

S. 3540

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3540, a bill to provide a coordinated regional response to manage effectively the endemic violence and humanitarian crisis in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

S. 3559

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3559, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the credit for new qualified plug-in electric drive motor vehicles and to provide for a Federal Highway user fee on alternative fuel vehicles.

S. 3584

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3584, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase usage of the Federal student loan income-based repayment plan and improve repayment options for borrowers, and for other purposes.

S. 3591

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3591, a bill to extend authorization for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 through fiscal year 2090, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 606

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 606, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States condemns all forms of violence against children globally and recognizes the harmful impacts of violence against children.

AMENDMENT NO. 4054

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4054 proposed to S. 140, a bill to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to clarify the use of amounts in the WMAT Settlement Fund.

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4054 proposed to S. 140, supra.

At the request of Mr. CARPER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4054 proposed to S. 140, supra.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 3612. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on source of income or veteran status; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President. Today, I am pleased to join my colleague from Utah, Senator ORRIN HATCH, to introduce the Fair Housing Improvement Act of 2018. This legislation would advance our nation in its long pursuit of achieving equal protection under the law and protecting all Americans from discrimination. This bill would prohibit housing discrimination based on source of income or veterans status and give millions and families and veterans greater access to affordable housing and economic mobility.

Many of you know I'm a former civil rights attorney. My practice focused on fair housing and I witnessed the pain experienced by families who were discriminated against as they searched for a home. Today, veterans who are good tenants with supportive housing vouchers can be turned down for an apartment or lease renewal because of how they pay their rent. Housing decisions should be based on your merits, not harmful stereotypes about those who receive housing assistance. If you pass a screening and background check, you shouldn't be denied a place to live because of your service record or how your rent will be paid. Unfortunately, this happens in America every day and it is wrong.

This legislation has support from organizations focused on affordable housing and helping those who have served find a place to live, including National Fair Housing Alliance, National Housing Law Project, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals. Many of my colleagues in this chamber strongly support the housing vouchers that help 2.2 million veterans and low-income households live in decent, stable private market housing. I've said previously that your home is critical to your identity and central to the life of every American. I want to share a story about two of my constituents that illustrates the need for this bill.

Rudolph Nanez is a Navy veteran who lives in Virginia Beach with his wife, Jessica Youness. Rudolph moved to the United States from Spain as a teenager and earned a high school diploma. He joined the Navy and served three years on active duty, followed by several years in the reserves. Three years ago, Rudolph and Jessica faced a housing crisis and feared they would have to live on the street after temporarily relocating to a hotel. Fortunately, with the assistance of local Virginia nonprofits, they were able to find a home.

In September, Rudolph's wife Jessica contacted my office after they received an abrupt notice that their lease would not be renewed and they had to leave their home within 10 days, despite paying a portion of their rent regularly through a supportive housing voucher for veterans, known as HUD-VASH. Jessica was frustrated because, as she said, it takes time to find an apartment that will accept these vouchers. She couldn't understand why, after

calling multiple apartment management companies to find an available unit, she then had to explain to the company representative what a supportive housing voucher was.

Rudolph and Jessica each have a disability and rely on public transportation. It was challenging to find housing near a bus stop and they needed time to save for a deposit on a new home. My office was able to work with the property manager to get Rudolph and Jessica's lease extended through next June.

This story had a happy ending. But it didn't have to come to this point. More than a dozen states and over 70 local jurisdictions have enacted laws to prohibit source of income discrimination in housing, and it's time Congress did the same.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. PERDUE, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. JONES, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 3614. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to require proxy advisory firms to register as investment advisers under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am joined by Senators PERDUE, HEITKAMP, TILLIS, and JONES in introducing the bipartisan Corporate Governance Fairness Act to ensure investors can continue to rely with confidence on the advice of proxy advisory firms by requiring the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to regulate all major proxy advisory firms under the Investment Advisers Act (IAA). This advice is critical for investors as they decide how to vote their shares on important corporate governance matters, such as director elections or whether to sell the company.

