

Rachael Elizabeth Hill, Emily Jane Hilscher, Jarrett Lee Lane, Matthew Joseph La Porte, Henry J. Lee, Liviu Librescu, G.V. Loganathan, Partahi Mamora Halomoan Lumbantoruan, Lauren Ashley McCain, Daniel Patrick O'Neil, Juan Ramon Ortiz-Ortiz, Minal Hiralal Panchal, Daniel Alejandro Perez Cueva, Erin Nicole Peterson, Michael Steven Pohle, Jr., Julia Kathleen Pryde, Mary Karen Read, Reema Joseph Samaha, Waleed Mohamed Shaalan, Leslie Geraldine Sherman, Maxine Shelly Turner, and Nicole Regina White;

(2) recognizes the 17 individuals who survived the shooting and supports the continued recovery of those survivors from physical and psychological wounds;

(3) offers condolences to the families and friends of the victims;

(4) expresses hope that the memory of each victim will live on; and

(5) recognizes—

(A) the resilience of the Virginia Tech community in the decade following the tragedy of April 16, 2007; and

(B) that the perseverance of the Virginia Tech community serves as an example to communities that experience similar tragedies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 143—SUPPORTING FAIR AND EQUITABLE GRADING TREATMENT FOR EXPORTS OF UNITED STATES WHEAT PRODUCTS TO CANADA

Mr. TESTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 143

Whereas Canada is the second-largest goods trading partner of the United States, with \$575,000,000,000 in goods traded between the 2 countries in 2015, as the United States exported \$280,000,000,000 in goods to Canada and imported \$295,000,000,000 in goods from Canada in that year;

Whereas the efficient and equitable flow of agricultural goods across the border is a critical component of the trade relationship between the United States and Canada;

Whereas wheat is the third-most widely produced field crop in the United States, and approximately ½ of the wheat produced in the United States is exported;

Whereas Canadian law requires wheat imported from the United States to be segregated from wheat produced in Canada and automatically designated as feed quality, the lowest possible designation, regardless of the actual quality or the variety of the wheat product;

Whereas United States Federal law allows wheat imported from Canada to be graded under the same system as domestically grown wheat;

Whereas that unfair devaluation practice puts United States agricultural producers at a distinct disadvantage when attempting to access Canadian wheat markets;

Whereas the treatment by Canada of United States wheat products is likely a violation of trade agreements and is to the detriment of United States agricultural producers; and

Whereas the strong economic ties between the United States and Canada are extremely important and well-served when a level playing field exists across all industries: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) wheat grading practices in Canada should—

(A) grade wheat produced in Canada in the same manner as wheat produced in the United States; and

(B) be fair to agricultural producers in the United States; and

(2) the President should—

(A) examine whether the wheat grading laws of Canada adhere to trade agreements; and

(B) insist on full access for United States exporters of wheat to the Canadian market.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in open session, to receive testimony on policy and strategy in the Asia-Pacific.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to consider the nomination of Robert Lighthizer, of Florida, to be United States Trade Representative.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 9:45 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled "The Crisis in Libya: Next Steps and U.S. Policy Options."

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on April 25, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Intellectual Property—Driver of Innovation: Making Our Lives Healthier, Safer, and more Productive."

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, from 2:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m., in room SH-219 of the Senate Hart Office Building to hold a closed hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern Nicholas Piwonka be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the day.

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

RESOLUTIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that applicable

committees be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of the following resolutions en bloc: S. Res. 105, S. Res. 122, S. Res. 128, S. Res. 129, S. Res. 130, S. Res. 131, and S. Res. 133.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

S. RES. 128

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to ask my Senate colleagues to join me in designating April 2017 as National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month. Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia, also known as CDH, is a birth defect that occurs when the fetal diaphragm fails to fully develop, allowing abdominal organs to move into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth. When the lungs do not develop properly during pregnancy, it can be difficult for the baby to breathe after birth, or the baby is unable to take in enough oxygen to stay healthy. Congenital diaphragmatic hernia is a birth defect that occurs in 1 out of every 2,500 live births worldwide. Only about 50 percent of CDH cases are diagnosed in utero. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, estimates that CDH affects 1,600 babies in the U.S. each year. Every 10 minutes, a baby is born with CDH, adding up to more than 700,000 babies with CDH since 2000. According to the CDC, babies born with CDH experience a high mortality rate ranging from 20 to 60 percent, depending on the severity of the defect and the treatments available at delivery; yet most people have never heard of CDH.

Researchers are making great progress to determine the cause of this birth defect and to identify optimal treatment methods. In fiscal year 2017, the National Institutes of Health funded approximately \$4 million in CDH research, an increase of \$700,000 from fiscal year 2015. There is still much progress to be made, however. The cause of CDH remains unknown, and there currently is no cure. CDH survivors often endure long-term complications, such as congenital heart defects and developmental delays, and the average CDH survivor will face postnatal care of more than \$100,000.

Last month, members from the Association of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Research, Awareness and Support, also known as CHERUBS, visited my office. Among them were David and Allison Finger and their daughter Vivienne from Hyattsville, MD. Vivienne was born with CDH and had to spend 60 days in the newborn intensive care unit after birth and had to have surgery to repair the hernia when she was only 3 weeks old. On March 18, 2017, Vivienne celebrated her second birthday and is doing very well. Babies like Vivienne, born with CDH, today have a better chance of survival due to early detection and research on treatment options.

For these reasons, I am proud my colleague the junior Senator from Alabama, Mr. STRANGE, has joined me in submitting a resolution designating April 2017 as National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month. In previous years, I was pleased to work with his predecessor, Senator Sessions, on this resolution. Designating this month in this fashion provides an opportunity to raise public awareness about CDH; promote quality prenatal care and ultrasounds to detect CDH in utero; and support finding for the research necessary to improve screening and treatment of CDH, discover the causes of CDH, and develop a cure for CDH.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles, where applicable, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 105) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 30, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolutions (S. Res. 122 and S. Res. 128) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolution (S. Res. 129) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolutions (S. Res. 130, S. Res. 131, and S. Res. 133) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2017 AS "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 140, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 140) supporting the designation of April 2017 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month."

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 140) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2017 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 141, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 141) congratulating the University of South Carolina women's basketball team for winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Tournament Championship.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 141) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC EVENTS AT VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY ON APRIL 16, 2007

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 142, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 142) commemorating the 10th anniversary of the tragic events at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University on April 16, 2007.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion 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. 142) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, in consultation with the vice chairperson of the Committee on Indian Affairs, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-244, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children: Tami DeCoteau of North Dakota.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 26; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Acosta nomination, with the time until 11:30 a.m. equally divided in the usual form; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture vote on the Acosta nomination occur at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:44 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KARI A. BINGEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE MARCEL J. LETTRE II, RESIGNED.

ROBERT DAIGLE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE JAMIE MICHAEL MORIN.

ROBERT STORY KAREM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE DEREK H. CHOLLET, RESIGNED.

KENNETH P. RAPUANO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE ERIC ROSENBAUGH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SCOTT P. BROWN, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NEW ZEALAND, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA.