

(3) recognizes that—

(A) low vaccination rates or the lack of vaccination can create an environment in which a public health crisis could emerge;

(B) vaccines—

(i) are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (referred to in this resolving clause as the “FDA”) as safe and effective; and

(ii) meet the gold standard of safety established by the FDA; and

(C) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises medical providers and parents in the United States that the benefits of currently recommended vaccines greatly outweigh the risks of those vaccines;

(4) encourages a continued commitment to biomedical research—

(A) to improve vaccines; and

(B) to develop new vaccines against other infectious and fatal diseases; and

(5) urges all people, in consultation with their health care providers, to follow the scientific evidence and consensus of medical experts in favor of timely vaccinations to protect—

(A) the individual vaccinated; and

(B) the children, family, and community of the individual vaccinated.

SENATE RESOLUTION 166—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 1, 2019, AS “SILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY”

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 166

Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were wounded or became ill in combat in the wars fought by the United States;

Whereas the Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the people of the United States remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Silver Star Flags for that purpose;

Whereas the sole mission of the Silver Star Families of America is to evoke memories of the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States through the presence of a Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Flag flying;

Whereas the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States should never be forgotten; and

Whereas May 1, 2019, is an appropriate date to designate as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 1, 2019, as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe Silver Star Service Banner Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 167—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 2019, THROUGH APRIL 28, 2019, AS “NATIONAL PARK WEEK”

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr.

PORTMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. REED, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. UDALL, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ENZI, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 167

Whereas, on March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park as the first national park for the enjoyment of the people of the United States;

Whereas, on August 25, 1916, Congress established the National Park Service with the mission to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations;

Whereas the National Park Service continues to protect and manage the majestic landscapes, hallowed battlefields, and iconic cultural and historical sites of the United States;

Whereas the units of the National Park System can be found in every State and many territories of the United States and many of the units embody the rich natural and cultural heritage of the United States, reflect a unique national story through people and places, and offer countless opportunities for recreation, volunteerism, cultural exchange, education, civic engagement, and exploration;

Whereas the national parks of the United States continue to attract record-breaking numbers of visitors, with approximately 318,200,000 recreational visits to these incredible places in 2018, the third highest level since recordkeeping began in 1904;

Whereas visits and visitors to the national parks of the United States are important economic drivers for the economy, responsible for an estimated \$18,200,000,000 in spending in 2017;

Whereas the dedicated employees of the National Park Service carry out their mission to protect the national parks of the United States so that the vibrant culture, diverse wildlife, and priceless resources of the parks will endure for perpetuity; and

Whereas the people of the United States have inherited the remarkable legacy of the National Park System and are entrusted with the preservation of the National Park System throughout its second century: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of April 20, 2019, through April 28, 2019, as “National Park Week”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and the world to visit and experience the treasured national parks of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 168—DESIGNATING APRIL 2019 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. JONES, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO,

Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. PERDUE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 168

Whereas, according to the report entitled “Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households” by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 40 percent of adults in the United States cannot cover an unexpected expense of \$400;

Whereas, according to the report entitled “2017 National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households” by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, approximately 25 percent of households in the United States are unbanked or underbanked and therefore have limited or no access to savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas, according to the 2018 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey final report of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling—

(1) a majority (61 percent) of adults in the United States had credit card debt during the 1-year period ending on the date of publication of the report;

(2) nearly 2/5 (38 percent) of adults in the United States carry credit card debt from month to month; and

(3) approximately 41 percent of adults in the United States maintain a budget;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2018 entitled “Household Debt and Credit”—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States was \$869,000,000,000 higher than the previous peak of \$12,680,000,000,000 in the third quarter of 2008; and

(2) outstanding student loan balances have more than doubled in the last decade to approximately \$1,500,000,000,000;

Whereas, according to the 2018 report entitled “Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation’s Schools”, the most recent biennial report of that name by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 22 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 17 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas, according to the Gallup-HOPE Index, only 57 percent of students in the United States have money in a bank or credit union account;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to manage money, credit, and debt; and (2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2019 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—REQUESTING A STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 502B(C) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961 WITH RESPECT TO VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. KAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 169

Whereas, on December 13, 2018, the Senate unanimously agreed to Senate Joint Resolution 69, 115th Congress, stating that the Senate “believes Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is responsible for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi”, a United States resident and renowned journalist;

Whereas the President has not met his obligation to determine whether any foreign person, including the highest ranking officials in the Government of Saudi Arabia, is responsible for the gross violation of Mr. Khashoggi’s internationally recognized human rights;

Whereas the Government of Saudi Arabia has yet to publicly identify the 11 individuals indicted in connection with the killing of Mr. Khashoggi, 5 of whom will reportedly face the death penalty if convicted;

Whereas, on March 12, 2018, the Government of Saudi Arabia formally charged 10 women’s rights activists on charges of supporting “hostile elements”, after being detained since May 2018 with no charges brought;

