

Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty" for the people of the United States;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States has provided the means and structure for the United States and the people of the United States to achieve a level of prosperity, liberty, security, and justice that is unparalleled among nations;

Whereas the contributions of the Constitution of the United States to the welfare of individuals reach far beyond the borders of the United States;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States—

- (1) was the first permanent constitution in the world adopted by elected representatives;
- (2) includes seminal ideas about individual rights, the separation of powers, and the rule of law; and

Whereas the Constitution of the United States has been amended 27 times since its adoption and includes amendments that reflect the will of the people of the United States "to form a more perfect Union", such as amendments to recognize and protect individual rights, eliminate slavery, and expand the franchise;

Whereas the Senate continues to strive to preserve and strengthen the values and rights bestowed on the United States and the people of the United States by the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas the preservation in the hearts and minds of the people of the United States of the values and rights expressed in the Constitution of the United States would be advanced by an official recognition on September 17, 2017, of the 230th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) on September 17, 2017, commemorates the 230th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States; and
- (2) calls on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and respect, including by reading the Constitution of the United States and reflecting on the enduring structure of government built by the Founders and successive generations of people of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 273—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 2017 AS "SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH" IN ORDER TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, EARLY DETECTION METHODS, EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS, AND PREVENTATIVE CARE PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE, COMPLICATIONS FROM SICKLE CELL DISEASE, AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 273

Whereas sickle cell disease (referred to in this preamble as "SCD") is an inherited blood disorder that is a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas SCD causes the rapid destruction of sickle cells, which results in multiple

medical complications, including anemia, jaundice, gallstones, strokes, restricted blood flow, damaged tissue in the liver, spleen, and kidneys, and death;

Whereas SCD causes episodes of considerable pain in the arms, legs, chest, and abdomen of an individual;

Whereas SCD affects an estimated 100,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with SCD each year in the United States, with the disease occurring in approximately 1 in 365 newborn African-American infants and 1 in 16,300 newborn Hispanic-American infants, and is found in individuals of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Asian, and Indian origin;

Whereas more than 3,000,000 individuals in the United States have the sickle cell trait and 1 in 13 African-Americans carries the trait;

Whereas there is a 1 in 4 chance that a child born to parents who both have the sickle cell trait will have the disease;

Whereas the life expectancy of an individual with SCD is often severely limited;

Whereas, while hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (commonly known as "HSCT") is currently the only cure for SCD and advances in treating the associated complications of SCD have occurred, more research is needed to find widely available treatments and cures to help patients with SCD; and

Whereas September 2017 has been designated as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month in order to educate communities across the United States about SCD, including early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to SCD, complications from SCD, and conditions related to SCD; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, events, and activities during Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month to raise public awareness of preventative care programs, treatments, and other patient services for those suffering from sickle cell disease, complications from sickle cell disease, and conditions related to sickle cell disease.

SENATE RESOLUTION 274—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL RETIREMENT SECURITY WEEK, INCLUDING RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS TAX-PREFERRED RETIREMENT VEHICLES, INCREASING PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY, AND ENGAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE KEYS TO SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING RETIREMENT SECURITY THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFETIMES

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 274

Whereas people in the United States are living longer and the cost of retirement is increasing significantly;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States but was never intended by Congress to be the

sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas recent data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States—

(1) only approximately 3% of workers or the spouses of those workers are saving for retirement; and

(2) the amount that workers have saved for retirement is much less than the amount those workers need to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas the financial literacy of workers in the United States is important so that those workers understand the need to save for retirement;

Whereas saving for retirement is a key component of overall financial health and security during retirement years and the importance of financial literacy in planning for retirement must be advocated;

Whereas many workers may not—

(1) be aware of the various options in saving for retirement; or

(2) have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for retirement and successfully achieving retirement security;

Whereas, although many employees have access through their employers to defined benefit and defined contribution plans to assist the employees in preparing for retirement, many of those employees may not be taking advantage of those plans at all or to the full extent allowed by Federal law;

Whereas saving for retirement is necessary even during economic downturns or market declines, which makes continued contributions all the more important;

Whereas all workers, including public and private sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from developing personal budgets and financial plans that include retirement savings strategies that take advantage of tax-preferred retirement savings vehicles;

Whereas effectively and sustainably withdrawing retirement resources throughout the retirement years of an individual is as important and crucial as saving and accumulating funds for retirement; and

Whereas the week of October 15 through October 21, 2017, has been designated as "National Retirement Security Week"; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Retirement Security Week, including raising public awareness of the importance of saving adequately for retirement;

(2) acknowledges the need to raise public awareness of a variety of tax-preferred retirement vehicles that are used by many people in the United States but could be used by more; and

(3) calls on States, localities, schools, universities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe National Retirement Security Week with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing the retirement savings and personal financial literacy of all people in the United States, thereby enhancing the retirement security of the people of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 275—CONGRATULATING NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ON THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE UNIVERSITY

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 275

Whereas Northeastern Illinois University has served the Chicagoland area and beyond for 150 years, having graduated nearly 80,000 students who have—

- (1) strengthened the local workforce;
- (2) made a positive difference in their communities; and
- (3) transformed the lives of others, just as the University has done for those students;

Whereas Northeastern Illinois University is regarded as the most diverse regional university in the Midwest and is designated by the Department of Education as a Hispanic-Serving Institution;

Whereas Northeastern Illinois University is known for—

- (1) having the safest campus in the State of Illinois;
- (2) being among the best institutions in the United States for adult learners; and
- (3) the fact that graduates of the University have the ninth-lowest amount of student loan debt among graduates of 4-year colleges and universities in the United States; and

Whereas Northeastern Illinois University offers more than 80 undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts, sciences, education, and business at 5 locations in the Chicago metropolitan area, including in the North Park and Bronzeville neighborhoods: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) congratulates Northeastern Illinois University on the sesquicentennial of the University; and
- (2) extends best wishes to Northeastern Illinois University for continued success and achievement.

SENATE RESOLUTION 276—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2017 AS “PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. HATCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 276

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and ultimately fatal lung condition that causes progressive scarring in the lungs and has no definitive cause;

Whereas as many as 200,000 individuals in the United States are known to suffer from pulmonary fibrosis, the majority of whom are between the ages of 50 and 75;

Whereas the average life expectancy from the diagnosis of the idiopathic form of pulmonary fibrosis is just 2.8 years, and as many as 80 percent of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients die within 5 years of diagnosis;

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis takes the lives of 40,000 or more individuals in the United States each year—approximately 1 individual every 13 minutes;

Whereas many patients afflicted with pulmonary fibrosis are misdiagnosed for 1 year or longer after the patients are presenting with pulmonary fibrosis symptoms;

Whereas, as of July 2017, there are no confirmed biomarkers for screening and testing for pulmonary fibrosis;

Whereas a cure, treatment, or drug to halt the fibrotic process in pulmonary fibrosis does not yet exist;

Whereas the symptoms of pulmonary fibrosis vary from person to person and include shortness of breath, a dry cough, fatigue, weight loss, and aching muscles and joints;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are work-

ing to improve the quality of life for individuals with pulmonary fibrosis and for the families of those individuals; and

Whereas developing more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and providing access to quality care to individuals with pulmonary fibrosis requires increased research, education, and community support services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2017 as “Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support more robust and accelerated research to develop more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and to ultimately find a cure for the disease;

(4) recognizes the courage and contributions of individuals with pulmonary fibrosis who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals in the United States and abroad working to improve the quality of life for individuals with pulmonary fibrosis and the families of those individuals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 277—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25 THROUGH 29, 2017, AS “NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 277

Whereas the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development reports that approximately 36,000,000 adults in the United States lack the basic literacy and numeracy necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the economy and position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of the parents of a child and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in the education of a child is a key predictor of the success of a child, and the level of parental involvement in the education of a child increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in the education of their children and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and the success of children in the

classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges faced by the people of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English-language skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers the lives of the older people and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure that each individual in the United States has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 25 through 29, 2017, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist individuals in need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls on public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1107. Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3823, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to provide disaster tax relief, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1108. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. KENNEDY)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3823, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1107. Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3823, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to provide disaster tax relief, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows: