

on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs if the institution receives a grant under this section.

(2) The term “veteran” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, \$15,000,000 to carry out this section. The amount so authorized to be appropriated shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2020.

(2) UNOBLIGATED AMOUNTS TO BE RETURNED TO THE TREASURY.—Any amounts authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) that are not obligated by the Secretary as of September 30, 2020, shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 3. CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC EDUCATION.

(a) GRANT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall award a grant to an eligible institution to enable the eligible institution—

(A) to establish the Center of Excellence in Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (in this section referred to as the “Center”); and

(B) to enable the eligible institution to improve orthotic and prosthetic outcomes for veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and civilians by conducting evidence-based research on—

(i) the knowledge, skills, and training most needed by clinical professionals in the field of orthotics and prosthetics; and

(ii) how to most effectively prepare clinical professionals to provide effective, high-quality orthotic and prosthetic care.

(2) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority in the award of a grant under this section to an eligible institution that has in force, or demonstrates the willingness and ability to enter into, a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, or other appropriate Federal agency, or a cooperative agreement with an appropriate private sector entity, which memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement provides for either, or both, of the following:

(A) The provision of resources, whether in cash or in kind, to the Center.

(B) Assistance to the Center in conducting research and disseminating the results of such research.

(3) GRANT AMOUNT.—The grant awarded under this section shall be in the amount of \$5,000,000.

(b) REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue a request for proposals from eligible institutions for the grant under this section.

(2) PROPOSALS.—An eligible institution that seeks the award of the grant under this section shall submit an application therefor to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

(c) GRANT USES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The eligible institution awarded the grant under this section shall use the grant amount as follows:

(A) To develop an agenda for orthotics and prosthetics education research.

(B) To fund research in the area of orthotics and prosthetics education.

(C) To publish or otherwise disseminate research findings relating to orthotics and prosthetics education.

(2) PERIOD OF USE OF FUNDS.—The eligible institution awarded the grant under this section may use the grant amount for a period of five years after the award of the grant.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “eligible institution” means an educational institution that—

(A) has a robust research program;

(B) offers an orthotics and prosthetics education program that is accredited by the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs;

(C) is well recognized in the field of orthotics and prosthetics education; and

(D) has an established association with—

(i) a medical center or clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

(ii) a local rehabilitation hospital.

(2) The term “veteran” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, \$5,000,000 to carry out this section.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 204—HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SELFRIDGE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE IN HARRISON TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 204

Whereas 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of a military installation operating in Harrison Township, Michigan;

Whereas Selfridge Air National Guard Base is named after Army 1st Lieutenant Thomas E. Selfridge, who saw the potential of powered flight;

Whereas Lieutenant Selfridge became the first casualty of flight when he was killed during a demonstration flight with Orville Wright in 1908;

Whereas the Army commissioned Selfridge Field on July 1, 1917, and the first flight occurred on July 8, 1917;

Whereas, on June 27, 1919, Selfridge Field became the home of the 1st Pursuit Group, the oldest combat group in the Air Force;

Whereas, on October 14, 1922, 1st Lieutenant Russell Maughan flew the first aircraft to exceed 200 miles per hour at Selfridge Field;

Whereas the 332d Fighter Group of the Tuskegee Airmen moved to Selfridge Field on March 29, 1943, and Colonel Benjamin O. Davis became its first African-American commander on October 8, 1943;

Whereas, on July 20, 1948, the first transatlantic flight by a fighter aircraft launched from Selfridge Field headed to Berlin during the Berlin Airlift;

Whereas, on July 1, 1971, Selfridge Field was transferred to the Michigan Air National Guard, becoming the first major active Air Force base to come under control of the Air National Guard;

Whereas, in 1991, Selfridge Air National Guard Base founded the first STARBAS program, a Department of Defense program for students in kindergarten through 12th grade that provides math and science education;

Whereas the 127th Wing of the Michigan Air National Guard was established at Selfridge Air National Guard Base on April 1, 1996;

Whereas Selfridge Air National Guard Base is the host to at least 40 tenant units rep-

resenting every branch of the Armed Forces, the Coast Guard, and representing members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty, in a reserve component, or in the National Guard;

Whereas Selfridge Air National Guard Base is the home to the KC-135 Stratotanker and the A-10 Thunderbolt II; and

Whereas, as of the date of agreement to this resolution, Selfridge Air National Guard Base is being considered to host the F-35 Lightning II, the Air Force's newest fifth-generation fighter: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township, Michigan, on its 100th anniversary; and

(2) commends the thousands of men and women who have worked and trained at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

SENATE RESOLUTION 205—HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT CUSTER IN AUGUSTA, MICHIGAN

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

S. RES. 205

Whereas 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of a military installation operating in Augusta, Michigan;

Whereas Fort Custer is named after Major General George Armstrong Custer, a native of Monroe, Michigan, and a prominent Civil War cavalry commander;

Whereas the United States Army purchased 130 parcels of Michigan farmland to begin constructing Camp Custer in 1917;

Whereas more than 100,000 soldiers from Michigan and Wisconsin trained at Camp Custer before serving in Europe during World War I as part of the American Expeditionary Forces;

Whereas Camp Custer became the district headquarters of the Civilian Conservation Corps for Michigan's Lower Peninsula during the Great Depression;

Whereas Congress officially designated Camp Custer as Fort Custer on August 17, 1940, recognizing it as a permanent military training base;

Whereas, in preparation for World War II engagement, Fort Custer expanded to 16,000 acres with accommodations for nearly 1,300 officers and more than 27,500 troops;

Whereas more than 300,000 troops were trained at Fort Custer throughout World War II, including the 5th Infantry “Red Diamond” Division that left for combat in Normandy, France, in June 1944;

Whereas Fort Custer served as a prisoner of war camp for approximately 5,000 German soldiers during World War II;

Whereas approximately 17,000 troops were trained at Fort Custer during the Korean War in the 1950s;

Whereas the United States Air Force established the Custer Air Force Station in 1956, which served as part of the North American Air Defense System for a decade beginning in 1959;

Whereas Fort Custer offered free education and vocational training to youth between the ages of 16 and 24 as a Jobs Corps Training Center from 1965 to 1967;

Whereas the 770-acre Fort Custer National Military Cemetery, established in 1981, honors thousands of the brave men and women who served the United States; and

Whereas Fort Custer continues to serve as a state-of-the-art training facility for the Michigan National Guard and other branches

of the Armed Forces, including Reserve Officers' Training Corps students: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors Fort Custer in Augusta, Michigan, on its 100th anniversary;

(2) commends the thousands of men and women who have worked and trained at Fort Custer; and

(3) commemorates the tens of thousands of members of the Armed Forces and their families memorialized at Fort Custer National Cemetery.

SENATE RESOLUTION 206—URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO RECOGNIZE THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF RIB MOUNTAIN BY ADDING IT TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Mr. JOHNSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 206

Whereas Paul Bunyan is a larger-than-life folk hero who embodies the frontier spirit, might, the willingness to work hard, and the resolve to overcome all obstacles;

Whereas reliable documentation establishes that the earliest story about Paul Bunyan was told north of Tomahawk, Wisconsin;

Whereas this evidence suggests that Wisconsin's claim that it is the birthplace of Paul Bunyan is superior to claims from other States;

Whereas Paul Bunyan has been the subject of countless literary compositions, musical pieces, commercial works, and theatrical productions;

Whereas local legend states that the "ribs" in Rib Mountain, Wisconsin, denote that the mountain is the burial site of Paul Bunyan;

Whereas Rib Mountain is nearly 4 miles long and peaks at 1,924 feet above sea level and 670 feet above the local terrain, making it the highest natural feature in North Central Wisconsin and one of the highest points in the entire State of Wisconsin;

Whereas Rib Mountain is home to the Granite Peak Ski Area, one of the first ski areas in North America, where thousands of visitors come annually to ski or snowboard;

Whereas Rib Mountain State Park, situated on Rib Mountain, is over 1,500 acres and boasts a well-maintained network of hiking and nature trails with breathtaking views; and

Whereas Rib Mountain State Park attracts visitors from the local community as well as from across the State and the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms the importance of Rib Mountain to the culture and economy of Wisconsin;

(2) recognizes the legend of Paul Bunyan as the embodiment of the frontier spirit; and

(3) requests that the Secretary of the Interior recognize the legendary burial site of Paul Bunyan by adding Rib Mountain to the National Register of Historic Places.

SENATE RESOLUTION 207—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF JULY 9 THROUGH JULY 15, 2017 AS "SARCOMA AWARENESS WEEK" AND DESIGNATING JULY 15, 2017 AS "LEIOMYOSARCOMA AWARENESS DAY"

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 207

Whereas a soft tissue sarcoma is a rare type of cancer, accounting for approximately 1 percent of all newly diagnosed cancers, that arises in the connective tissue of the body;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health designates sarcoma as a rare form of cancer, with sarcoma containing approximately 70 different subtypes;

Whereas sarcomas are largely resistant to current chemotherapy agents, immunotherapy agents, and radiation therapies, posing a formidable challenge for researchers and specialists;

Whereas sarcoma subtypes have largely not received benefit from immunotherapies due to the complexity of the DNA, genomes, and mutations associated with the many variations in the sarcoma subtype landscape;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma (referred to in this preamble as "LMS") is a malignant, aggressive subtype of soft tissue sarcoma derived from smooth muscle cells typically of uterine, gastrointestinal or soft tissue origin, and can metastasize to the bone, spine, brain, and liver;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health classifies LMS as a rare disease, accounting for approximately 15 percent of all sarcomas, and LMS itself encompasses at least 4 different LMS subtypes;

Whereas LMS primarily affects adults without regard to gender;

Whereas research and clinical trials for LMS remain complicated and the prospects for long-term survival remain poor;

Whereas multidisciplinary care coordination teams, because of their expertise and experience, are critical to the health of sarcoma and LMS patients;

Whereas sarcoma and LMS research will allow medical professionals to improve the quality of care for affected patients, lead to better clinical outcomes, and promote longer survival for patients; and

Whereas increased education and awareness about sarcoma and LMS will contribute to the well-being of the communities of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of July 9 through July 15, 2017, as "Sarcoma Awareness Week";

(2) designates July 15, 2017, as "Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day";

(3) recognizes the challenges faced by sarcoma and leiomyosarcoma patients; and

(4) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the country working to improve the quality of life of sarcoma and leiomyosarcoma patients and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 208—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT FLOWERS GROWN IN THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT THE FARMERS, SMALL BUSINESSES, JOBS, AND ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES, THAT FLOWER FARMING IS AN HONORABLE VOCATION, AND DESIGNATING JULY AS "AMERICAN GROWN FLOWER MONTH"

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 208

Whereas cut flower growers in the United States are hard-working, dedicated individuals who bring beauty, economic stimulus, and pride to their communities and the nation;

Whereas the people of the United States have a long history of using flowers and greens grown in the United States to bring beauty to important events and express affection for loved ones;

Whereas consumers spend almost \$27,000,000,000 each year on floral products, including cut flowers, garden plants, bedding, and indoor plants;

Whereas nearly 30 percent of households in the United States purchase fresh cut flowers and greens from more than 16,000 florists and floral establishments each year;

Whereas the people of the United States increasingly want to support domestically produced foods and agricultural products and would prefer to buy locally grown flowers whenever possible, yet a majority of domestic consumers do not know where the flowers they purchase are grown;

Whereas in response to increased demand, the "Certified American Grown Flowers" logo was created in July 2014 in order to educate and empower consumers to purchase flowers from domestic producers;

Whereas as of April 2017, millions of stems of domestically grown flowers are now "Certified American Grown";

Whereas domestic flower farmers produce thousands of varieties of flowers across the United States, such as peonies in Alaska, Gerbera daisies in California, lupines in Maine, tulips in Washington, lilies in Oregon, and larkspur in Texas;

Whereas the 5 flower varieties with the highest United States production are tulips, Gerbera daisies, lilies, gladiolas and irises;

Whereas people in every State have access to domestically grown flowers, yet only 1 of 5 flowers sold in the United States is domestically grown;

Whereas the domestic cut flower industry creates almost \$42,000,000 in economic impact daily and supports hundreds of growers, thousands of small businesses, and tens of thousands of jobs in the United States;

Whereas more people in the United States are expressing interest in growing flowers locally, which has resulted in an approximately 20 percent increase in the number of domestic cut flower farms between 2007 and 2012;

Whereas most domestic cut flowers and greens are sold in the United States within 24 to 48 hours after harvest and last longer than flowers shipped longer distances;

Whereas flowers grown domestically enhance the ability of the people of the United States to festively celebrate weddings and births, and honor those who have passed;

Whereas flower-giving has been a holiday tradition in the United States for generations;