

and entities who have enabled the illegal invasion, annexation, and occupation of Crimea;

Whereas the Department of State has stated in its Country Reports on Human Rights Practices that security services and local authorities in Crimea installed by the Government of the Russian Federation have “worked to consolidate control over Crimea and continued to restrict human rights by imposing repressive Federal laws of the Russian Federation on the Ukrainian territory of Crimea” and that “the most significant human rights problems in Crimea [were] related directly to the Russian occupation”;

Whereas the Department of State has described “an extensive campaign of intimidation to suppress dissent and opposition to the occupation” that has been carried out by Russian security services inside Crimea, including the use of torture and physical abuse, kidnapping, disappearances, and deportations, and reporting from independent human rights groups inside and outside Crimea has documented such alleged human rights violations by Russian security services and paramilitary groups;

Whereas the campaign of intimidation in Crimea has resulted in the prosecution and imprisonment of individuals who oppose or criticize the occupation or support Ukrainian sovereignty as well as the transfer of some individuals from Crimea to Russian Federation territory from prosecution and imprisonment;

Whereas the Department of State has noted that illegal occupying authorities in Crimea have also restricted the fundamental human rights of particular groups, including ethnic Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars, “particularly regarding expressions of nationality and ethnicity, and subjected them to systematic discrimination;”

Whereas human rights groups have cited that such discrimination has been carried out in myriad ways, including through the outlawing in 2016 of the elected representative body (mejlis) of the Crimean Tatar people, the closing of Crimean Tatar and Ukrainian-language schools, and forced conscription;

Whereas the Department of State and other international human rights groups have noted further continuing human rights concerns in Crimea, including the suppression of independent media and civil society through harassment and harsh administrative measures, politicized and unfair judicial processes, and poor prison conditions;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has worked to extend Russian citizenship to individuals inside Crimea and deprived access to public services of those who refuse such citizenship;

Whereas civil society groups have alleged that the Government of the Russian Federation has encouraged Russian citizens to relocate to the Crimean peninsula and has supported the physical destruction of historical sites in Crimea, ostensibly to influence the demographics and political character of the region in favor of the Kremlin; and

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has supported the development of infrastructure and institutional ties between Crimea and the Russian Federation, including the opening of a road and rail bridge over the Kerch Strait on May 15, 2018; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reiterates that Crimea is part of the sovereign territory of Ukraine;

(2) stresses that United States policy should remain that Crimea is part of Ukraine and should reject attempts to change the status, demographics, or political nature of Crimea;

(3) reaffirms respect for the values of democracy, human rights, and rule of law that all individuals in Crimea deserve, including non-Russian ethnic groups and religious minorities;

(4) condemns all human rights violations against individuals in Crimea, and underscores the culpability of the Russian Federation for such violations while this territory is under illegal Russian occupation;

(5) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately respect the political and human rights of individuals in Crimea, including those detained in Crimea or who have been transferred from Crimea to the territory of Russia, and to cease efforts to restrict dissent or change the demographic or political nature of the peninsula;

(6) urges the United States Government, in coordination with the European Union, NATO, and members of the international community, to prioritize efforts to prevent the further consolidation of illegal occupying powers in Crimea, reaffirm unified opposition to the actions of the Russian Federation in Crimea, and secure the human rights of individuals there;

(7) welcomes the sanctions that have been imposed and maintained to date by the United States and European Union against individuals engaged in furthering the illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation;

(8) calls on the United States Government to continue to use relevant sanctions authorities codified in the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-144), as well as under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), to address and deter those engaged in furthering the illegal occupation of Crimea and human rights abuses and corruption committed in Crimea or against individuals from Crimea;

(9) welcomes further efforts by the United States Government to encourage the European Union to impose additional Crimea-related sanctions; and

(10) calls upon the United States Government to declare it the foreign policy of the United States to never recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, similar to the 1940 Welles Declaration in which the United States refused to recognize the Soviet annexation of the Baltic States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 41—RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE UNITED STATES-AUSTRALIA RELATIONSHIP—100 YEARS OF MATESHIP

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COONS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PERDUE, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 41

Whereas United States and Australian troops first fought together in and won the Battle of Hamel on the Western Front in France on July 4, 1918, under the command of Australian General John Monash;

Whereas the hard fought victory achieved by the combined forces at Hamel helped turn the tide of World War I;

Whereas Australia has fought together with the United States in every major conflict since 1918;

Whereas more than 100,000 Australian service members have given the ultimate sacrifice alongside their brothers and sisters in arms from the United States;

Whereas the United States and Australia officially established bilateral diplomatic relations on January 8, 1940;

Whereas the United States and Australia formalized their security alliance with the signing of the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty, done at San Francisco September 1, 1951 (commonly known as the ANZUS Treaty);

Whereas the ANZUS Treaty was invoked the first and only time in response to the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas the United States and Australia share information essential for security and defense through the Five Eyes intelligence alliance;

Whereas the Force Posture Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America, done at Sydney August 12, 2014, enables closer security and defense cooperation between the 2 allies;

Whereas the United States and Australia conduct diverse joint military exercises and training to enhance capabilities throughout the world, and Australia hosts United States Marines at bases in its Northern Territory;

Whereas the United States and Australia work closely in a number of international fora, including the Group of Twenty (G-20);

Whereas the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement, done at Washington May 18, 2004, came into effect on January 1, 2005;

Whereas the United States and Australia conduct \$65,000,000,000 in 2-way trade and have an investment relationship valued at \$1,100,000,000,000;

Whereas July 4, 2018, marks the 100-year anniversary of the Battle of Hamel and serves as the date on which the United States and Australia celebrate the first 100 years of Mateship;

Now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) commemorates the 100-year anniversary of the Battle of Hamel, forging the unique and enduring relationship between the United States and Australia;

(2) reaffirms the strong military alliance relationship between the United States and Australia; and

(3) supports continued diplomatic, security, and economic cooperation between the United States and Australia.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3393. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 8, to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3393. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 8, to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PRAIRIE ISLAND INDIAN COMMUNITY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) PRAIRIE ISLAND RESERVATION.—The term “Prairie Island Reservation” means the Prairie Island Indian Community Reservation in Goodhue County, Minnesota.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Prairie Island Indian Community, a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(b) STUDY OF FEDERAL LANDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out an analysis to determine whether land within the Federal domain is suitable for addition to the Prairie Island Reservation.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—Land shall not be considered suitable for addition to the Prairie Island Reservation unless such land—

(A) consists of contiguous acres of land suitable for housing and economic development;

(B) is located within Minnesota and within 100 miles of the Prairie Island Reservation;

(C) is not subject to compatible use or wildlife-dependent recreational use restrictions pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.); and

(D) is not administered by the National Park Service.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and the Tribe a report detailing the results of the analysis conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I have 2 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, during votes, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern, Thomas Stephenson, be granted floor privileges while the Senate is in session on Tuesday, July 10, 2018.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—HOUSE MESSAGE TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 5895

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwith-

standing rule XXII, at 12 noon on Wednesday, July 11, the Senate proceed to legislative session and the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 5895; further, that the majority leader or his designee be recognized to make a compound motion to go to conference and that the Senate immediately vote on the motion; further, that if the motion is agreed to, Senators CASSIDY and CORKER each be recognized to offer a motion to instruct conferees; that the Senate vote on the motions in the order listed with no further action on the compound motion; that there be 2 minutes of debate between each vote, equally divided in the usual form; and that following disposition of the Corker motion and the appointment of conferees, the Senate resume executive session.

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

RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE UNITED STATES-AUSTRALIA RELATIONSHIP

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Con. Res. 41, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 41) recognizing 100 years of the United States-Australia relationship—100 years of Mateship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent 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 with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 41) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, July 11; 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. I ask that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the Benczkowski nomination and that all time during ad-

journment, leader remarks, and morning business count postcloture on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 7:29 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

BRETT M. KAVANAUGH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, VICE ANTHONY M. KENNEDY, RETIRING.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. GREGORY K. ANDERSON
COL. CHRISTINE A. BEELER
COL. PETER N. BENCHOFF
COL. MARK S. BENNETT
COL. GREGORY J. BRADY
COL. MICHELE H. BREDEKAMP
COL. EDMOND M. BROWN
COL. ROBERT M. COLLINS
COL. KIMBERLY M. COLLOTON
COL. DAVID S. DOYLE
COL. THOMAS J. EDWARDS, JR.
COL. MARCUS S. EVANS
COL. BRETT T. FUNCK
COL. JAMES J. GALLIVAN
COL. BRIAN W. GIBSON
COL. AMY E. HANNAH
COL. JERED P. HELWIG
COL. DONN H. HILL
COL. SCOTT A. JACKSON
COL. JOHN D. KLINE
COL. GAVIN A. LAWRENCE
COL. KEVIN C. LEAHY
COL. MICHELLE M. LETCHER
COL. CHARLES J. MASARACCHIA
COL. MICHAEL C. MCCURRY II
COL. JOHN V. MEYER III
COL. DUANE R. MILLER
COL. SCOTT M. NAUMANN
COL. CHRISTOPHER R. NORRIE
COL. ALLAN M. PEPIN
COL. ANDREW D. PRESTON
COL. MARK C. QUANDER
COL. JOHN L. RAFFERTY, JR.
COL. JETH B. REY
COL. JOSEPH A. RYAN
COL. JAMES M. SMITH
COL. BRETT G. SYLVIA
COL. JOEL B. VOWELL
COL. TODD R. WASMUND

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ROBERT D. KATZ

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate July 10, 2018:

THE JUDICIARY

MARK JEREMY BENNETT, OF HAWAII, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT.