

SENATE RESOLUTION 450—HONORING MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 7, 2016, AS “NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK” AND CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS IN EVERY COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ENZI, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 450

Whereas “National Small Business Week” has been declared by every President since 1963;

Whereas there are more than 28,000,000 small businesses in the United States;

Whereas nearly 90 percent of United States employers have fewer than 20 employees;

Whereas small businesses in the United States—

- (1) represent 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees;
- (2) employ over 48 percent of employees in the private sector;
- (3) constitute 98 percent of businesses that export goods; and
- (4) account for more than 46 percent of private sector output;

Whereas, on July 30, 1953, Congress established the Small Business Administration to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small businesses—

- (1) to preserve free and competitive enterprise;
- (2) to ensure that a fair proportion of the total sales of Government property are made to small businesses; and
- (3) to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas 63 percent of new jobs are created by small businesses; and

Whereas May 1 through May 7, 2016, will be celebrated as “National Small Business Week”: Now, therefore, be it

- Resolved, That the Senate—*
- (1) honors May 1 through May 7, 2016, as “National Small Business Week”;
 - (2) celebrates the contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in every community in the United States during National Small Business Week;
 - (3) recognizes the importance of—

(A) creating policies that promote an environment in which small businesses may succeed; and

(B) the Small Business Administration as a valuable resource for entrepreneurs in the United States; and

(4) supports efforts—

- (A) to encourage consumers to use small businesses; and
- (B) to increase awareness of the value of small businesses and the impact of small businesses on the economy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 451—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK AND HONORING THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. KIRK, and Ms.

HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 451

Whereas National Travel and Tourism Week was established in 1983 through the enactment of the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint Resolution to designate the week beginning May 27, 1984, as ‘National Tourism Week’”, approved November 29, 1983 (Public Law 98-178; 97 Stat. 1126), which recognized the value of travel and tourism;

Whereas National Travel and Tourism Week is celebrated across the United States from May 1 through May 7, 2016;

Whereas more than 400 travel destinations throughout the United States are holding events in honor of National Travel and Tourism Week;

Whereas 1 out of every 9 jobs in the United States depends on travel and tourism and the travel and tourism industry supports 15,100,000 jobs in the United States;

Whereas the travel and tourism industry employs individuals in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and all the territories of the United States;

Whereas international travel to the United States—

- (1) is the single largest export industry in the United States; and
- (2) generates a trade surplus balance of approximately \$61,000,000,000;

Whereas the travel and tourism industry, Congress, and the President have worked to streamline the visa process and make the United States welcoming to visitors from other countries;

Whereas travel and tourism provide significant economic benefits to the United States by generating nearly \$2,100,000,000,000 in annual economic output;

Whereas leisure travel allows individuals to experience the rich cultural heritage and educational opportunities of the United States and its communities; and

Whereas the immense value of travel and tourism cannot be overstated: Now, therefore, be it

- Resolved, That the Senate—*
- (1) supports the goals and ideals of National Travel and Tourism Week;
 - (2) commends the travel and tourism industry for its important contributions to the United States; and
 - (3) commends the employees of the travel and tourism industry for their important contributions to the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 452

Whereas on average, an individual is sexually assaulted in the United States every 2 minutes, according to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network;

Whereas nearly 80,000 rapes were reported to law enforcement in 2013, according to the Department of Justice;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 1 in 5 women (or 18.3 percent) and 1 in 71 men (or 1.4 percent) surveyed in the United States in 2010 experienced a rape or attempted rape at some time in their lives;

Whereas sexual violence is also a burden for many individuals who serve the United States, and the Department of Defense estimates that approximately 19,000 members of the United States Armed Forces experienced unwanted sexual contact in fiscal year 2014;

Whereas children and young adults are at significant risk of sexual assault, up to 44 percent of sexual assault victims are under 18 years of age, and up to 80 percent of sexual assault victims are under 30 years of age;

Whereas sexual assault affects women, men, and children of all racial, social, religious, age, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups in the United States;

Whereas sexual violence may take many forms, including acquaintance, stranger, spousal, and gang rape, incest, child sexual abuse, commercial sex trafficking, sexual harassment, and stalking;

Whereas in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs of sexual assault, sexual assault has numerous adverse consequences, which can include post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide, according to the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence;

Whereas many sexual assaults are not reported to law enforcement agencies, which enables many rapists to evade punishment for their crimes;

Whereas as many as ⅔ of sexual crimes are committed by individuals who are not strangers to the victims;

Whereas sexual assault survivors suffer emotional scars long after the physical scars of the survivors have healed;

Whereas advances in DNA technology have enabled law enforcement agencies to potentially identify and prosecute the perpetrators in tens of thousands of unsolved rape cases;

Whereas prosecution can lead to the incarceration of rapists and prevent those individuals from committing additional crimes;

Whereas national, State, territorial, and tribal coalitions, community-based rape crisis centers, and other organizations across the United States are committed to—

- (1) increasing public awareness of sexual violence and the prevalence of sexual violence; and
- (2) eliminating sexual violence through prevention and education;

Whereas important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, health professionals, public health workers, educators, first responders, and victim service providers;

Whereas thousands of volunteers and staff at rape crisis centers, State coalitions against sexual assault, and nonprofit organizations across the United States play an important role in making crisis hotlines and other services available to survivors of sexual assault;

Whereas free, confidential help is available to all victims and survivors of sexual assault through—

- (1) the National Sexual Assault Hotline (800-656-HOPE and online.rainn.org); and
- (2) more than 1,000 sexual assault service providers across the United States;

Whereas the DoD Safe Helpline, Safe HelpRoom, and Safe Helpline mobile app each provide support and help to members of the Department of Defense community—

- (1) by telephone at 877-995-5247; and
 - (2) online at SafeHelpline.org;
- Whereas individual and collective efforts reflect the dream of the people of the United States—

- (1) for individuals and organizations to actively work to prevent all forms of sexual violence; and
- (2) for no sexual assault victim to be unserved or feel that there is no path to justice; and

Whereas April 2016 is recognized as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides a special opportunity to educate the people of the United States about sexual violence and to encourage the prevention of sexual assault, improvement in the treatment of survivors of sexual assault, and the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual assault;

(B) it is appropriate to properly acknowledge survivors of sexual assault and to commend the volunteers and professionals who assist those survivors in their efforts to heal;

(C) national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in promoting awareness about sexual assault, providing information and treatment to survivors of sexual assault, and increasing the number of successful prosecutions of perpetrators of sexual assault; and

(D) public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals should be recognized and applauded for their hard work and innovative strategies to ensure perpetrators of sexual assault are held accountable; and

(2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 453—DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 2016, AS “DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS: CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS”

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. HATCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 453

Whereas each year, people in many countries throughout the world, and especially in the Western Hemisphere, celebrate Día de los Niños, or Day of the Children, on April 30th in recognition and celebration of the future of their country—their children;

Whereas children represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States, and the well-being of children remains one of the top priorities of the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States must nurture and invest in children to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the spirit of the United States;

Whereas in 2014, the Census Bureau estimated that approximately 17,900,000 of the nearly 55,400,000 individuals of Hispanic descent living in the United States are children under 18 years of age, representing 1/3 of the total Hispanic population residing in the United States and roughly 1/4 of the total population of children in the United States;

Whereas Hispanic Americans, the youngest and largest racial or ethnic minority group in the United States, celebrate the tradition of honoring their children on Día de los Niños and wish to share this custom with all people of the United States;

Whereas as the United States becomes more culturally and ethnically diverse, the people of the United States must strive to create opportunities that provide dignity and upward mobility for all children;

Whereas the primary teachers of family values, morality, and culture are parents and family members, and children are responsible for passing on family values, morality, and culture to future generations;

