

RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2780, a bill to require a determination on designation of the Russian Federation as a state sponsor of terrorism.

S. 2843

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2843, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions to help combat the opioid crisis.

S. 2945

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2945, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving the voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

S. 3063

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 3063, a bill to delay the reimposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2020.

S. 3128

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3128, a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

S. 3172

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3172, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 3233

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3233, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons responsible for violence and human rights abuses in Nicaragua, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 525

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 525, a resolution designating September 2018 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 3245. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Texas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3245

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Lake Fannin Conveyance Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COUNTRY.—The term “County” means the Fannin County, Texas.

(2) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Lake Fannin Conveyance” and dated November 21, 2013.

(3) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND.—The term “National Forest System land” means the approximately 2,025 acres of National Forest System land generally depicted on the map.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

#### SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the requirements of this section, if the County submits to the Secretary a written request for conveyance of the National Forest System land not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the County all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the National Forest System land.

(b) MAP.—

(1) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate office of the Forest Service.

(2) CORRECTION OF ERRORS.—The Secretary may correct minor errors in the map.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The conveyance under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) subject to valid existing rights;

(2) made without consideration;

(3) made by quitclaim deed; and

(4) subject to any other terms and conditions the Secretary determines appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(d) USE.—As a condition of the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall agree to manage the land conveyed under that subsection for a public purpose.

(e) COSTS.—As a condition of the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay for all costs associated with the conveyance, including the costs of—

(1) the survey required under subsection (f); and

(2) any environmental analysis and resource surveys required under Federal law.

(f) SURVEY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The actual acreage and legal description of the National Forest System land to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

(2) CADASTRAL SURVEYS.—The Secretary may perform and approve any cadastral surveys required to be conducted as part of a survey under paragraph (1).

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 581—AUTHORIZING THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE SENATE IN TEXAS V. UNITED STATES, NO. 4:18-CV-00167-O (N.D. TEX.)

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DONNELLY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. TESTER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CARPER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. JONES, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KING, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 581

Whereas Texas, Wisconsin, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Paul LePage (Governor of Maine), Mississippi (by and through Governor Phil Bryant), Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, and West Virginia have filed suit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, arguing that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 119), is unconstitutional and should be enjoined, by asserting that the Act's requirement to maintain minimum essential coverage (commonly known as the “individual responsibility provision”) in section 5000A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, is unconstitutional following the amendment of that provision by the Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018 (Public Law 115-97) (commonly known as the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”);

Whereas these State and individual plaintiffs also seek to strike down the entire Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act as not severable from the individual responsibility provision;

Whereas on June 7, 2018, the Department of Justice refused to defend the constitutionality of the amended individual responsibility provision, despite the well-established duty of the Department to defend Federal statutes where reasonable arguments can be made in their defense; and

Whereas the Department of Justice not only refused to defend the amended individual responsibility provision, but it affirmatively argued that this provision is unconstitutional and that the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act guaranteeing issuance of insurance coverage regardless of health status or pre-existing conditions (commonly known as the “guaranteed issue provision”), sections 2702, 2704, and 2705(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-1, 300gg-3, 300gg-4(a)), and prohibiting discriminatory premium rates (commonly known as the “community rating provision”), sections 2701 and 2705(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.

300gg(a)(1), 300gg-4(b)) must now be struck down as not severable from the individual responsibility provision: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent the Senate in *Texas v. United States*, No. 4:18-cv-00167-O (N.D. Tex.), including seeking to—

(1) intervene as a party in the matter; and  
(2) defend all provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the amendments made by that Act to other provisions of law, and any amendments to such provisions, including the provisions ensuring affordable health coverage for those with pre-existing conditions.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 582—PROTECTING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 582

Whereas Senator John McCain stated, “[It] was one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory. The damage inflicted by President Trump’s naiveté, egotism, false equivalence, and sympathy for autocrats is difficult to calculate. But it is clear that the summit in Helsinki was a tragic mistake.”;

Whereas, on July 17, 2018, in response to the international backlash, President Trump, while claiming he misspoke and blaming the media for reporting what he said, still sowed doubt about the electoral interference by the Russian Federation by claiming it “could be other people also” and not just the Russian Federation;

Whereas the United States faces an unprecedented situation in which the President of the United States refuses to acknowledge an attack on the democracy of the United States;

Whereas the Russian Federation has been interfering not only in the elections of the United States, but also in the elections of other democracies, such as the United Kingdom, France, and Germany, to name a few;

Whereas the goal of the Russian Federation is to advance its own interests by weakening the transatlantic alliance of democracies that arose after the Second World War, while also inflaming internal divisions in each of those countries;

Whereas, on July 13, 2018, Special Counsel Robert Mueller announced indictments of 12 members of the military intelligence service of the Russian Federation known as the Glavnoe Razvedyvatel’noe Upravlenie (referred to in this preamble as the “GRU”);

Whereas, on July 13, 2018, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats raised the alarm on growing cyberattack threats against the United States in a range of areas, including Federal, State, and local government agencies, the military, business, and academia, stating that the situation is at a “critical point”, adding, “In regards to state actions, Russia has been the most aggressive foreign actor. No question. And they continue their efforts to undermine our democracy.”, and comparing the warning signs to the signs the United States faced ahead of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the cyberattacks by the Russian Federation represent a threat to the democratic system of the United States and the democratic systems of the allies of the United States;

Whereas, domestically, President Putin has undermined democracy in the Russian Federation, crushing free speech, jailing political opponents, harassing and assassinating journalists who criticize him, and in-

creasingly persecuting ethnic and religious minorities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer citizens;

Whereas, in terms of foreign policy, the Russian Federation has meddled in the elections of democratic countries, stoking political tensions by promoting hatred and suspicion of immigrants and minorities, and trying to undermine longstanding alliances between democratic allies;

Whereas, in 2014, in violation of international law, the Russian Federation invaded neighboring Ukraine, and annexed the Crimea region;

Whereas the Russian Federation has assassinated political opponents abroad, most recently through the use of poison in Salisbury, England, on a former spy and his daughter, an atrocious chemical attack that endangered the lives of hundreds of civilians and which, according to news reports, the Government of the United Kingdom concluded was likely carried out by the GRU; and

Whereas President Trump had an opportunity to raise the issues described in the preceding clauses with President Putin at the July 16, 2018, summit in Helsinki, Finland, but chose not to: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) accepts the assessment of the United States intelligence community with regard to interference by the Russian Federation in elections in the United States and in other democracies;

(2) must move aggressively to protect the election systems of the United States from interference by the Russian Federation or any other foreign power, and work closely with the democratic partners of the United States to do the same for elections in those countries;

(3) demands that the sanctions against the Russian Federation that were enacted in the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44; 131 Stat. 886) be fully implemented by the President;

(4) will not accept any interference with the ongoing investigation of Special Counsel Robert Mueller, such as the offer of preemptive pardons or the firing of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein; and

(5) declares that the President must cooperate with the investigation of Special Counsel Mueller.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 583—COMMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE INTERFERENCE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE 2016 UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, AND MAINTAINING THAT THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS ACTIONS

Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 583

Whereas, on July 13, 2018, an investigation of the Department of Justice resulted in the indictment of 12 officials of the Government of the Russian Federation for interfering with the 2016 United States presidential election;

Whereas, on July 13, 2018, when speaking about the digital infrastructure of the United States being under attack from foreign actors, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats stated, “In regards to state actions, Russia has been the most aggressive

foreign actor. No question. And they continue their efforts to undermine our democracy.”; and

Whereas, on July 16, 2018, in a joint press conference in Helsinki, Finland, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, denied that the Russian Federation interfered in the 2016 United States presidential election: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Department of Justice for its thorough investigation into the interference in the 2016 United States presidential election, which resulted in the indictment of 12 intelligence officers of the Government of the Russian Federation;

(2) agrees with the assessment of the United States intelligence community that the Russian Federation interfered with the 2016 United States presidential election, and rejects the Russian Federation’s denial of such involvement;

(3) reaffirms its position that the Russian Federation must be held accountable for interfering in the 2016 United States presidential election;

(4) calls upon relevant committees of the Senate to exercise congressional oversight, including prompt hearings and the release of relevant notes and information, to better understand the impact of the recent summit in Helsinki, Finland, on the foreign policy and national security of the United States; and

(5) calls for the immediate and full implementation of mandatory sanctions provided for in the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44; 131 Stat. 886), which passed the Senate 98-2, to deter and punish election interference by the Russian Federation.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 584—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE AGAINST THE MAKING AVAILABLE OF CURRENT AND FORMER DIPLOMATS, OFFICIALS, AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES FOR QUESTIONING BY THE GOVERNMENT OF VLADIMIR PUTIN

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. REED, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 584

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should refuse to make available any current or former diplomat, civil servant, political appointee, law enforcement official, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States for questioning by the government of Vladimir Putin.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 585—COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSIONING OF THE USS JOHN F. KENNEDY

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. Kaine) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 585

Whereas the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) was named in honor of the 35th president of the United States;