Whereas reputable human rights non-governmental organizations allege that authorities of the Government of Saudi Arabia have tortured at least 4 of the 10 women’s rights activists including the leader of the successful movement to grant women the rights to drive in Saudi Arabia, Aziza al-Yousef;

Whereas Samar Badawi, who was awarded the International Women of Courage Award by the Secretary of State in 2012 for her efforts to reform the discriminatory male guardianship system in Saudi Arabia, is also among the group of 10 women’s rights activists facing charges;

Whereas the Government of Saudi Arabia has detained not fewer than 120 peaceful advocates, including blogger Raif Badawi and human rights lawyer Waleed Abu al-Khair,

part of a disturbing pattern of human rights violations by that Government detailed in 59 pages of the 2018 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices of the Department of State;

Whereas the 2018 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices highlight human rights violations by the Government of Saudi Arabia, including—

- (1) executions for nonviolent offenses;
- (2) forced renditions;
- (3) forced disappearances;
- (4) torture of prisoners and detainees by government agents;
- (5) arbitrary arrest and detention;
- (6) arrest and detention of political prisoners;
- (7) restrictions on the freedoms of peaceful assembly, association, and movement;
- (8) severe restrictions of religious freedom;
- (9) citizens’ lack of ability and legal means to choose their government through free and fair elections;
- (10) trafficking in persons;
- (11) violence and official discrimination against women; and
- (12) criminalization of consensual same-sex sexual activity;

Whereas the 2018 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices also reference an August 2018 study, commissioned by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which—

(1) found that the military coalition led by Saudi Arabia was responsible for the majority of the civilian casualties in Yemen that the United Nations was able to verify from March 2015 to June 2018; and

(2) concluded that the coalition’s repeated failures to avoid civilian casualties and exercise the proportionate use of military force violate international humanitarian law and may amount to war crimes;

Whereas that study also—

(1) found that the military coalition restricted the flow of food, medical supplies, and fuel through Yemen’s critical ports of Hudaydah and Mokha, and forced the closure of Sana’a International Airport; and

(2) stated, “Given the severe humanitarian impact that the de facto blockades have had on the civilian population and in the absence of any verifiable military impact, they constitute a violation of the proportionality rule of international humanitarian law.”;

Whereas section 620I(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2378-1(a)), states that no assistance shall be furnished under that Act or the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) to any country “when it is made known to the President that the government of such country prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance”;

Whereas subsection (a)(2) of section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304) states that “no security assistance may be provided to any country the government of which engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights”; and

Whereas subsection (d)(1) of that section defines the term “gross violations of international recognized human rights” to include “torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges and trial, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction and clandestine detention of those persons, and other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty, or the security of person”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the President should fully comply with the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) by

issuing a determination, in response to the request submitted to the President on October 10, 2018, under section 1263(d) of that Act, with respect to the involvement of high-ranking officials of the Government of Saudi Arabia, including Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, in the killing of Jamal Khashoggi; and

(B) the United States should call upon the Government of Saudi Arabia—

(i) to release all peaceful human rights activists, journalists, and religious minorities held in detention by that Government; and

(ii) to take actions that reverse that Government’s gross violation of internationally recognized human rights; and

(2) pursuant to section 502B(c)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1)), the Senate requests the Secretary of State to submit to Congress, in unclassified form, but with a classified annex if necessary, a statement with respect to Saudi Arabia setting forth—

(A) the matters described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of such section; and

(B) pursuant to subparagraph (D) of such section—

(i) information on the involvement of the highest-ranking officials in the Government of Saudi Arabia, including Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, in the murder of Jamal Khashoggi;

(ii) information on the measures the Government of Saudi Arabia is taking to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Yemen by increasing access for Yemenis to food, fuel, medicine, and medical evacuation, including through the appropriate use of Yemen’s Red Sea ports, including the port of Hudaydah, the airport in Sana’a, and external border crossings with Saudi Arabia;

(iii) information on actions the Government of Saudi Arabia is taking to reduce the risk of harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure resulting from military operations of that Government in Yemen, including by—

(I) complying with applicable agreements and laws regulating defense articles purchased or transferred from the United States; and

(II) taking appropriate steps to avoid disproportionate harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure; and

(iv) information on each incident for which the Joint Incidents Assessment Team in Yemen has reached a conclusion.

SENATE RESOLUTION 170—RECOGNIZING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHIBOK GIRLS KIDNAPPING BY THE BOKO HARAM TERRORIST ORGANIZATION AND CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO BRING AN END TO THE CONFLICT IN NORTHEAST AND CENTRAL NIGERIA AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 170

Whereas the Boko Haram is a Nigeria-based militant group with links to Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and the Islamic State;

Whereas Boko Haram’s campaign of mass and systemic brutality has led to the deaths of tens of thousands of individuals in northeast and central Nigeria and, according to