Whereas the importance of literacy and education is most often communicated to children through family members;

Whereas the latest data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (referred to in this preamble as “NAEP”) indicates that Latino students continue to score lower than the national average on reading assessments conducted at the elementary school, middle school, and high school levels—an achievement gap that has persisted for decades;

Whereas the most recent data by NAEP demonstrates that 81 percent of Latino fourth graders in public schools are not proficient in reading;

Whereas Latino authors and Latino protagonists remain underrepresented in literature for children, and less than 3 percent of books for children are written by Latino authors, illustrated by Latino book creators, or feature significant Latino cultural content, even though 1/4 of all public school children are Latino;

Whereas research has shown that culturally relevant literature can increase student engagement and reading comprehension, yet some Latino students may go their entire educational experience without seeing themselves portrayed positively in the books that they read and the stories that they hear;

Whereas increasing the number and proportion of multicultural authors in literature for children elevates the voices of the growing diverse communities in the United States and can serve as an effective strategy for closing the reading proficiency achievement gap;

Whereas addressing the widening disparities that still exist among children is of paramount importance to the economic prosperity of the United States;

Whereas the designation of a day to honor the children of the United States will help affirm the significance of family, education, and community among the people of the United States;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition for the children of the United States will provide an opportunity for children to reflect on their futures, articulate their aspirations, and find comfort and security in the support of their family members and communities;

Whereas families should be encouraged to engage in family and community activities that include extended and elderly family members and encourage children to explore and develop confidence;

Whereas the National Latino Children’s Institute, serving as a voice for children, has worked with cities throughout the United States to declare April 30, 2016, as Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans, a day to bring together Latinos and communities across the United States to celebrate and uplift children; and

Whereas the people of the United States should be encouraged to celebrate the gifts of children to society and invest in future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 30, 2016, as “Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to join with all children, families, organizations, communities, churches, cities, and States across the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies, including activities that—

(A) center around children and are free or minimal in cost so as to encourage and facilitate the participation of all people;

(B) are positive, uplifting, and help children express their hopes and dreams;

(C) provide opportunities for children of all backgrounds to learn about each other’s cultures and share ideas;

(D) include all family members, especially extended and elderly family members, so as to promote greater communication among the generations within families, which will enable children to appreciate and benefit from the experiences and wisdom of elderly family members;

(E) provide opportunities for families with in a community to build relationships; and

(F) provide children with the support they need to develop skills and confidence and to find the inner strength, will, and fire of the human spirit to make their dreams come true.

SENATE RESOLUTION 454—RECOGNIZING THE TRANSPORTATION COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. CAPITO submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 454

Whereas the Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response program (referred to in this preamble as “TRANSCAER”) is a voluntary national outreach effort that focuses on assisting communities to prepare for and respond to a possible hazardous material transportation incident;

Whereas TRANSCAER was founded in 1986; Whereas TRANSCAER members consist of—

(1) volunteer representatives from the chemical manufacturing, transportation, distribution, and emergency response industries;

(2) volunteer representatives from industry associations;

(3) volunteer personnel of those industries and industry associations; and

(4) government representatives;

Whereas TRANSCAER offers hundreds of training events each year;

Whereas TRANSCAER offered training to tens of thousands of responders between 1986 and 2016;

Whereas TRANSCAER is a unified industry initiative that promotes the safe transportation and handling of hazardous materials; Whereas TRANSCAER aids community emergency response planning for hazardous material transportation incidents;

Whereas TRANSCAER builds strong relationships and trust with communities located along transportation routes, and those relationships and trust could help to ensure that an incident is handled safely, appropriately, and efficiently; and

Whereas TRANSCAER demonstrates the continuing commitment of chemical manufacturers and transporters to the safe transportation of hazardous materials: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response program (commonly referred to as “TRANSCAER”) on its 30th anniversary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 455—RECOGNIZING THE CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. REID, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs.