

(9) supports efforts by the Department of State, including the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to assist election-related preparation in Nigeria, including through programs focused on conflict mitigation; and

(10) calls on the United States Government and other international partners, especially election-focused nongovernmental organizations, to—

(A) continue to support efforts by the Government of Nigeria to address the remaining electoral preparation challenges and identify gaps in which additional resources or diplomatic engagement could make important contributions to the conduct of the elections; and

(B) support civil society organizations and media organizations working towards transparency and accountability in the use of state resources around the election period.

SENATE RESOLUTION 717—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REBECCA TERESA WEICHHAND

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 717

Whereas Rebecca (“Becky”) Teresa Weichhand was born on February 25, 1982;

Whereas Rebecca Teresa Weichhand was from Stevensville, Michigan, a town of just over 1,000 people, 1 stop light, and a noon whistle to call the farmers in from the fields for lunch;

Whereas, at the age of 10, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand knew she wanted to be a lawyer;

Whereas, in her first year of college, on a trip to Romania to volunteer with abandoned children in hospitals and orphanages, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand knew she wanted to use the law to support families and ensure that every child had a place to call home;

Whereas Rebecca Teresa Weichhand earned a bachelor’s degree from Cornerstone University and a law degree from Regent University;

Whereas, during law school, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand was named a Blackstone Legal Fellow and spent a summer in Strasbourg, France, participating in the Regent Human Rights Program;

Whereas Rebecca Teresa Weichhand served tirelessly as a passionate advocate for children in foster care and the importance that every child have a forever family;

Whereas, as an intern for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute in 2008, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand found her home base for her career and platform for service;

Whereas, as Policy Director for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute from 2009 to 2014, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand—

(1) worked closely with Members of Congress and congressional staff to raise awareness about adoption, foster care, and issues impacting the welfare of children; and

(2) led 3 major international policy projects focused on the welfare of children in Haiti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, and Guatemala;

Whereas, as Executive Director for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Insti-

tute from 2014 to 2018, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand—

(1) led with passion, gratitude, and an unwavering voice for children in need of families; and

(2) played an integral role in supporting the Federal adoption tax credit (section 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986);

Whereas, while serving at the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand—

(1) initiated the Foster Youth Internship policy report project, where former foster youth provide detailed recommendations on child welfare policy to Members of Congress;

(2) oversaw the completion of 11 annual policy reports; and

(3) served as an advisor, mentor, friend, and extended family member to 11 classes of foster youth interns;

Whereas, through tireless work at the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Rebecca Teresa Weichhand—

(1) played a significant role in the Angels in Adoption program, recognizing the contributions of individuals, families, and organizations across the United States to children through adoption and improvements in the foster care system; and

(2) expanded the scope of the Angels in Adoption program to connect Angels to Members of Congress and congressional staff, enhancing—

(A) the reach of the personal stories of the Angels; and

(B) advocacy for children in need of families;

Whereas Rebecca Teresa Weichhand was a person of strong faith and lived her beliefs through actions of generosity, kindness, and service to others;

Whereas Rebecca Teresa Weichhand passed away on November 27, 2018, after a courageous battle with cancer; and

Whereas the Senate should continue to work in a bipartisan manner to improve outcomes for all at-risk children, with the goal of ensuring that every child has a forever family: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedication of Rebecca Teresa Weichhand to the children in our world who are in need of a permanent, safe, and loving family and the accomplishments and advocacy of Rebecca Teresa Weichhand on behalf of those children;

(2) honors the memory of Rebecca Teresa Weichhand by expressing the intent of the Senate to continue working in a bipartisan manner to improve outcomes for youth in foster care, with the goal of ensuring that every child has a forever family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to follow the example of Rebecca Teresa Weichhand in expressing kindness, love in action, and compassion for those who need it most.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 58—RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE SERVICE OF MILITARY WORKING DOGS AND SOLDIER HANDLERS IN THE TACTICAL EXPLOSIVE DETECTION DOG PROGRAM OF THE ARMY AND ENCOURAGING THE ARMY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, WITH FORMER TACTICAL EXPLOSIVE DETECTION DOGS TO PRIORITIZE ADOPTION OF THE DOGS TO FORMER TACTICAL EXPLOSIVE DETECTION DOG HANDLERS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following

concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 58

Whereas the 341st Training Squadron, 37th Training Wing at Lackland Air Force Base provides highly trained military working dogs to the Department of Defense and other government agencies;

Whereas in 2010, the operational needs of the Army for military working dogs increased without an increase in resources to train a sufficient number of dogs for the detection of improvised explosive devices at the 341st Training Squadron;

Whereas the Army initiated the tactical explosive detection dog program in August 2010 as a nontraditional military working dog program to train and field improvised explosive device detection dogs for use in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas the tactical explosive detection dog program was created to reduce casualties from improvised explosive devices in response to an increase in the use of asymmetric weapons by the enemy;

Whereas the tactical explosive detection dogs were a unique subset of military working dogs because the Army selected and trained soldiers from deploying units to serve as temporary handlers for only the duration of deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas the tactical explosive detection dogs and their soldier handlers, like other military working dog and handler teams, formed strong bonds while training for combat and performing extremely dangerous improvised explosive device detection missions in service to the United States;

Whereas the tactical explosive detection dog program was a nontraditional military working dog program that terminated in February 2014;

Whereas at the termination of the tactical explosive detection dog program in February 2014, neither United States law nor Department of Defense policy established an adoption order priority, and Department of Defense policy only provided that military working dogs be adopted by former handlers, law enforcement agencies, and other persons capable of humanely caring for the animals;

Whereas an August 2016 report to Congress by the Air Force entitled “Tactical Explosive Detector Dog (TEDD) Adoption Report” concluded that the Army had a limited transition window for the disposition of tactical explosive detection dogs and the lack of a formal comprehensive plan contributed to the disorganized disposition process for the tactical explosive detection dogs;

Whereas the August 2016 report stated that, in 2014, the Army disposed of 229 tactical explosive detection dogs;

Whereas 40 tactical explosive detection dogs were adopted by handlers, 47 dogs were adopted by private individuals, 70 dogs were transferred to Army units, 17 dogs were transferred to other government agencies, 46 dogs were transferred to law enforcement agencies, and 9 dogs were deceased;

Whereas the disposition of tactical explosive detection dogs was poorly executed, proper procedures outlined in Department of Defense policy were ignored, and, as a result, the former soldier handlers were not provided the opportunity to adopt their tactical explosive detection dogs;

Whereas the Army should have deliberately planned for the disposition of the tactical explosive detection dogs and provided appropriate time to review and consider adoption applications to mitigate handler and civilian adoption issues;

Whereas section 342(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92; 129 Stat. 793) amended section 2583(c) of title 10, United States Code, to modify the list of persons authorized to adopt a military animal and prioritize the list with preference, respectively, to former handlers, other persons capable of humanely caring for the animal, and law enforcement agencies;

Whereas since 2000, Congress has passed legislation that protects military working dogs, promotes their welfare, and recognizes the needs of their veteran handlers;

Whereas Congress continues to provide oversight of military working dogs to prevent a recurrence of the disposition issues that affected tactical explosive detection dogs;

Whereas former soldier handlers should be reunited with their tactical explosive detection dogs;

Whereas congressional recognition of the military service of tactical explosive detection dogs and their former soldier handlers is a small measure of gratitude this legislative body can convey; and

Whereas over 4 years have passed since the termination of the tactical explosive detection dog program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the service of military working dogs and soldier handlers from the tactical explosive detection dog program;

(2) acknowledges that not all tactical explosive detection dogs were adopted by their former soldier handlers;

(3) encourages the Army and other government agencies, including law enforcement agencies, with former tactical explosive detection dogs to prioritize adoption to former tactical explosive detection dog handlers; and

(4) honors the sacrifices made by tactical explosive detection dogs and their soldier handlers in combat.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4069. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. RISCH (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3119, to allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species.

SA 4070. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. YOUNG) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2276, to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.

SA 4071. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. JOHNSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2454, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a data framework to provide access for appropriate personnel to law enforcement and other information of the Department, and for other purposes.

SA 4072. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5075, to encourage, enhance, and integrate Ashanti Alert plans throughout the United States, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4069. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. RISCH (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3119, to allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and

its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) preventing predation by sea lions, recovery of listed salmonid stocks, and preventing future listings of fish stocks in the Columbia River under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is a vital priority; and

(2) the Federal Government should continue to fund lethal and nonlethal removal, and deterrence, measures for preventing such predation.

SEC. 3. TAKING OF SEA LIONS ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES TO PROTECT ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES OF SALMON AND OTHER NONLISTED FISH SPECIES.

Section 120(f) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1389(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f) TEMPORARY MARINE MAMMAL REMOVAL AUTHORITY ON THE WATERS OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER OR ITS TRIBUTARIES.—

“(1) REMOVAL AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary may issue a permit to an eligible entity to authorize the intentional lethal taking on the waters of the Columbia River and its tributaries of individually identifiable sea lions that are part of a population or stock that is not categorized under this Act as depleted or strategic for the purpose of protecting—

“(A) species of salmon, steelhead, or eulachon that are listed as endangered species or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); and

“(B) species of lamprey or sturgeon that are not so listed as endangered or threatened but are listed as a species of concern.

“(2) PERMIT PROCESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity may apply to the Secretary for a permit under this subsection.

“(B) TIMELINES AND PROCEDURES OF APPLICATION.—The timelines and procedures described in subsection (c) shall apply to applications for permits under this subsection in the same manner such timelines apply to applications under subsection (b).

“(C) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall establish procedures to coordinate issuance of permits under this subsection, including application procedures and timelines, delegation and revocation of permits to and between eligible entities, monitoring, periodic review, and geographic, seasonal take, and species-specific considerations.

“(D) DURATION OF PERMIT.—A permit under this subsection shall be effective for a period of not more than 5 years, and may be renewed by the Secretary.

“(3) LIMITATIONS ON ANNUAL TAKINGS.—The Secretary shall apply the process for determining limitations on annual take of sea lions under subsection (c) to determinations on limitations under this subsection, and the cumulative number of sea lions authorized to be taken each year under all permits in effect under this subsection shall not exceed 10 percent of the annual potential biological removal level for sea lions.

“(4) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—Intentional lethal takings under this subsection shall—

“(A) be humane within the meaning of such term under section 3(4);

“(B) require that capture, husbandry, transportation, and euthanasia protocols are

based on standards propagated by an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and that primary euthanasia be limited to humane chemical methods; and

“(C) be implemented by agencies or qualified individuals described in subsection (c)(4), or by individuals employed by the eligible entities described in paragraph (6).

“(5) SUSPENSION OF PERMITTING AUTHORITY.—If, 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act, the Secretary, after consulting with State and tribal fishery managers, determines that lethal removal authority is no longer necessary to protect salmonid and other fish species from sea lion predation, the Secretary shall suspend the issuance of permits under this subsection.

“(6) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(i) with respect to removal in the mainstem of the Columbia River, from river mile 112 to the McNary Dam and its tributaries in the State of Washington, and its tributaries in the State of Oregon above Bonneville Dam, the State of Washington, the State of Oregon, and the State of Idaho;

“(ii) with respect to removal in the mainstem Columbia River from river mile 112 to the McNary Dam and its tributaries within the State of Washington and in any of its tributaries above Bonneville Dam within the State of Oregon, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation; and

“(iii) with respect to removal in the Willamette River and other tributaries of the Columbia River within the State of Oregon below Bonneville Dam, a committee recognized by the Secretary under subparagraph (D).

“(B) DELEGATION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may allow eligible entities described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) to delegate their authority under a permit under this subsection to the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission for removal in the mainstem of the Columbia River above river mile 112 and below McNary Dam, in the Columbia River tributaries in the State of Washington, or in tributaries within the State of Oregon above Bonneville Dam and below McNary Dam.

“(C) ADDITIONAL DELEGATION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may allow an eligible entity described in subparagraph (A)(i) to delegate its authority under a permit under this subsection to any entity described in subclause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to removal in the mainstem of the Columbia River above river mile 112 and below McNary Dam, in the Columbia River tributaries in the State of Washington, or in tributaries in the State of Oregon above Bonneville Dam and below McNary Dam.

“(D) COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall recognize a committee established in accordance with this subparagraph as being eligible for a permit under this subsection, for purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii).

“(ii) MEMBERSHIP.—A committee established under this subparagraph shall consist of the State of Oregon and each of the following:

“(I) The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians or the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, or both.

“(II) The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs or the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, or both.