

promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the United States through work at all levels of government and as members of the uniformed services;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service, and as members of the uniformed services, in every State, county, and city across the United States and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas the ability of the Federal Government and State and local governments to be responsive, innovative, and effective depends on the outstanding performance of dedicated public servants;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous country, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the United States benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of the highly trained individuals who work in public service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend the freedom of the people of the United States and advance the interests of the United States around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to the Armed Forces and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver benefits under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including benefits under the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.);

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and parks in the United States;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the people of the United States recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the Earth, the Moon, and space to help improve knowledge on how the world changes;

(13) improve and secure transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist veterans of the Armed Forces;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government—

(1) make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States; and

(2) are on the front lines in the fight to defeat terrorism and maintain homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent the interests and promote the ideals of the United States;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, and abuse, and of dangers to public health;

Whereas the individuals serving in the uniformed services, as well as the skilled trade and craft employees of the Federal Government who provide support to their efforts—

(1) are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances; and

(2) contribute greatly to the security of the United States and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflicts in the defense of the United States and its ideals, and deserve

the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas; and

(2) serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants; and

Whereas the week of May 6 through 12, 2018, marks the 34th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of May 6 through 12, 2018, as “Public Service Recognition Week”;

(2) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to the United States during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(3) salutes government employees, and members of the uniformed services, for their unyielding dedication to, and enthusiasm for, public service;

(4) honors government employees and members of the uniformed services who have given their lives in service to their country;

(5) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession;

(6) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at every level of government; and

(7) supports efforts to promote an efficient and effective public service that serves the people of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 496—RECOGNIZING APRIL 30, 2018, AS “EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS-CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS”

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BENNET, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 496

Whereas, each year in the United States, El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans is recognized as a day to affirm and recognize the importance of young children in the United States;

Whereas children represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States and the well-being of children and adolescents is emphasized as a top priority in the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States should nurture and invest in children and adolescents in order to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the free and open exchange of ideas, which are concepts that are essential to the spirit of the United States;

Whereas, according to data of the Bureau of the Census, the Hispanic population in the United States is the youngest major racial or ethnic group in the United States, as—

(1) 17,900,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Hispanic population in the United States, are younger than 18 years of age; and

(2) in 2014, approximately 14,600,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Hispanic population in the United States, were individuals between 18 and 33 years of age (commonly referred to as “millennials”);

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States is the youngest and largest ethnic minority group in the United States,

continues to grow, and is a significant part of the workforce in the United States and children in that population will be consumers, taxpayers, and voters in the future;

Whereas, as the United States becomes more culturally and ethnically diverse, the people of the United States must strive to bring about cultural understanding and celebrate a tradition that honors all children on El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans, a day that acknowledges and shares traditions and customs with all people in the United States;

Whereas parents are at the center of teaching children about family values, morality, life preparation, health, survival, and culture;

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

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

Whereas the National Latino Children's Institute, which serves as an advocate and a voice for young Latino children—

(1) will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2018;

(2) has partnered with States and cities throughout the United States during the 20 years preceding 2018; and

(3) will declare April 30, 2018, as “El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans”, a day to bring communities and Latinos together across the United States to celebrate and uplift children;

Whereas April 30, 2018, would be an appropriate day to recognize as “El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans”; and

Whereas the people of the United States should be encouraged to celebrate the gifts of children and to help children take their rightful place in the future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes April 30, 2018, as “El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to join with children, families, communities, schools, churches, cities, and States across the United States to observe El Día de los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans with appropriate ceremonies, including activities that—

(A) center on children and are free of or minimal cost so as to facilitate full participation by all people;

(B) uplift and help children positively envision a path to their futures by allowing children to voice their hopes and dreams;

(C) offer opportunities for children of diverse backgrounds to learn about the cultures of one another and to share ideas;

(D) include family members, especially extended and elderly family members, so as to—

(i) promote understanding and communication among generations within families; and

(ii) enable young people to learn from, and respect and benefit from the experiences of, their family elders;

(E) enable diverse communities to build relationships of understanding; and

(F) provide children with an education, safe environments in which to learn, live, and develop, and long-term support in order to become confident young adults who are ready and eager to believe in and contribute to the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 497—RECOGNIZING THE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SMITH, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 497

Whereas May 5, or “Cinco de Mayo” in Spanish, is celebrated each year as a date of importance by Mexican and Mexican-American communities;

Whereas the Cinco de Mayo holiday commemorates May 5, 1862, the date on which Mexicans defeated the French at the Battle of Puebla, one of the many battles that the Mexican people won in their long and brave fight for independence, freedom, and democracy;

Whereas the victory of Mexico over France at Puebla represented a historic triumph for the Mexican government during the Franco-Mexican war fought between 1861 and 1867 and bolstered the resistance movement;

Whereas the success of Mexico at the Battle of Puebla reinvigorated the spirits of the Mexican people and provided a renewed sense of unity and strength;

Whereas the French army, which had not experienced defeat against any of the finest troops of Europe in more than half a century, sustained a disastrous loss at the hands of an outnumbered and ill-equipped, but highly spirited and courageous, Mexican army;

Whereas the courageous spirit that Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza and his men displayed during that historic battle can never be forgotten;

Whereas, in a larger sense, Cinco de Mayo symbolizes the right of a free people to self-determination, just as Benito Juarez, the president of Mexico during the Battle of Puebla, once said, “El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz”, meaning “respect for the rights of others is peace”;

Whereas the sacrifice of Mexican fighters was instrumental in keeping Mexico from falling under European domination while, in the United States, the Union Army battled Confederate forces in the Civil War;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder that the foundation of the United States was built by people from many countries and diverse cultures who were willing to fight and die for freedom;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo also serves as a reminder of the close ties between the people of Mexico and the people of the United States;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo encourages the celebration of a legacy of strong leaders and a sense of vibrancy in communities; and

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder to provide more opportunity for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic struggle of the people of Mexico for independence and freedom, which Cinco de Mayo commemorates; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe Cinco de Mayo with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 498—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 29 THROUGH MAY 5, 2018, AS “NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK” WHILE COMMENDING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE IMPACT THEY HAVE ON THEIR COMMUNITIES

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCOTT, and Ms. HEITKAMP) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 498

Whereas 2018 marks the 55th anniversary of “National Small Business Week”;

Whereas there are nearly 30,000,000 small businesses in the United States;

Whereas 2 of every 3 new jobs are created by small businesses;

Whereas small businesses in the United States—

(1) employ nearly ½ of the workforce in the United States;

(2) comprise 99.7 percent of all employers in the United States;

(3) employ veterans, as 9.1 percent of all small business owners served in the Armed Forces;

(4) produce ⅓ of exported goods in the United States; and

(5) account for nearly ½ of private sector output;

Whereas, on July 30, 1953, Congress created the Small Business Administration to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the small business community;

Whereas, in its 54 years of existence, the Small Business Administration has—

(1) aided countless people in the United States in attaining their entrepreneurial dream;

(2) preserved and advanced the interests of small businesses through advocacy; and

(3) ensured fairness in the contracting process of the Federal Government; and

Whereas the President designated the week of April 29 through May 5, 2018, as “National Small Business Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of April 29 through May 5, 2018, as “National Small Business Week”;

(2) celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit of the small business owners of the United States;

(3) understands the importance of creating a small business climate that allows for sustained, entrepreneurial success;

(4) celebrates the invaluable contributions small businesses make to the United States as the backbone of the economy of the United States; and

(5) supports increasing consumer awareness of the value and opportunity small businesses bring to their local communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 499—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 499

Whereas the Senate is committed to the awareness, prevention, and deterrence of sexual violence affecting individuals in the United States;

Whereas, according to the Department of Justice, an estimated 323,450 individuals ages 12 and older in the United States experienced sexual violence during 2016;

Whereas, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey, between 1995 and 2010, approximately—

(1) 3,900,000 women were victims of completed rape;

(2) 1,100,000 women were victims of attempted rape; and

(3) 584,800 men were victims of sexual assault;

Whereas, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (commonly known as “RAINN”), an individual is sexually assaulted every 98 seconds in the United States, but for every 1,000 rapes committed in the United States, on average only—

(1) 310 rapes are reported to law enforcement agencies;

(2) 57 reported rape cases lead to an arrest;

(3) 11 rape cases are referred for prosecution;

(4) 7 rape cases lead to a felony conviction; and

(5) 6 convicted rapists are sentenced to some form of incarceration;

Whereas, according to the Criminal Victimization Summary for 2016 of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, only 22.9 percent of rapes or sexual assaults in the United States were reported to law enforcement agencies;

Whereas studies have suggested that American Indians and Alaska Natives are at a significantly higher rate of violent victimization than other individuals in the United States;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than ½ of all female rape victims reported being raped by an intimate partner;

Whereas sexual violence is a burden for many individuals who serve in the United States Armed Forces, and the Department of Defense estimates that approximately 14,900 service members experienced some form of sexual assault during 2016;

Whereas sexual assault does not discriminate on any basis and can affect any individual in the United States;

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

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

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

Whereas sexual assault survivors suffer emotional complications long after their physical scars have healed;

Whereas advances in deoxyribonucleic acid (commonly known as “DNA”) technology have enabled law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute the perpetrators in tens of thousands of previously unsolved sexual assault cases;

Whereas incarceration of sexual assault perpetrators can prevent perpetrators from committing additional crimes;