

(11) Female prisoners suspected of being impregnated by non-Korean men (namely Chinese men) are subjected to especially harsh treatment, with one witness describing a prisoner being injected with a labor-inducing drug and having to watch as a guard suffocated her newborn to death with a wet towel.

(12) A former North Korean army nurse testified that she saw multiple abortions performed by injecting Ravenol (a motor oil) into the wombs of pregnant women and that babies born 3 to 4 months premature were “wrapped in newspapers and put in a bucket until buried” behind the detention center.

(13) Deliberate starvation, malnutrition, and overwork are extremely common, resulting in the deaths of countless prisoners.

(14) At one prison camp, 1,500 to 2,000 prisoners, mostly children, are believed to have died each year from malnutrition, while many other prisoners were beaten to death for failing to meet production quotas.

(15) Starving prisoners are regularly executed when caught scavenging for food.

(16) At one prison camp, starving prisoners who were found digging up edible plants on a mountainside were shot to death.

(17) At another camp, a witness saw a fellow inmate executed for stealing potatoes, while in a separate camp a witness described the execution of numerous prisoners caught scavenging for leftover food in prison guards’ quarters.

(18) A prisoner was beaten to death for hiding stolen corn in his mouth.

(19) Public executions by firing squads or other means are common, especially for prisoners caught attempting to escape.

(20) The existence of mass graves is well documented, including detailed descriptions of mass burial sites at or near prison camps, as well as testimony about bodies being “dumped” on mountainsides near prison camps.

(21) An undisclosed location near a prison camp was regularly used for nighttime executions, with gunshots clearly audible.

(22) At a 1990 prison riot, approximately 1,500 prisoners were shot and killed, their bodies discarded in a closed mine.

(23) In order to satisfy production quotas, inmates—including teenagers—were forced to perform 15 to 16 hours of hard labor per day.

(24) One witness was forced to perform hard labor (carrying logs) when he was 9 years old.

(25) At one mine in particular, prisoners were forced to work 20 hours per day, with a witness testifying that approximately 200 prisoners died each year at that mine alone.

(26) A soldier supervising a forced labor site at a political prison rolled a log down a steep mountainside, killing 10 prisoners as they were carrying logs up the mountain.

(27) The bodies of some prisoners who died as a result of forced labor or torture were thrown into the cells of prisoners in solitary confinement and later strung on barbed-wire fences where they were eaten by crows.

(28) One witness described a torture chamber with blood and flesh on the walls and decaying corpses of past victims placed in the chamber in order to instill fear in the next prisoner.

(29) Psychological abuse in political prisons is pervasive, with gruesome acts, including executions, carried out in plain view of fellow prisoners in order to terrorize them.

(30) Torture is a routine feature of life in political prisons, with a 2014 report by Amnesty International concluding that “North Korea’s prison camps are very possibly home to some of the most appalling torture in the world”;

Whereas officials of the Government of North Korea continually deny the existence of the labor camps;

Whereas the Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity in North Korea Political Prisons Report of 2017 found that North Korea’s labor camp system “has no parallel in the world today”; and

Whereas the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea found that the government continually commits crimes against humanity and will not cease, “because the policies, institutions, and patterns of impunity that lie at their root remain in place”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the international community to—

(A) demand that the Government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea dismantle its labor camp system;

(B) create a special tribunal with jurisdiction to investigate and remedy crimes against humanity committed by the Government of North Korea;

(C) consider targeted sanctions against those individuals who have committed such crimes against humanity; and

(D) ban import of goods made by prisoners in the North Korean labor camp system;

(2) calls on the leadership of the Government of North Korea to—

(A) immediately cease human rights abuses;

(B) release the roughly 80,000 to 120,000 political prisoners;

(C) halt the ongoing arrests of North Koreans on political and religious grounds;

(D) allow the International Committee of the Red Cross entry into the camps to assist with the release and rehabilitation of prisoners;

(E) allow entry to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in North Korea to monitor the situation and assist with the rehabilitation;

(F) comply with international standards of food distribution and monitoring and allow full access to international humanitarian agencies; and

(G) end the exportation of North Korean forced labor consistent with obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2397 (2017);

(3) strongly condemns the use of forced labor by the Government of North Korea; and

(4) calls on the United States Government to—

(A) consider additional sanctions to the extent possible against those individuals responsible for the North Korean kwan-li-so labor camp system, including individuals administering such labor camps; and

(B) continue to raise awareness in the international community of the kwan-li-so labor camps and the continuing atrocious crimes being committed in the labor camps.

SENATE RESOLUTION 304—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH”

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. ENZI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARPER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. CAPITO,

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 304

Whereas investment in the education, training, and career advancement of the workforce in the United States, known as “workforce development”, is crucial to the ability of the United States to compete in the global economy;

Whereas collaboration among Governors, local governments, State and local education, workforce, and human services agencies, community colleges, local businesses, employment service providers, community-based organizations, and workforce development boards provides for long-term, sustainable, and successful workforce development across traditional sectors and emerging industries;

Whereas middle-skill jobs, which require more than a high school diploma but not a 4-year degree, comprise 53 percent of the labor market, but only 43 percent of workers in the United States are trained at that level, creating a discrepancy that may limit growth in changing industries such as health care, manufacturing, and information technology;

Whereas 76 percent of business leaders say that greater investment in skills training would help their business;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress passed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) with overwhelming bipartisan support in recognition of the need to strengthen the focus of the United States on the skills necessary to fill jobs in local and regional industries;

Whereas the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) supports employment, training, and support services for individuals with barriers to employment, including—

- (1) individuals who are low-income;
- (2) individuals who are out of work, including the long-term unemployed;
- (3) individuals displaced by outsourcing;
- (4) individuals living in rural areas or areas with persistently high unemployment;
- (5) individuals looking to learn new skills; and
- (6) individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the more than 550 workforce development boards and 2,500 American Job Centers are a driving force behind growing regional economies by providing training, resources, and assistance to workers who aim to compete in the 21st century economy;

Whereas ongoing State and local implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) provides unprecedented opportunities to develop the skills of workers in the United States through access to effective workforce education and training, including the development and delivery of proven strategies such as sector partnerships, career pathways, integrated education and training, work-based learning models, and paid internships;

Whereas, in 2018, programs authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.)—

(1) served nearly 6,000,000 young people and adults;

(2) exceeded employment targets across all programs; and

(3) helped more than 1,500,000 individuals, including English language learners, gain skills and credentials to help the individuals succeed in the labor market;

Whereas State programs established under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.)—

(1) ensured that more than 5,400,000 unemployed workers, including more than 500,000 veterans, had access to career services through American Job Centers in 2018; and

(2) are a foundational part of the workforce development system;

Whereas workforce development programs will play a critical role in addressing the expected 2,400,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs during the 10-year period following the adoption of this resolution;

Whereas community colleges and other workforce development training providers across the United States are well-situated—

(1) to train the next generation of workers in the United States; and

(2) to address the educational challenges created by emerging industries and technological advancements;

Whereas participation in a career and technical education (referred to in this preamble as “CTE”) program decreases the risk of students dropping out of high school, and all 50 States and the District of Columbia report higher graduation rates for CTE students, as compared to other students;

Whereas community and technical colleges operate as open access institutions serving millions of students annually at a comparatively low cost;

Whereas the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Public Law 115-224) supports the development and implementation of high-quality CTE programs that—

(1) combine rigorous academic content with occupational skills; and

(2) served approximately 12,000,000 high school and college students from 2016 to 2017;

Whereas there are more than 500,000 registered apprentices in the United States, and there is growing and bipartisan support for expanding earn-and-learn strategies to help current and future workers gain skills and work experience;

Whereas the federally supported workforce system and partner programs—

(1) have helped rebuild the economy of the United States and provide increased economic opportunities; and

(2) provide a pathway into 21st century jobs that support families while ensuring that businesses in the United States find the skilled workforce needed to compete in the global economy; and

Whereas workforce development is crucial to sustaining economic security for workers in the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Workforce Development Month”;

(2) supports Federal initiatives to promote workforce development; and

(3) acknowledges that workforce development plays a crucial role in supporting workers and growing the economy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 305—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2019, AS “NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK”

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KING, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 305

Whereas estuary regions cover only 13 percent of the land area in the continental

United States but contain nearly 43 percent of the population, 40 percent of the jobs, and nearly 50 percent of the economic output of the United States;

Whereas the commercial and recreational fishing industries support over 1,700,000 jobs in the United States;

Whereas in 2016—

(1) commercial and recreational saltwater fishing in the United States generated more than \$212,000,000,000 in sales and contributed \$100,000,000,000 to the gross domestic product of the United States;

(2) 9,800,000 saltwater anglers took recreational fishing trips; and

(3) saltwater recreational fishing supported 472,000 jobs, generated \$68,000,000,000 in sales impacts across the economy, and contributed \$39,000,000,000 to the gross domestic product of the United States;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitats for—

(1) countless species of fish and wildlife, including more than 68 percent of the commercial fish catch in the United States by value and 80 percent of the recreational fish catch in the United States by weight; and

(2) many species that are listed as threatened or endangered species;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization, erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during hurricanes, storms, and other extreme weather events;

Whereas, by the 1980s, the United States had already lost more than 50 percent of the wetlands that existed in the original 13 colonies;

Whereas the ecosystem functions of some coastal wetlands in the United States have become severely impaired by excess nutrients, chemical wastes, marine debris, invasive species, coastal subsidence and sea level changes, or upstream water and sediment management practices;

Whereas harmful algal blooms are hurting fish, wildlife, and human health, and are causing serious ecological and economic harm to some estuaries;

Whereas section 320 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330) (commonly known as the “Clean Water Act”) authorizes the development of comprehensive conservation and management plans to ensure that the designated uses of estuaries are protected and to restore and maintain the—

(1) chemical, physical, and biological integrity of estuaries;

(2) water quality;

(3) a balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife; and

(4) recreational activities in estuaries;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) provides that the policy of the United States is to preserve, protect, develop, and, if possible, restore or enhance the resources of the coastal zone of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas 27 coastal and Great Lakes States and territories of the United States operate or contain a National Estuary Program or a National Estuarine Research Reserve;

Whereas scientific study leads to a better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas the Federal Government, State, local, and Tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities in a cost-effective manner, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas the week of September 14 through September 21, 2019, is recognized as “National Estuaries Week” to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal Government and State, local, and Tribal government officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 14 through September 21, 2019, as “National Estuaries Week”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Week;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to sustaining employment in the United States and the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States;

(4) recognizes that human activities can have significant positive and negative impacts on the quality and productivity of estuary resources;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;

(6) supports the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 935. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1340, to authorize activities to combat the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 936. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. KENNEDY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 862, to extend the sunset for collateral requirements for Small Business Administration disaster loans.

SA 937. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. KENNEDY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 862, *supra*.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 935. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1340, to authorize activities to combat the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, beginning on line 12, strike “Notwithstanding section 110” and all that follows through “2018” on line 20 and insert the following: “The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall provide assistance, including multi-sectoral, non-humanitarian, and non-trade related foreign assistance, to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Burundi to effectively combat the Ebola outbreak that began in August 2018, following certification from the Secretary of State pursuant to section 110 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101) that each such country receiving assistance meets the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking or is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with such standards”.

On page 8, after line 13, add the following:

(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing humanitarian assistance from being