs have conducted more than 16,000 assessments at manufacturing plants across the United States;

Whereas the assessments conducted by IACs have saved an estimated 76,000,000,000 British thermal units, a quantity equivalent to meeting the energy needs of almost 1,400,000 homes in the United States;

Whereas IACs have saved participating manufacturers more than \$1,000,000,000 in energy costs;

Whereas an estimated 6,000,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions have been avoided due to IAC assessments, a quantity equivalent to the emissions from more than 1,200,000 cars;

Whereas the IAC program equips undergraduate and graduate university students with the skills to conduct energy audits, improving workforce training and cultivating the next generation of energy engineers;

Whereas more than 3,000 students have graduated from the IAC program, with more than 60 percent continuing on to pursue careers in energy-related fields; and

Whereas 2016 marks the 40th anniversary of the IAC program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning April 24, 2016 as “National Industrial Assessment Center Week”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Industrial Assessment Center Week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 404—DESIGNATING MARCH 2016 AS “NATIONAL MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION MONTH”

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

S. RES. 404

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Association

for Middle Level Education, the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform, and the National Association of Elementary School Principals have declared March 2016 as “National Middle Level Education Month”;

Whereas schools that educate middle level students are responsible for educating nearly 24,000,000 young adolescents between the ages of 10 and 15, in grades 5 through 9, who are undergoing rapid and dramatic changes in their physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and moral development;

Whereas young adolescents deserve challenging and engaging instruction and knowledgeable teachers and administrators who are prepared to provide young adolescents with a safe, challenging, and supportive learning environment;

Whereas young adolescents deserve organizational structures that banish anonymity and promote personalization, collaboration, and social equity;

Whereas the habits and values established during early adolescence have a lifelong influence that directly affects the future health and welfare of the United States;

Whereas research indicates that the academic achievement of a student in grade 8 has a larger impact on the readiness of that student for an institution of higher education at the end of high school than any academic achievement of that student in high school; and

Whereas in order to improve graduation rates and prepare students to be lifelong learners who are ready for an institution of higher education or a career and civic participation, the people of the United States must have a deeper understanding of the distinctive mission of middle level education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 2016 as “National Middle Level Education Month”;

(2) honors and recognizes the importance of middle level education and the contributions of the individuals who educate middle level students; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Middle Level Education Month by visiting and celebrating schools that are responsible for educating young adolescents in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 405—DESIGNATING PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, AS THE SITE OF THE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, IN COORDINATION WITH VISION 2020

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

S. RES. 405

Whereas the 19th Amendment to Constitution of the United States was ratified on August 18, 1920, guaranteeing women in the United States the right to vote;

Whereas the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment will occur in 2020;

Whereas Vision 2020, developed by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership at Drexel University, has launched the Vision 2020 Campaign for Equality—

(1) to commemorate the centennial of women's suffrage; and

(2) to advance and achieve economic, social, and political equality for women in the United States by 2020;

Whereas Vision 2020 is partnering with national associations and professional organi-

zations that represent more than 20,000,000 women and girls in the United States;

Whereas in 2020, celebratory events will take place in cities all across the United States, particularly in cities in which monumental historic events and people shaped the women's suffrage movement;

Whereas Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which was home to historic women who played significant roles in the women's rights movement, including Lucretia Mott, Alice Paul, Fanny Jackson Coppin, and Eliza Sproat Turner, should be designated as the headquarters and coordinating site to celebrate the centennial of women's suffrage;

Whereas the women's suffrage movement was closely tied to abolitionism and many suffragists gained previous experience in advocacy as antislavery activists;

Whereas the first major event in the women's suffrage movement occurred on July 19, 1848, the date on which Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized the first convention on women's rights, the Seneca Falls Convention;

Whereas in 1850, Lucy Stone organized the National Women's Rights Convention and gave a speech that inspired Susan B. Anthony and others to join the cause for women's rights;

Whereas in 1851, Sojourner Truth gave her famous speech entitled “Ain't I a Woman?” at a convention in Akron, Ohio;

Whereas in 1869, women suffragists formed the National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association, which were national organizations established to work for the right of women to vote that united in 1890 to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association;

Whereas in 1872, Susan B. Anthony and a group of women voted in the Presidential election and were arrested and fined for voting illegally;

Whereas in the late 19th century, the Senate voted on women's suffrage for the first time;

Whereas during the early 20th century, a new generation of women joined the women's suffrage movement and devoted time to marches and other active forms of protest, including the first picket lines in front of the White House;

Whereas women suffragists were often detained and sent to jail and some of those women who went on hunger strikes were aggressively force fed;

Whereas since the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the work begun by the suffragists continues to advance the equality of women in all political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of life in the United States, including shared leadership; and

Whereas the contributions of women suffragists who fought for and won, for women of the United States, the right to vote should be celebrated on the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the crucial role that the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution played in advancing the rights of women and promoting the democratic values at the core of the United States;

(2) designates Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the site of the national centennial commemoration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment; and

(3) commends the efforts of Vision 2020—

(A) to orchestrate, lead, and coordinate that momentous occasion in Philadelphia; and

(B) to continue the fight for equality for women.

SENATE RESOLUTION 406—RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD, THE HIGHEST AWARD IN THE GIRL SCOUTS, WHICH HAS STOOD FOR EXCELLENCE AND LEADERSHIP FOR GIRLS EVERYWHERE SINCE 1916

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 406

Whereas each girl who pursues the Girl Scout Gold Award aspires to transform an original idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with far reaching and sustainable results;

Whereas for more than a century preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America (referred to in this preamble as the "Girl Scouts") has inspired girls to lead with courage, confidence, and character;

Whereas the Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest form of the ideals of courage, confidence, and character;

Whereas the Girl Scout Gold Award calls on a Girl Scout in grades 9 through 12 to take on a project that has a measurable and sustainable impact on the community of the Girl Scout by—

- (1) assessing a need;
- (2) designing a solution to the need;
- (3) completing the project; and
- (4) inspiring others to sustain the project;

Whereas the highest award in Girl Scouting honors leadership in the tradition of the Girl Scouts;

Whereas the Girl Scout movement began on March 12, 1912, when Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, a native of Savannah, Georgia, organized a group of 18 girls and provided the group of girls with an opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually;

Whereas the goals of Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low were to bring girls of all backgrounds together to develop self-reliance and resourcefulness, and to prepare each girl for a future role as a professional woman and active citizen outside the home;

Whereas shortly after the inception of the Girl Scout movement, it was decided that there should be a special recognition for each girl who—

- (1) represents the very best of the Girl Scouts; and
- (2) through courage, tenacity, dedication, and skill, takes action in her community with an immediate and sustainable impact;

Whereas, in 1916, the Golden Eaglet was introduced as the highest award in Girl Scouting;

Whereas the highest award in Girl Scouting has been known as the Golden Eaglet, the Curved Bar Award, First Class, and, for the period of 35 years preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, the Girl Scout Gold Award;

Whereas although the name of the highest award in Girl Scouting has changed over the years, the conviction, dynamism, and idealism it takes to earn the award have not;

Whereas the Girl Scout Gold Award, like each girl who earns the award and the project the girl undertakes—

- (1) stands as an enduring symbol of the fortitude and personal strength of a Girl Scout; and

- (2) clearly demonstrates the tangible, real-world impact that participation in the Girl

Scouts can have on the life of a girl, and by extension, the community of the girl and the world;

Whereas earning the Girl Scout Gold Award is comparable to achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America;

Whereas a girl who earns the Girl Scout Gold Award—

- (1) joins an elite group of less than 6 percent of Girl Scouts each year; and

- (2) may be eligible for a higher grade when enlisting in the Armed Forces of the United States or for scholarships at certain institutions of higher education;

Whereas according to a study of the Girl Scout Research Institute entitled "The Power of the Girl Scout Gold Award: Excellence in Leadership and Life", recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award, compared to non-recipient peers—

- (1) report a more positive sense of self;
- (2) are more engaged civically and in community service;
- (3) have more confidence in their leadership abilities; and
- (4) experience greater life satisfaction and success;

Whereas the Girl Scout Gold Award acknowledges the power and dedication of each young woman to better herself and to make the world a better place for other individuals;

Whereas during the century preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, millions of Girl Scout alumnae have positively impacted their communities and the world with creative, effective, and sustainable Take Action projects; and

Whereas in the centennial of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the Girl Scouts invites alumnae and supporters of the Girl Scouts everywhere to "Celebrate 100 Years of Changing the World": Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes the remarkable impact that recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award during the century preceding the date of adoption of this resolution have had on—

- (A) the lives of individuals in the United States; and

- (B) the world;

- (2) recognizes the lasting impact of the projects of recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award on the communities of the recipients;

- (3) congratulates the Girl Scouts of the United States of America and Girl Scout Gold Award recipients everywhere on the centennial of the Girl Scout Gold Award; and

- (4) joins the Girl Scouts of the United States of America in celebrating 100 years of the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today not only to recognize the 104th anniversary of the Girl Scouts, but also the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Gold Award. The Gold Award is the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, only comparable to the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout recognition.

Approximately one million Girl Scouts have earned this prestigious award. Girls who pursue their Gold Award aspire to transform an idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. Since 1916, Girl Scouts have been planning and executing significant projects in response to pressing community needs. The Gold Award has inspired girls in Maryland and across the country to find greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities.

I love the Girl Scouts. I loved being a Girl Scout, especially when working on

my badges. Those badges I earned served as symbols for success, leadership, and service to my community. It was during my time as a Girl Scout that I learned about the values and attitudes that serve as good guides throughout life, like courage, confidence, and strong character to help make the world a better place.

I also loved the camaraderie of working with other girls on various challenges. It really is about friendship. I am so proud to be among the more than 59 million women in the United States who are alumnae of the Girl Scouts of America. I could not have done it without the support of Ms. Helen Nimick, my Girl Scout leader. In fact, I wanted to grow up and be just like Ms. Nimick. She seemed to know how to do 43 different things with oatmeal boxes.

The Girl Scouts is an organization that has meant so much to me, and to this country. What started out as a group of eighteen girls in Georgia organized by Juliette Gordon Low has grown into an organization of more than 2 million girls and women, with over 800,000 adult volunteers. When the Girl Scouts started, women were not allowed to vote or have property in their name, and only few ever made it to college.

The founding of the Girl Scouts started a revolutionary movement to train and educate girls. Now, it is working to bring gender balance to leadership roles, whether it is in business or politics. I believe in that mission, and I know we can do it. While we have a long ways to go, we certainly have made progress. When I came to the Senate almost 30 years ago, there were only two women—Senator Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas and myself. Today, there are 20 women in the Senate! Nearly 45 years ago, there was only one woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company; now there are 23.

I bring the lessons I learned from Girl Scouts with me to the United States Senate, every day and in every way. I love the Girl Scout promise: "To serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout law." To this day, I still carry the Girl Scout law in my wallet. I believe that if you follow the Girl Scout law, you're in pretty good shape—it has certainly worked for me. "I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and what I do, and to respect myself and others, to respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout, and a sister to every Boy Scout."

While I am in the Senate now, in many ways I am still working on my badges. But instead of working on my cookie badge, the badges I am working on now are called "ending gender discrimination in health care," "guaranteeing equal pay for equal work," and "promoting access to quality and affordable child care."