

# 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;

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—

(A) by telephone at 800-656-HOPE; and

(B) online at <https://hotline.rainn.org>; and

(2) more than 1,000 sexual assault service providers across the United States;

Whereas the National Sexual Assault Hotline—

(1) in 2017, helped nearly 210,000 survivors of sexual assault, which represented the greatest number of survivors assisted through the hotline since the founding of the hotline in 1994; and

(2) continues to receive record requests for support in 2018;

Whereas the Department of Defense provides the Safe Helpline, Safe HelpRoom, and Safe Helpline mobile application, each of which offer support and help to members of the Department of Defense community—

(1) by telephone at 877-995-5247; and

(2) online at <https://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 victim of sexual assault to be unserved or feel that there is no path to justice; and

Whereas April 2018 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—

(i) educate the people of the United States about sexual violence; and

(ii) encourage—

(I) the prevention of sexual assault;

(II) improvement in the treatment of survivors of sexual assault; and

(III) 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—

(i) promoting awareness about sexual assault;

(ii) providing information and treatment to survivors of sexual assault; and

(iii) 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 inno-

vative 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 500—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF PETER P. TRUMAN V. PAULA ARMSTRONG, ET AL

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

##### S. RES. 500

Whereas, two Senate employees, Paula Armstrong and Edie Smith, have been named as defendants in the case of *Peter P. Truman v. Paula Armstrong, et al.*, D. Me., currently on appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, No. 18-1095; and

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend employees of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Paula Armstrong and Edie Smith in the case of *Peter P. Truman v. Paula Armstrong, et al.*

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. SCHUMER, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing representation by the Senate Legal Counsel and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, this resolution concerns a pro se civil action filed in Maine Federal court against two employees of Senator KING’s office regarding claims arising out of volunteer assistance the pro se plaintiff provided to that office. The District Court, on its own initiative, dismissed the lawsuit without needing to hear from the defendants, and the plaintiff has filed a notice of appeal.

This resolution would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent the Senate employees in that appeal in order to seek dismissal of the appeal or affirmance of the lower court’s dismissal of this suit.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I have 4 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 Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session

of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing on S. 2644 and S. 2559 and following nominations: Mark Jeremy Bennett, of Hawaii, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy E. Brasel, and Eric C. Tostrud, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Robert R. Summerhays, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, and Gregory Allyn Forest, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina, and Bradley A. Maxwell, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois, both of the Department of Justice.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 2 p.m. to conduct a closed hearing.

##### PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of HHS and DHS Effort to Protect Unaccompanied Alien Children from Human Trafficking and Abuse.”

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Alexandra Webb, an intern in the office of Senator SULLIVAN, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the day.

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

#### SECOND CHANCE MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 440.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 440) designating April 2018 as “Second Chance Month.”

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 440) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 20, 2018, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)