Indeed, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters has stated that the "independence of the research provided by proxy advisors is a critical element of our right, as shareholders, to hold the board of directors accountable and to cast informed proxy votes on corporate governance and proxy voting policies." According to the Council of Institutional Investors, "ensuring unencumbered shareholder access to independent research is a crucial underpinning of effective corporate governance." And the National Association of State Treasurers has emphasized the need to "maintain the integrity and efficacy of the relationship between institutional investors and proxy advisory firms." In short, proxy advisory firms are clearly an essential tool for investors.

Given the importance that investors have placed on continued access to proxy advisory firms, it is critical that proxy advisory firms are appropriately regulated and held accountable, and this is the purpose of the bipartisan Corporate Governance Fairness Act. Under our legislation, all major proxy

advisory firms would be required to register as investment advisers under the IAA, and therefore have a fiduciary duty to their clients. So as to not discourage new entrants into the proxy advisory business, our bill provides smaller proxy advisory firms the choice to voluntarily register under the IAA but does not require them to do so. The legislation also directs the SEC to conduct periodic examinations, which must include a serious review of the conflicts of interest policies of registered proxy advisory firms and whether firms knowingly made false statements to any of its clients. Lastly, our bill requires the SEC to consult with all relevant stakeholders and report back periodically to the Senate Banking Committee and the House Financial Services Committee with recommendations for any additional investor protections beyond continued access to proxy advisory firms so that investors have the tools to make informed investment decisions and exercise their rights as shareholders. In short, the Congressional intent of this legislation is to preserve the critical role played by proxy advisory firms and to hold them accountable to investors.

I would like to thank Senators PERDUE, HEITKAMP, TILLIS, and JONES for working with me in crafting this bipartisan legislation, which is supported by the Consumer Federation of America, Harvard Law School Securities Regulation Professor John Coates, who is also a member of the SEC Investor Advisory Committee, the New York Stock Exchange, and the Society for Corporate Governance. I urge all of our Senate colleagues to join us in working to pass the Corporate Governance Fairness Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 686—HONORING THE LIFE, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND LEGACY OF LODI GYALTSEN GYARI

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 686

Whereas Lodi Gyari—

(1) was born in Nyarong, Kham, in 1949;
(2) was recognized according to Tibetan Buddhist tradition as a reincarnate lama;
(3) began monastic studies at 4 years of age in Lumorap Monastery, which was located in what is, as of 2018, Kardze Prefecture, Sichuan Province; and
(4) fled Nyarong with his family at 9 years of age following the invasion and occupation of Tibet;

Whereas, as a young man in India, Lodi Gyari began a life-long commitment of service to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and to the Tibetan people by becoming—

(1) editor for the Tibetan Freedom Press;
(2) founder of the Tibetan Review;
(3) a founding member of the Tibetan Youth Congress;
(4) a civil servant in the Central Tibetan Administration;

(5) Chairman of the Tibetan Parliament in Exile;

(6) Cabinet Minister for the Department of Information and International Relations of the Central Tibetan Administration; and

(7) Deputy Cabinet Minister for the Department of Religious Affairs and the Department of Health of the Central Tibetan Administration;

Whereas, in 1991, His Holiness the Dalai Lama appointed Lodi Gyari as Special Envoy for the Dalai Lama in Washington, D.C., and, soon thereafter, Lodi Gyari was selected to be President of the International Campaign for Tibet, a nonprofit organization devoted to supporting the Tibetan people and the vision of His Holiness the Dalai Lama;

Whereas, for 3 decades, Lodi Gyari met with leaders and diplomats of governments around the world, including successive Presidential administrations of the United States, and with Members of the United States Congress and parliaments of other nations—

(1) to explain the Tibetan efforts to engage with China on finding a mutually agreeable solution to the issue of Tibet;

(2) to urge supportive strategies and policies from governments;

(3) to explain the significance of the “Middle Way Approach” of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, which seeks genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people within the People’s Republic of China that contributes to harmony between the Tibetan and Chinese peoples; and

(4) to promote Tibetan statecraft as senior ambassador-at-large for His Holiness the Dalai Lama;

Whereas, during the time when Lodi Gyari was Special Envoy for His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the United States Congress approved many policy and programmatic measures related to Tibet, including the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note; Public Law 107-228);

Whereas, in 1999, Lodi Gyari became a United States citizen;

Whereas, in May 1998, His Holiness the Dalai Lama appointed Special Envoy Lodi Gyari to be the principal person to reestablish contact with the Government of the People’s Republic of China on the issue of Tibet, and between September 2002 and January 2010, Lodi Gyari held 9 formal rounds of meetings with Chinese officials, demonstrating tireless drive and immense skill and winning the respect of the international community;

Whereas Lodi Gyari presented the Government of the People’s Republic of China with the Memorandum on Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People and the accompanying Note, thus detailing the vision of the Tibetan side for a political solution for Tibet consistent with the framework of the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China and the laws of China regarding autonomy;

Whereas Lodi Gyari demonstrated spirit, intelligence, and extraordinary tact during the difficult task of representing Tibetan interests while in dialogue with the People’s Republic of China, and brought civility, reason and a measure of mutual understanding to the Tibetan-Chinese relationship;

Whereas, in 1999, Lodi Gyari was elected the Executive Chairman of the Board of the International Campaign for Tibet after resigning as President of that organization;

Whereas Lodi Gyari resigned as Special Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, effective June 1, 2012, in the context of the deteriorating situation inside Tibet, including increasing incidents of Tibetan self-immolations, after expressing deep frustration over the lack of positive developments with the People’s Republic of China after nearly 10 years, and in respect for the process of devolution of political power to the elected Tibetan leaders;

Whereas Lodi Gyari retired from the position of Executive Chairman of the Board of the International Campaign for Tibet on December 31, 2014;

Whereas Lodi Gyari has contributed significantly to strengthening the relationship between the Tibetan people and the people of the United States;

Whereas, on October 29, 2018, Lodi Gyari died at the age of 69;

Whereas Lodi Gyari is survived by his wife, Dawa Chokyi, their 6 children, Tenzing Dechen, Tenzing Choyang, Norbu Wangmo, Tashi Chodon, Tulku Penam, and Tenzing Tsering, 5 grandchildren, his mothers, 4 brothers, and 3 sisters;

Whereas Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives and former Speaker of the House of Representatives, said that Lodi Gyari “built deep support for the Tibetan cause throughout America and around the world” and that “Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle benefitted from Lodi’s insight and wisdom”; and

Whereas the Department of State—

(1) said that “Mr. Gyari dedicated his life to serving as a staunch advocate for the Tibetan people, democratic principles, and human rights, including religious freedom”; and

(2) offered condolences to the family of Lodi Gyari; and

(3) observed that Lodi Gyari will be missed: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Lodi Gyari;

(2) celebrates the leadership and commitment of Lodi Gyari to fulfilling the vision of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the aspirations of the Tibetan people, including promoting freedom, human rights, and justice for the Tibetan people;

(3) commends the achievements of Lodi Gyari in building an international coalition of support for Tibet that recognizes—

(A) the imperative to preserve the distinct culture and religious traditions of Tibet; and

(B) that the Tibetan people are entitled to their own identity and dignity and to genuine autonomy within the People’s Republic of China that fully preserves the rights and dignity of the Tibetan people;

(4) acknowledges the role of Lodi Gyari, as a naturalized United States citizen, in promoting understanding in the United States of—

(A) the Tibetan people;

(B) the culture and religion of the Tibetan people; and

(C) the struggle of the Tibetan people for—

(i) genuine autonomy;

(ii) human rights;

(iii) dignity; and

(iv) the preservation of unique linguistic, cultural, and religious traditions; and

(5) strongly supports a political solution for Tibet that satisfies the legitimate grievances and aspirations of the Tibetan people, a cause to which Lodi Gyari devoted his entire life.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50—RECOGNIZING THE RICH HISTORY, HERITAGE, AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS AND THE MARSHALLESE POPULATION RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. COTTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: