

of the Senate on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

The Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION AND SPACE

The Subcommittee on Aviation and Space of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

The Subcommittee on Energy of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

ENCOURAGING A SWIFT TRANSFER OF POWER BY THE MILITARY TO A CIVILIAN-LED POLITICAL AUTHORITY IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 106, S. Res. 188.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 188) encouraging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment to strike all after the resolving clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

Whereas the nation of Sudan has endured corrupt and brutal dictatorships for most of its post-independence period since 1956;

Whereas President Omar al-Bashir came to power through a military coup in 1989, and for the next three decades his government was responsible for horrendous crimes in Sudan, especially in Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and in what is now the Republic of South Sudan;

Whereas the United States Government designated Sudan a State Sponsor of Terrorism on August 12, 1993, for its support to international terrorist organizations and extremists, including elements of what would later be known as al Qaeda;

Whereas more than two decades of civil war between President al-Bashir's government and insurgents in southern Sudan resulted in more than 2,000,000 deaths and led to the eventual independence of South Sudan in 2011;

Whereas in 2003, President al-Bashir's government launched a ruthless crackdown against insurgents and civilians in Darfur that killed at

least 300,000 Sudanese and displaced 2,500,000 more, resulting in Congress and the Administration of President George W. Bush in 2004 describing as genocide the Government of Sudan's actions in Darfur;

Whereas in 2011, when conflict resumed in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, President al-Bashir's government conducted indiscriminate bombings and raided villages, raping and killing civilians, and waged a campaign of forced starvation in the Nuba Mountains region of South Kordofan that displaced as many as 2,000,000 people;

Whereas, while the fighting between government forces and insurgents in Darfur has subsided since 2016, violent attacks against civilians continue and humanitarian access remains restricted in some opposition stronghold areas of Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile;

Whereas President al-Bashir remains the subject of two outstanding arrest warrants from the International Criminal Court based on charges including five counts of crimes against humanity, two counts of war crimes, and three counts of genocide;

Whereas Sudan's economic crisis risks bringing the national economy to total collapse, further increasing the possibility of state failure and broader regional destabilization that could threaten a wide array of United States interests in East and North Africa and the Red Sea regions;

Whereas the people of Sudan have engaged since December 2018 in a wave of peaceful protests throughout the country demanding an end to President al-Bashir's brutal regime and pressing for a citizen-centered democratic transition;

Whereas women have played a prominent role in the protest movement, helping bring about the ouster of former President al-Bashir;

Whereas President al-Bashir's government unlawfully detained and tortured hundreds of Sudanese during the protests, including political leaders, journalists, doctors, unionists, and youth and women leaders, in gross violation of international civil and human rights, and some of them remain in detention;

Whereas on February 22, 2019, President al-Bashir declared a year-long nationwide state of emergency and curfew, dissolved his government, replaced state governors with senior security officers, and expanded the powers of Sudan's security forces;

Whereas when protesters in early April challenged President al-Bashir's decrees and gathered in the tens of thousands in front of Sudan's military headquarters in Khartoum to call for an end to the regime, some elements of the security forces tried to disperse the crowds with violence, leading to clashes between internal security forces and the military as some soldiers sought to protect the protesters;

Whereas on April 11, 2019, after five days of mass protests in front of their headquarters, Sudan's military removed President al-Bashir from office and the country's First Vice President and Minister of Defense, Lt. General Awad Ibn Auf, announced he would lead a Transitional Military Council that would rule the country for a two-year period, suspended the Constitution, dissolved the National Assembly, and imposed a three-month State of Emergency and nightly curfew;

Whereas Lt. General Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan, former general inspector of the Sudanese Armed Forces, who replaced Lt. General Ibn Auf on April 12, 2019, as the chairman of the Transitional Military Council, said on April 21, 2019, that the council was "ready to hand over power tomorrow to a civilian government agreed by political forces";

Whereas the Rapid Support Forces, paramilitary forces led by Lt. General Mohammed Hamdan Dagolo, also known as "Hemmeti", a former Janjaweed leader who currently serves as the deputy chairman of the Transitional Military Council, have been implicated by the United Nations Panel of Experts in widespread

violations of international humanitarian law that human rights groups suggest may amount to war crimes, and have also been accused of killing protesters during the recent uprising; and

Whereas, the African Union Peace and Security Council convened on April 30, 2019, and reiterated its conviction that "a military-led transition in Sudan will be totally unacceptable and contrary to the will and legitimate aspirations" of the Sudanese people, expressed "deep regret" that the military had not stepped aside, and, noting negotiations were underway, demanded that the military hand over power to a civilian-led transitional authority within 60 days: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the African Union Peace and Security Council's initial two-week deadline urging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in Sudan that—

(A) has a civilian character and composition reflecting the will of the Declaration of Freedom and Change Forces leading negotiations on behalf of citizens; and

(B) immediately begins a transparent process leading to credible elections and security sector reforms;

(2) calls on the ruling authorities in Sudan to—

(A) respect the right to freedom of association and expression;

(B) protect the rights of opposition political parties, journalists, human rights defenders, religious minorities, nongovernmental organizations, and civic movements to operate without interference;

(C) lift the bureaucratic restrictions on and facilitate access for humanitarian relief operations;

(D) introduce strong measures to create transparency and address the structural corruption and kleptocracy of the state;

(E) pursue accountability for serious crimes and human rights abuses by former President al-Bashir's regime and elements of the security forces under the control of the Transitional Military Council; and

(F) release remaining political prisoners and refrain from arbitrary arrest, detention, and torture;

(3) urges the United States Government to support efforts to advance a peaceful transfer of power and a civilian-led transition period that creates the conditions under which timely democratic elections can be held that will meet international standards and be overseen by credible domestic and international electoral observers, and for the peaceful resolution of Sudan's conflicts;

(4) encourages the African Union and its member states to continue supporting the Sudanese people's aspirations for democracy, justice, and peace;

(5) expresses concern that the participation in the transitional government of individuals who have been implicated in possible war crimes would undermine efforts to restore peace and democracy and pursue justice and accountability in Sudan;

(6) emphasizes that until a transition to a credible civilian-led government that reflects the aspirations of the Sudanese people is established, the process to consider removing Sudan from the State Sponsor of Terrorism List, lifting any other remaining sanctions on Sudan, or normalizing relations with the Government of Sudan will continue to be suspended; and

(7) stands in solidarity with the people of Sudan and their aspirations for a democratic, participatory government.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment to the resolution be withdrawn; that the Cruz substitute amendment to the resolution at the desk be considered and

agreed to; that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; that the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be withdrawn; that the Cruz amendment to the preamble at the desk be considered and agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment to the resolution, in the nature of a substitute, was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 908), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the Senate—

(1) supports the African Union Peace and Security Council's initial 2-week deadline urging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in Sudan that—

(A) has a civilian character and composition reflecting the will of the Declaration of Freedom and Change Forces leading negotiations on behalf of citizens; and

(B) immediately begins a transparent process leading to credible elections and security sector reforms;

(2) calls on the ruling authorities in Sudan—

(A) to respect the right to freedom of association and expression;

(B) to protect the rights of opposition political parties, journalists, human rights defenders, religious minorities, nongovernmental organizations, and civic movements to operate without interference;

(C) to lift the bureaucratic restrictions on, and facilitate access for, humanitarian relief operations;

(D) to introduce strong measures to create transparency and address the structural corruption and kleptocracy of the state;

(E) to pursue accountability for serious crimes and human rights abuses by former President al-Bashir's regime and permit international human rights monitors to deploy in Sudan to examine the allegations of atrocities committed against protesters and civilians during 2019;

(F) to release remaining political prisoners and refrain from arbitrary arrest, detention, and torture; and

(G) to immediately restore Internet access and avoid further denial of access to suppress the fundamental human right of freedom of expression and association by Sudanese citizens;

(3) urges the United States Government to lead in efforts that advance a peaceful transfer of power and a civilian-led transition period focused on creating the conditions under which timely democratic elections can be held that will meet international standards and be overseen by credible domestic and international electoral observers, and for the peaceful resolution of Sudan's conflicts;

(4) encourages the African Union and its member states to continue supporting the Sudanese people's aspirations for democracy, justice, and peace;

(5) expresses concern that the participation in the transitional government of individuals who have been implicated in possible war crimes would undermine efforts to restore peace and democracy and pursue justice and accountability in Sudan;

(6) emphasizes that until a transition to a credible civilian-led government that reflects the aspirations of the Sudanese people is established, the process to consider remov-

ing Sudan from the State Sponsor of Terrorism List, lifting any other remaining sanctions on Sudan, or normalizing relations with the Government of Sudan will continue to be suspended; and

(7) stands in solidarity with the people of Sudan and their aspirations for a democratic, participatory government.

The resolution (S. Res. 188), as amended, was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment to the preamble was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 909) to the preamble was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the nation of Sudan has endured corrupt and brutal dictatorships for most of its post-independence period since 1956;

Whereas President Omar al-Bashir came to power through a military coup in 1989, and for the next 3 decades his government was responsible for horrendous crimes in Sudan, especially in Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and in what is now the Republic of South Sudan;

Whereas the United States Government designated Sudan as a State Sponsor of Terrorism on August 12, 1993, for its support to international terrorist organizations and extremists, including elements of what would later be known as al Qaeda;

Whereas more than 2 decades of civil war between President al-Bashir's government and insurgents in southern Sudan resulted in more than 2,000,000 deaths and led to the eventual independence of South Sudan in 2011;

Whereas in 2003, President al-Bashir's government launched a ruthless crackdown against insurgents and civilians in Darfur, which killed at least 300,000 Sudanese and displaced 2,500,000 more people, prompting Congress and the Administration of President George W. Bush, in 2004, to describe the Government of Sudan's actions in Darfur as genocide;

Whereas in 2011, when conflict resumed in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, President al-Bashir's government conducted indiscriminate bombings, raided villages, raped and killed civilians, and waged a campaign of forced starvation in the Nuba Mountains region of South Kordofan that displaced as many as 2,000,000 people;

Whereas, while the fighting between government forces and insurgents in Darfur has subsided since 2016, violent attacks against civilians continue and humanitarian access remains restricted in some opposition stronghold areas of Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile;

Whereas President al-Bashir remains the subject of 2 outstanding arrest warrants from the International Criminal Court based on charges that include 5 counts of crimes against humanity, 2 counts of war crimes, and 3 counts of genocide;

Whereas Sudan's economic crisis risks bringing the national economy to total collapse, further increasing the possibility of state failure and broader regional destabilization that could threaten a wide array of United States' interests in East and North Africa and the Red Sea regions;

Whereas the people of Sudan have engaged since December 2018 in a wave of peaceful protests throughout the country, demanding an end to President al-Bashir's brutal regime and pressing for a citizen-centered democratic transition;

Whereas women have played a prominent role in the protest movement and have helped to bring about the ouster of former President al-Bashir;

Whereas President al-Bashir's government unlawfully detained and tortured hundreds of Sudanese during the protests, including political leaders, journalists, doctors, unionists, and youth and women leaders, in gross violation of international civil and human rights, some of whom remain in detention;

Whereas on February 22, 2019, President al-Bashir declared a year-long nationwide state of emergency and curfew, dissolved his government, replaced state governors with senior security officers, and expanded the powers of Sudan's security forces;

Whereas when protesters in early April 2019 challenged President al-Bashir's decrees and gathered in the tens of thousands in front of Sudan's military headquarters in Khartoum to call for an end to the al-Bashir regime, some elements of the security forces tried to disperse the crowds with violence, leading to clashes between internal security forces and the military as some soldiers sought to protect the protesters;

Whereas on April 11, 2019, after 5 days of mass protests in front of their headquarters, Sudan's military removed President al-Bashir from office, and the country's First Vice President and Minister of Defense, Lt. General Awad Ibn Auf—

(1) announced that he would lead a Transitional Military Council that would rule the country for a 2-year period;

(2) suspended the Constitution;

(3) the dissolved the National Assembly;

and

(4) imposed a 3-month State of Emergency and nightly curfew;

Whereas Lt. General Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan, former general inspector of the Sudanese Armed Forces, who replaced Lt. General Ibn Auf on April 12, 2019, as the chairman of the Transitional Military Council, said, on April 21, 2019, that the council was "ready to hand over power tomorrow to a civilian government agreed by political forces";

Whereas the Rapid Support Forces, paramilitary forces led by Lt. General Mohamed Hamdan Dagolo (also known as "Hemmeti"), a former Janjaweed leader who currently serves as the deputy chairman of the Transitional Military Council—

(1) have been implicated by the United Nations Panel of Experts in widespread violations of international humanitarian law that human rights groups suggest may amount to war crimes; and

(2) have been accused of killing protesters during the recent uprising;

Whereas, the African Union Peace and Security Council convened on April 30, 2019, and reiterated its conviction that "a military-led transition in Sudan will be totally unacceptable and contrary to the will and legitimate aspirations" of the Sudanese people, expressed "deep regret" that the military had not stepped aside, and, noting negotiations were underway, demanded that the military hand over power to a civilian-led transitional authority within 60 days;

Whereas on June 3, 2019, the Rapid Support Forces led a brutal attack on peaceful protesters, with the aim of eradicating a large sit-in site in front of Sudan's military headquarters in Khartoum, which resulted in more than 100 deaths, hundreds of injuries, several cases of rape, indiscriminate beatings and shooting of unarmed protesters, and other human rights abuses;

Whereas, the Khartoum massacre on June 3, 2019, was followed by a nationwide crackdown led by the Rapid Support Forces against peaceful protesters and civilians that included—

(1) violent attacks on citizens in Khartoum and other major cities;

(2) the brutal detention of protesters and opposition leaders like Yasir Arman, with many disappearances of those detained;

(3) the targeting of hospitals and medical workers caring for the injured; and

(4) the overt attempts by Sudanese authorities to cover-up the scale of their atrocities by dumping bodies in the Nile river and shutting off access to the Internet; and

Whereas, the international community has widely condemned the actions of the Rapid Support Forces, with the African Union's Peace and Security Council voting on June 6, 2019, to suspend Sudan from all African Union activities until a civilian government is formed, and United Nations' experts appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council, on June 12, 2019, calling for an independent investigation into the violence against protesters in Sudan: Now, therefore, be it

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, and the preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 188

Whereas the nation of Sudan has endured corrupt and brutal dictatorships for most of its post-independence period since 1956;

Whereas President Omar al-Bashir came to power through a military coup in 1989, and for the next 3 decades his government was responsible for horrendous crimes in Sudan, especially in Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and in what is now the Republic of South Sudan;

Whereas the United States Government designated Sudan as a State Sponsor of Terrorism on August 12, 1993, for its support to international terrorist organizations and extremists, including elements of what would later be known as al Qaeda;

Whereas more than 2 decades of civil war between President al-Bashir's government and insurgents in southern Sudan resulted in more than 2,000,000 deaths and led to the eventual independence of South Sudan in 2011;

Whereas in 2003, President al-Bashir's government launched a ruthless crackdown against insurgents and civilians in Darfur, which killed at least 300,000 Sudanese and displaced 2,500,000 more people, prompting Congress and the Administration of President George W. Bush, in 2004, to describe the Government of Sudan's actions in Darfur as genocide;

Whereas in 2011, when conflict resumed in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, President al-Bashir's government conducted indiscriminate bombings, raided villages, raped and killed civilians, and waged a campaign of forced starvation in the Nuba Mountains region of South Kordofan that displaced as many as 2,000,000 people;

Whereas, while the fighting between government forces and insurgents in Darfur has subsided since 2016, violent attacks against civilians continue and humanitarian access remains restricted in some opposition stronghold areas of Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile;

Whereas President al-Bashir remains the subject of 2 outstanding arrest warrants from the International Criminal Court based on charges that include 5 counts of crimes against humanity, 2 counts of war crimes, and 3 counts of genocide;

Whereas Sudan's economic crisis risks bringing the national economy to total collapse, further increasing the possibility of state failure and broader regional destabilization that could threaten a wide array of United States' interests in East and North Africa and the Red Sea regions;

Whereas the people of Sudan have engaged since December 2018 in a wave of peaceful protests throughout the country, demanding an end to President al-Bashir's brutal regime

and pressing for a citizen-centered democratic transition;

Whereas women have played a prominent role in the protest movement and have helped to bring about the ouster of former President al-Bashir;

Whereas President al-Bashir's government unlawfully detained and tortured hundreds of Sudanese during the protests, including political leaders, journalists, doctors, unionists, and youth and women leaders, in gross violation of international civil and human rights, some of whom remain in detention;

Whereas on February 22, 2019, President al-Bashir declared a year-long nationwide state of emergency and curfew, dissolved his government, replaced state governors with senior security officers, and expanded the powers of Sudan's security forces;

Whereas when protesters in early April 2019 challenged President al-Bashir's decrees and gathered in the tens of thousands in front of Sudan's military headquarters in Khartoum to call for an end to the al-Bashir regime, some elements of the security forces tried to disperse the crowds with violence, leading to clashes between internal security forces and the military as some soldiers sought to protect the protesters;

Whereas on April 11, 2019, after 5 days of mass protests in front of their headquarters, Sudan's military removed President al-Bashir from office, and the country's First Vice President and Minister of Defense, Lt. General Awad Ibn Auf—

(1) announced that he would lead a Transitional Military Council that would rule the country for a 2-year period;

(2) suspended the Constitution;

(3) the dissolved the National Assembly; and

(4) imposed a 3-month State of Emergency and nightly curfew;

Whereas Lt. General Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan, former general inspector of the Sudanese Armed Forces, who replaced Lt. General Ibn Auf on April 12, 2019, as the chairman of the Transitional Military Council, said, on April 21, 2019, that the council was "ready to hand over power tomorrow to a civilian government agreed by political forces";

Whereas the Rapid Support Forces, paramilitary forces led by Lt. General Mohammed Hamdan Dagolo (also known as "Hemmeti"), a former Janjaweed leader who currently serves as the deputy chairman of the Transitional Military Council—

(1) have been implicated by the United Nations Panel of Experts in widespread violations of international humanitarian law that human rights groups suggest may amount to war crimes; and

(2) have been accused of killing protesters during the recent uprising;

Whereas, the African Union Peace and Security Council convened on April 30, 2019, and reiterated its conviction that "a military-led transition in Sudan will be totally unacceptable and contrary to the will and legitimate aspirations" of the Sudanese people, expressed "deep regret" that the military had not stepped aside, and, noting negotiations were underway, demanded that the military hand over power to a civilian-led transitional authority within 60 days;

Whereas on June 3, 2019, the Rapid Support Forces led a brutal attack on peaceful protesters, with the aim of eradicating a large sit-in site in front of Sudan's military headquarters in Khartoum, which resulted in more than 100 deaths, hundreds of injuries, several cases of rape, indiscriminate beatings and shooting of unarmed protesters, and other human rights abuses;

Whereas, the Khartoum massacre on June 3, 2019, was followed by a nationwide crackdown led by the Rapid Support Forces

against peaceful protesters and civilians that included—

(1) violent attacks on citizens in Khartoum and other major cities;

(2) the brutal detention of protesters and opposition leaders like Yasir Arman, with many disappearances of those detained;

(3) the targeting of hospitals and medical workers caring for the injured; and

(4) the overt attempts by Sudanese authorities to cover-up the scale of their atrocities by dumping bodies in the Nile river and shutting off access to the Internet; and

Whereas, the international community has widely condemned the actions of the Rapid Support Forces, with the African Union's Peace and Security Council voting on June 6, 2019, to suspend Sudan from all African Union activities until a civilian government is formed, and United Nations' experts appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council, on June 12, 2019, calling for an independent investigation into the violence against protesters in Sudan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the African Union Peace and Security Council's initial 2-week deadline urging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in Sudan that—

(A) has a civilian character and composition reflecting the will of the Declaration of Freedom and Change Forces leading negotiations on behalf of citizens; and

(B) immediately begins a transparent process leading to credible elections and security sector reforms;

(2) calls on the ruling authorities in Sudan—

(A) to respect the right to freedom of association and expression;

(B) to protect the rights of opposition political parties, journalists, human rights defenders, religious minorities, nongovernmental organizations, and civic movements to operate without interference;

(C) to lift the bureaucratic restrictions on, and facilitate access for, humanitarian relief operations;

(D) to introduce strong measures to create transparency and address the structural corruption and kleptocracy of the state;

(E) to pursue accountability for serious crimes and human rights abuses by former President al-Bashir's regime and permit international human rights monitors to deploy in Sudan to examine the allegations of atrocities committed against protesters and civilians during 2019;

(F) to release remaining political prisoners and refrain from arbitrary arrest, detention, and torture; and

(G) to immediately restore Internet access and avoid further denial of access to suppress the fundamental human right of freedom of expression and association by Sudanese citizens;

(3) urges the United States Government to lead in efforts that advance a peaceful transfer of power and a civilian-led transition period focused on creating the conditions under which timely democratic elections can be held that will meet international standards and be overseen by credible domestic and international electoral observers, and for the peaceful resolution of Sudan's conflicts;

(4) encourages the African Union and its member states to continue supporting the Sudanese people's aspirations for democracy, justice, and peace;

(5) expresses concern that the participation in the transitional government of individuals who have been implicated in possible war crimes would undermine efforts to restore peace and democracy and pursue justice and accountability in Sudan;

(6) emphasizes that until a transition to a credible civilian-led government that reflects the aspirations of the Sudanese people is established, the process to consider removing Sudan from the State Sponsor of Terrorism List, lifting any other remaining sanctions on Sudan, or normalizing relations with the Government of Sudan will continue to be suspended; and

(7) stands in solidarity with the people of Sudan and their aspirations for a democratic, participatory government.

CHRISTA MCAULIFFE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 2019

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 239 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 239) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. THUNE. I further ask unanimous consent that the Shaheen amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 907) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

On page 4, line 13, strike “2020” and insert “2021”.

On page 5, line 6, strike “2020” and insert “2021”.

On page 5, line 7, strike “2020” and insert “2021”.

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. THUNE. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill, as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 239

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Christa McAuliffe was a social studies teacher at Concord High School in Concord, New Hampshire.

(2) In 1985, Christa McAuliffe was selected to be the first participant in the Teacher in Space program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(3) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe and 6 other astronauts were tragically killed during the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

(4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as “FIRST”) was founded to inspire young people’s interest and participation in science and technology.

(5) The mission of FIRST “is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership”.

(6) 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of FIRST.

(7) Each year, more than 1,000,000 children from the United States and more than 86 countries participate in a FIRST program.

(8) Studies have shown that alumni of FIRST programs are more likely to become scientists and engineers and to volunteer in their communities.

(9) FIRST is dedicated to carrying on the mission of Christa McAuliffe of inspiring students and creating a new generation of dreamers and innovators.

(10) 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

- (1) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall bear—

- (A) an image of and the name of Christa McAuliffe on the obverse side; and
- (B) a design on the reverse side that depicts the legacy of Christa McAuliffe as a teacher.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year “2021”; and
- (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the family of Christa McAuliffe, FIRST, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and
- (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ending on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided under section 7(a) with respect to the coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins, including—
 - (A) labor;
 - (B) materials;
 - (C) dies;
 - (D) use of machinery;
 - (E) overhead expenses;
 - (F) marketing; and
 - (G) shipping.

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of the coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and section 8(2), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the FIRST robotics program for the purpose of engaging and inspiring young people, through mentor-based programs, to become leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(c) AUDITS.—The FIRST robotics program shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with respect to the amounts received under subsection (b).

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act result in no net cost to the Federal Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping, is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

Mr. THUNE. I further ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2740 AND H.R. 3055

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related