

In response to the only invocation of Article 5 of the NATO Treaty, more than 1,100 servicemembers from our NATO allies have given their lives fighting alongside the United States. This is a sacrifice that should not be so easily cast aside by our President who continues to inaccurately depict the alliance as a protection racket and “obsolete.” While we must continue to press every country to continue increasing defense spending to meet the agreed upon goal of 2 percent of GDP by 2024, it is disconcerting to watch the President disparage these allies and make threats to withdraw the U.S. from NATO. Unfortunately, without action from Congress, this President might try to terminate U.S. membership in NATO. For this reason, we must affirmatively pronounce our legal position with regards to NATO, use our constitutionally required power of advice and consent to block any withdrawal and we must preemptively authorize legal proceedings to challenge any future decision to withdraw.

This legislation I am introducing today along with Senators GARDNER, REED, and MCCAIN, is a bipartisan message to the President and the necessary tool needed to block the President from terminating the NATO treaty. It is the affirmative position of the United States Senate, supported by this Bill, and previous resolutions passed by this Congress, including and by the original vote of 82–13 in 1949 to give the Senate’s advice and consent to join NATO, that the United States of America through their elected officials are unequivocally opposed to the U.S. withdrawing from NATO. This legislation also asserts our constitutional responsibility to provide advice and consent to U.S. membership in treaties. Just as the President sought and received the advice and consent to enter into NATO, the President must also receive the advice and consent to terminate treaty membership—especially when such a decision would be at odds with the opinion of the Senate and the American people. Finally, this Bill will authorize Senate Legal Counsel to represent the Senate in challenging any decision to withdraw from NATO and specifically grant Federal courts jurisdiction to consider the case.

I am proud to have bipartisan support for this bill to ensure that the opinion of the Senate is upheld and the safety of the American people prioritized through our continued membership in NATO. I strongly encourage my colleagues in both the Senate and the House of Representatives to support this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 594—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION’S ONGOING ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ELECTION SYSTEM TO UNDERMINE OUR DEMOCRACY BY INTERFERING WITH OUR ELECTION SYSTEM, AND AFFIRMING THE SENATE’S UNEQUIVOCAL COMMITMENT TO HOLDING THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, PRESIDENT PUTIN, AND THOSE WHO CARRIED OUT THE ATTACKS ACCOUNTABLE

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 594

Whereas, on January 6, 2017, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence published a report titled “Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent U.S. Elections,” noting that “Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the U.S. Presidential election,” with a goal of undermining public faith in United States democratic processes, and that the Government of the Russian Federation’s influence campaign followed a Russian messaging strategy that blends covert intelligence operations—such as cyber activity—with overt efforts by Russian Government agencies, state-funded media, third-party intermediaries, and paid social media users or “trolls”;

Whereas the findings of the investigation by the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate regarding election interference confirmed the intelligence community’s assessment that—

(1) Russia attempted to influence the 2016 election and its actions were a significant escalation in directness, level of activity, and scope;

(2) Russia conducted cyber operations on United States political targets likely to shape future United States policies;

(3) Russian-state actors and third-party intermediaries were responsible for the dissemination of documents and communications stolen from United States political organizations;

(4) the Government of the Russian Federation used coordinated state platforms RT and Sputnik to advance its malign influence campaign during the 2016 United States presidential election; and

(5) Russian intelligence leveraged social media in an attempt to amplify Kremlin messaging intended to sow social discord and to undermine the United States electoral process;

Whereas, on July 13, 2018, the Department of Justice indicted 12 members of the Russian military intelligence agency, Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff (GRU), for conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States during the 2016 election, noting in the indictment that the Russian officials conspired to hack “into the computers of U.S. persons and entities involved in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, steal documents from those computers, and stage releases of the stolen documents to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election”;

Whereas the Senate passed the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions

Act, (H.R. 3364, 115th Congress), by a vote of 98–2, in order to impose strong sanctions against the Government of the Russian Federation for its well-documented efforts to undermine democratic institutions and elections in the United States and Europe;

Whereas, on May 8, 2017, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper testified before the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate that “Russia is now emboldened to continue such activities in the future both here and around the world, and to do so even more intensely”;

Whereas, on Friday, July 13, 2018, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats reaffirmed that Russia is continuing its efforts to disrupt United States elections, noting, “Today, the digital infrastructure that serves this country is literally under attack . . . It was in the months prior to September 2001 when, according to then-CIA Director George Tenet, the system is blinking red. And here we are nearly two decades later, and I’m here to say, the warning lights are blinking red again,” and that Russia is the “most aggressive foreign actor, no question. And they continue their efforts to undermine our democracy.”;

Whereas, on July 16, 2018 Director of National Intelligence Coats reaffirmed United States intelligence conclusions, noting, “We have been clear in our assessments of Russian meddling in the 2016 election and their ongoing, pervasive efforts to undermine our democracy.”;

Whereas the men and women in the United States Foreign Service, Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, civil service, and law enforcement dedicate their careers to advancing the interests of our country and home and abroad, including in some difficult and demanding locations such as Russia;

Whereas these men and women serve honorably despite at times having to endure unwarranted harassing and hostile actions in performance of their duties; and

Whereas bipartisan support in Congress is important, but there is no substitute for presidential leadership and action, and without it, the costs imposed will not be sufficient to deter Russia in the future: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) unequivocally agrees with the conclusions reached by the dedicated, non-partisan men and women at United States intelligence agencies that Vladimir Putin ordered an attack against the 2016 presidential election to influence and undermine faith in our democratic process and that United States elections remain a target for Russia;

(2) views attacks against United States election infrastructure as representing a threat to the foundation of our democracy, and declares that protecting our elections is a national security priority;

(3) views attempts by the Government of the Russian Federation or persons or entities associated with the Government of the Russian Federation to hack and otherwise tamper with United States election voting systems, voter roll information, political party organizations, and State and local election administration officials as an attack on United States critical infrastructure;

(4) reaffirms that it is the policy of the United States to defend against and respond to cyber-attacks against our election infrastructure, and declares that an attack on our election systems by a foreign power is a hostile act and should be met with appropriate retaliatory actions, including full implementation of existing sanctions as well as new additional sanctions;

(5) reaffirms that States are responsible for conducting elections, and Congress is committed to providing resources, information,

and cybersecurity expertise to help improve the security of United States elections;

(6) strongly supports State and local election officials who administer United States elections and the continued information sharing between those officials and the Federal Government in order to protect the administration of elections;

(7) reaffirms that the free, open, and fair administration of elections is a cornerstone of American democracy and that any attempts to interfere with election administration is a threat to national security;

(8) strongly urges President Trump to take all necessary steps to ensure the 12 Russian government officials and any other Russian nationals indicted by the Department of Justice for interfering in the 2016 elections are extradited to the United States; and

(9) strongly urges President Trump to publicly and unambiguously state that the United States Government will refuse all efforts by the Government of the Russian Federation to question any current or former United States personnel.

SENATE RESOLUTION 595—DESIGNATING JULY 26, 2018, AS “UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE PROFESSIONALS DAY”

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 595

Whereas on July 26, 1908, Attorney General Charles Bonaparte ordered newly-hired Federal investigators to report to the Office of the Chief Examiner of the Department of Justice, which subsequently was renamed the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

Whereas on July 26, 1947, President Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), creating the Department of Defense, the National Security Council, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, thereby laying the foundation for today's intelligence community;

Whereas the National Security Act of 1947, which appears in title 50, United States Code, governs the definition, composition, responsibilities, authorities, and oversight of the intelligence community of the United States;

Whereas the intelligence community is defined by section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003) to include the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, other offices within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized national intelligence through reconnaissance programs, the intelligence elements of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Department of Energy, the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the Department of State, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of the Treasury, the elements of the Department of Homeland Security concerned with the analysis of intelligence information, and other elements as may be designated;

Whereas July 26, 2018, is the 71st anniversary of the signing of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.);

Whereas the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 118 Stat. 3638) created the position of the Director of National Intelligence to serve as the head of the intelligence community and to ensure that national intelligence be timely, objective, independent of political considerations, and based upon all sources available;

Whereas Congress has previously passed joint resolutions, signed by the President, to designate Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15, Patriot Day on September 11, and other commemorative occasions, to honor the sacrifices of law enforcement officers and of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001;

Whereas the United States has increasingly relied upon the men and women of the intelligence community to protect and defend the security of the United States in the years since the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas the men and women of the intelligence community, both civilian and military, have been increasingly called upon to deploy to theaters of war in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere since September 11, 2001;

Whereas numerous intelligence officers of the elements of the intelligence community have been injured or killed in the line of duty;

Whereas intelligence officers of the United States are routinely called upon to accept personal hardship and sacrifice in the furtherance of their mission to protect the United States, to undertake dangerous assignments in the defense of the interests of the United States, to collect reliable information within prescribed legal authorities upon which the leaders of the United States rely in life-and-death situations, and to “speak truth to power” by providing their best assessments to decision makers, regardless of political and policy considerations;

Whereas the men and women of the intelligence community have on numerous occasions succeeded in preventing attacks upon the United States and allies of the United States, saving numerous innocent lives; and

Whereas intelligence officers of the United States must of necessity often remain unknown and unrecognized for their substantial achievements and successes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 26, 2018, as “United States Intelligence Professionals Day”;

(2) acknowledges the courage, fidelity, sacrifice, and professionalism of the men and women of the intelligence community of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 596—RECOGNIZING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRIBAL CANOE JOURNEY OF THE TRIBAL NATIONS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND CONGRATULATING THE PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS FOR HOSTING THE 2018 POWER PADDLE TO PUYALLUP

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs:

S. RES. 596

Whereas 2018 marks the 29th anniversary of the first Tribal Canoe Journey, held in Seattle, Washington;

Whereas the Puyallup Tribe of Indians is hosting the Tribal Canoe Journey for a second time with the 2018 Power Paddle to Puyallup;

Whereas, in 2018, more than 100 Tribal canoes, representing more than 60 Tribal Nations from across the United States and Canada, will travel along the Pacific Ocean, the Salish Sea, and the Puget Sound to arrive at the shores of the territory of the Puyallup Tribe;

Whereas the theme of the 2018 Power Paddle to Puyallup is “Honoring our Medicine”, which is a reminder of the importance of the Pacific Ocean, the Salish Sea, and the Puget Sound to the culture and economy of the Tribal Nations of the Pacific Northwest; and

Whereas the Tribal Canoe Journey is a celebration of the resilient culture and way of life of the Tribal Nations of the Pacific Northwest and Tribal Nations across the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 29th anniversary of the Tribal Canoe Journey;

(2) acknowledges that the Tribal Canoe Journey is a vital part of the fabric and culture of the Tribal Nations of the Pacific Northwest; and

(3) congratulates the Puyallup Tribe of Indians for hosting the 2018 Power Paddle to Puyallup.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3613. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3614. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3615. Mr. JONES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3616. Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3617. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3618. Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3619. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3620. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3621. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended