

woman's assets, identified and reported the suspected criminal activity to the police.

Combatting elder abuse of seniors is primarily the responsibility of State and local agencies, particularly adult protective services agencies. Prevention and response to cases of abuse require coordinated efforts, including State and local agencies, law enforcement, the social work and medical community, and financial institutions.

The Federal government also plays an important role in providing leadership to combat this problem. The Elder Justice Coordinating Council, led by HHS and DOJ, has brought other Federal agencies to the table to coordinate efforts to protect older individuals from abuse. Last year, the DOJ took a major action by directing all 94 U.S. Attorneys' offices to each designate an elder justice coordinator, who will develop strategies to protect seniors in their districts. This will promote greater cooperation between the DOJ and its law enforcement partners. While the best way to intervene in the problem of elder abuse is to prevent it from happening in the first place, when abuse does occur, it is crucial that the perpetrators of the crimes not go unpunished.

I worked closely on the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019 with Philip C. Marshall. Philip is the founder of Beyond Brooke, a campaign named to honor Philip's late grandmother, Brooke Astor, a well known philanthropist, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and victim of elder abuse and financial exploitation. In 2015, Mr. Marshall testified before the Senate Aging Committee about how his father mistreated his grandmother and mismanaged her assets while she suffered from Alzheimer's disease. In addition, I am pleased that the non-partisan Elder Justice Coalition, which represents more than 3,000 members, along with the National Center for Victims of Crime, the National Sheriffs Association, and the National Association on Area Agencies on Aging all support our bill.

Mr. President, I ask that letters from these organizations appear in the RECORD immediately following my remarks.

Preventing and combating elder abuse require law enforcement and social service agencies at all levels of government to work collaboratively with the private sector. The Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act would assist the Federal government's role to help make that happen. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

THE ELDER JUSTICE COALITION,
Washington, DC, June 11, 2019.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
Chairman, Special Committee on Aging,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS: On behalf of the nonpartisan Elder Justice Coalition which represents more than 3,000 members, I write to congratulate you and Senators Rosen, McSally, and Klobuchar on the introduction of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019,

which will create a semi-postal stamp to provide additional funding to the federal government for programs to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The EJC is proud to have worked closely on this legislation with you, your staff and Philip C. Marshall, founder of Beyond Brooke, a cause-based campaign named to honor Philip's late grandmother, Brooke Astor, who was a well-known philanthropist, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a victim of elder abuse and elder financial exploitation.

We are pleased that the bill will direct the United States Postal Service to develop the semipostal stamp and use the proceeds from its sales to provide funding to augment the elder justice initiatives at both the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Justice. These programs include prevention, education, data collection, services to protect and support victims, and demonstration projects, in addition to initiatives to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation. Further, the departments will be able to use their resources to support dissemination of the stamp.

Thank you again for your leadership on this and other elder justice issues. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in securing passage of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019.

Sincerely,

ROBERT B. BLANCATO,
National Coordinator.

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
VICTIMS OF CRIME,
Arlington, VA, May 23, 2019.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
Chairman, Special Committee on Aging,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS: As the Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime which advocates for stronger rights, protections, and services for all crime victims and the advocates who serve them. I write to congratulate you on the introduction of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019, which will create a semi-postal stamp to provide additional funding to the federal government for programs to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

We are pleased that the bill will direct the United States Postal Service to develop the semi-postal stamp and use the proceeds from its sales to provide funding to augment the elder justice initiatives at both the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Justice. These programs include prevention, education, data collection, services to protect and support victims, and demonstration projects, in addition to initiatives to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation. Further, the departments will be able to use their resources to support dissemination of the stamp.

Thank you again for your leadership on this and other elder justice issues. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in securing passage of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019.

Sincerely,

MAI FERNANDEZ,
Executive Director.

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION,
Alexandria, VA, June 3, 2019.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR COLLINS: On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the more than 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, I write to endorse the Stamp Out Elder Abuse

Act of 2019 proposed by Senator Collins. This Act initiates a semi postal stamp that not only raises elder abuse awareness, but also dedicates the proceeds to elder justice programs within DOJ and HHS.

As you may know, the NSA was one of the founding groups in the National Association of Triads, Inc. National Triads serves as a clearinghouse of information, best practices and early alert system for local Triads. Triad is a national community policing concept that partners law enforcement agencies with older adult volunteer groups and older adult related community services to educate older adults on crime and fraud, to reduce crime against the elderly, and eliminate the unwarranted fear of crime.

After twenty-two years in existence, there are Triads in more than 680 counties in 36 states. Triad serves 16 million seniors nationwide—nearly half of America's senior population. The National Sheriffs' Association and local sheriffs have long recognized the need to ensure the safety and quality of life for the growing number of senior citizens by supporting the formation of community partnerships under the auspice of Triad. Triad has a clear vision and a simple mission—to keep seniors safe from crime.

The Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019 makes a clear effort to increase awareness and support for the elderly community. We applaud the efforts to support prevention and education, investigation and prosecution, and victims' services in an effort in combat elder abuse.

Sincerely,

JONATHAN F. THOMPSON,
Executive Director and CEO.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 244—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FREE, FAIR, AND TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA IN ORDER TO INCREASE PROSPERITY, SECURITY, AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL GUATEMALANS

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 244

Whereas Guatemala will hold general elections on June 16, 2019, and more than 7,600,000 Guatemalans are registered to vote for their next president, vice president, congressional representatives, and more than 300 mayors around the country;

Whereas, in the process leading up to the elections in Guatemala, there have been a series of troubling developments related to presidential candidates, with 6 of the 24 candidates facing allegations related to illicit activities, and at least 4 candidates having been excluded from the race;

Whereas, on April 17, 2019, Mario Estrada, a Guatemalan presidential candidate with the center-right National Change Union political party, was arrested in the United States and charged by the Department of Justice with conspiring to import cocaine into the United States, soliciting millions of dollars from the Sinaloa Drug Cartel, and other firearms offenses;

Whereas the case of Mario Estrada highlights the existence of linkages between certain Guatemalan political actors and transnational criminal organizations, and

the manner in which such criminal organizations have sought to influence the Guatemalan political system;

Whereas, on May 15, 2019, a Guatemalan court issued a politically motivated ruling that Thelma Aldana—Guatemala's former Attorney General who led efforts to tackle corruption in Guatemala—was ineligible to run in Guatemala's presidential election;

Whereas, according to Guatemalan media, approximately 150 candidates running for a seat in Guatemala's legislature have been cited with irregularities, including having received suspicious government contracts, not meeting electoral requirements, and possible linkages to narcotics trafficking;

Whereas Guatemala has a long history of debilitating corruption due to the pervasive influence of narcotics trafficking and organized crime, with the Department of State estimating earlier this decade that as much as 80 percent of the cocaine that eventually reached the United States had passed through Guatemala;

Whereas Guatemala's endemic corruption and criminality led to the 2006 agreement that established the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) as an independent body tasked with working with the Public Ministry to combat corruption, organized crime, and institutional impunity;

Whereas the United States Government provided considerable funding and political support for CICIG during both Republican and Democratic administrations, yet the Trump Administration has been notably silent on President Morales' efforts to undermine CICIG;

Whereas a May 2019 report to Congress by the Department of State report stated that Guatemala, with the support of CICIG since 2007, previously took steps "to root out clandestine networks of corrupt actors, including the uncovering of a massive corruption scheme in 2015 led by former President Perez-Molina and former Vice President Baldetti";

Whereas the May 2019 report also noted setbacks to Guatemala's fight against corruption and stated that "since announcing in 2018 it would not renew the [CICIG's] mandate, the Guatemalan Government has impeded anti-corruption efforts, attacked judicial independence, and misused U.S.-donated equipment";

Whereas setbacks to the fight against corruption weaken the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala;

Whereas weak rule of law, violence, corruption, human rights abuses, impunity, and failure to take effective actions to ameliorate widespread poverty in Guatemala contribute to the outflow of refugees and migrants towards the United States, including the more than 165,000 Guatemalan nationals who have been apprehended on the United States-Mexico border during the current fiscal year alone;

Whereas it is in the strategic interest of the United States to support free, fair, and transparent elections and encourage continued efforts to strengthen the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala; and

Whereas the Trump Administration announced in March 2019 that it will reprogram United States assistance for Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras, thereby undermining the ability of the United States Government to address challenges to security, the rule of law, and economic development in the Northern Triangle of Central America; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the people of Guatemala as they prepare to exercise their fundamental democratic right to vote in their country's upcoming June 16, 2019, general elections;

(2) encourages all Guatemalan political actors and institutions to take continued steps to uphold a free, fair, and transparent electoral process;

(3) expresses grave concerns about—

(A) the involvement of certain Guatemalan presidential candidates in illicit activities;

(B) efforts by international criminal organizations to influence the Guatemalan political system;

(C) the politically motivated disqualification of certain competitive, independent candidates in order to restrict the choices available to the people of Guatemala; and

(D) ongoing evidence of corruption of officials that permitted an estimated 1400 metric tons of cocaine to pass through Guatemala destined for the United States last year;

(4) encourages Guatemalan presidential candidates to commit to taking strong and sustained action following the election to strengthen the rule of law, combat corruption and impunity, and address human rights abuses and the underlying conditions of poverty in the country;

(5) urges the next president of Guatemala to take effective steps to strengthen the rule of law, address the influence of criminal organizations and drug cartels on Guatemala's political system, and combat corruption and impunity, including by reestablishing the mandate of the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG);

(6) condemns the efforts of President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales to expel and undermine CICIG;

(7) expresses dismay about the Trump Administration's failure to demonstrate America's commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Guatemala; and

(8) opposes the Trump Administration's decision to reprogram United States assistance to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

SENATE RESOLUTION 245—DESIGNATING JULY 17, 2019, AS "GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 245

Whereas an estimated 13,310 new cases of glioblastoma will be diagnosed in the United States in 2019;

Whereas glioblastoma is—

(1) the most common malignant (cancerous) brain tumor, accounting for 47 percent of all primary malignant brain tumors; and

(2) the most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat, and deadliest brain tumor;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 15,000 people in the United States will succumb to glioblastoma every year;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for glioblastoma patients is only 5.6 percent and the average survival for glioblastoma patients is estimated to be only 12 to 18 months;

Whereas glioblastoma is described as a disease that affects the "essence of self", as the treatment and removal of glioblastoma presents significant challenges because of the uniquely complex and fragile nature of the brain, the primary organ in the human body that controls not only cognitive ability, but the actions of every organ and limb;

Whereas brain cancer has—

(1) the highest per-patient initial cost of care for any cancer group, with an annualized mean net cost of care approaching \$150,000; and

(2) the highest annualized mean net costs for last-year-of-life care, relative to other cancers, at \$135,000 to \$210,000 (depending on age and gender) per patient;

Whereas, although research advances may fuel the development of new treatments for glioblastoma, challenging obstacles to accelerating progress toward new treatments for glioblastoma remain, and there are no screening or early detection methods;

Whereas, although glioblastoma was first described in medical and scientific literature in the 1920s, and despite its devastating prognosis, only 4 drugs and 1 medical device have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat glioblastoma since the 1920s, and the mortality rates associated with glioblastoma have changed little during the past 30 years; and

Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of glioblastoma, including both the urgent unmet medical need, as well as the opportunities for research and treatment advances for glioblastoma patients: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 17, 2019, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day";

(2) encourages increased public awareness of glioblastoma;

(3) honors those individuals who have lost their lives to that devastating disease or are currently living with it;

(4) supports efforts to develop better treatments for glioblastoma that will improve the long-term prognosis of individuals diagnosed with glioblastoma;

(5) expresses its support for those individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals; and

(6) urges a collaborative approach to brain tumor research, which is a promising means of advancing understanding of, and treatment for, glioblastoma.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 252. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 504, to amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 252. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill D. 504, to amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 10, strike line 16 and all that follows and insert the following:

Section 21703 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "during any period from—" and all that follows through the end of clause (vii) and inserting the following: "during—

"(i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or

"(ii) any time after December 7, 1941; or"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or time" after "a period"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or time" after "that period".