

leader of an organization that commits sexual or gender-based violence.

S. 1877

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1877, a bill to establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to complete regular appropriations.

S. 2043

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2043, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 2072

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2072, a bill to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2019, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 2166

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2166, a bill to designate Regional Ocean Partnerships of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 2183

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2183, a bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.

S. 2206

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2206, a bill to express the sense of Congress regarding restoration and maintenance of the Mardasson Memorial in Bastogne, Belgium.

S. 2216

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2216, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical deter-

minations relating to eligibility for caregiver programs, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.

S. 2330

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2330, a bill to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 2366

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2366, a bill to streamline the employer reporting process and strengthen the eligibility verification process for the premium assistance tax credit and cost-sharing subsidy.

S. RES. 252

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 252, a resolution designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

S. RES. 274

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 274, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and other rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices, and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2458. A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in agriculture research; to the Committee on the Budget.

Mr. DURBIN Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2458

*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 “America Grows Act of 2019”.

### SEC. 2. FUNDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to each funding recipient de-

scribed in subsection (b), as determined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget—

(1) for fiscal year 2020, not less than 105 percent of the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that recipient for fiscal year 2019, adjusted for inflation;

(2) for fiscal year 2021, not less than 105 percent of the amount determined under paragraph (1) for that recipient, adjusted for inflation;

(3) for fiscal year 2022, not less than 105 percent of the amount determined under paragraph (2) for that recipient, adjusted for inflation;

(4) for fiscal year 2023, not less than 105 percent of the amount determined under paragraph (3) for that recipient, adjusted for inflation; and

(5) for fiscal year 2024, not less than 105 percent of the amount determined under paragraph (4) for that recipient, adjusted for inflation.

(b) FUNDING RECIPIENTS DESCRIBED.—The funding recipients referred to in subsection (a) are—

- (1) the Agricultural Research Service;
- (2) the Economic Research Service;
- (3) the National Agricultural Statistics Service; and
- (4) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

### SEC. 3. BUDGETARY PROVISIONS.

(a) CAP ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(G) AGRICULTURE RESEARCH.—

“(i) ADJUSTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—If a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for a fiscal year is enacted that specifies amounts for an agricultural research funding recipient, then the adjustments for that fiscal year shall be the amount of additional new budget authority provided in that Act for that agricultural research funding recipient for that fiscal year, but shall not exceed—

“(I) for fiscal year 2020, the difference between—

“(aa) the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that agricultural research funding recipient for fiscal year 2019; and

“(bb) the amount determined by the Director under section 2(a)(1) of the America Grows Act of 2019 with respect to that agricultural research funding recipient;

“(II) for fiscal year 2021, the difference between—

“(aa) the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that agricultural research funding recipient for fiscal year 2019; and

“(bb) the amount determined by the Director under section 2(a)(2) of the America Grows Act of 2019 with respect to that agricultural research funding recipient;

“(III) for fiscal year 2022, the difference between—

“(aa) the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that agricultural research funding recipient for fiscal year 2019; and

“(bb) the amount determined by the Director under section 2(a)(3) of the America Grows Act of 2019 with respect to that agricultural research funding recipient;

“(IV) for fiscal year 2023, the difference between—

“(aa) the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that agricultural research funding recipient for fiscal year 2019; and

“(bb) the amount determined by the Director under section 2(a)(4) of the America

Grows Act of 2019 with respect to that agricultural research funding recipient; and

“(V) for fiscal year 2024, the difference between—

“(aa) the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that agricultural research funding recipient for fiscal year 2019; and

“(bb) the amount determined by the Director under section 2(a)(5) of the America Grows Act of 2019 with respect to that agricultural research funding recipient.

“(ii) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subparagraph:

“(I) ADDITIONAL NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—The term ‘additional new budget authority’ means, with respect to an agricultural research funding recipient, the amount of new budget authority provided for a fiscal year in an appropriation Act for that agricultural research funding recipient that is in excess of the amount of new budget authority provided in fiscal year 2019 in an appropriation Act for that agricultural research funding recipient.

“(II) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FUNDING RECIPIENT.—The term ‘agricultural research funding recipient’ means a funding recipient described in section 2(b) of the America Grows Act of 2019.

“(III) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.”.

(b) MINIMUM CONTINUED FUNDING REQUIREMENT.—The amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for a funding recipient described in section 2(b) for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024, and each subsequent fiscal year, shall not be less than the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that funding recipient for fiscal year 2019.

(c) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS FROM SEQUESTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting after “Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund and Other Funds (16–0327–0–1–600).” the following:

“Appropriations pursuant to section 2(a) of the America Grows Act of 2019.”.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to any sequestration order issued under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 306—RE-AFFIRMING THE COMMITMENT TO MEDIA DIVERSITY AND PLEDGING TO WORK WITH MEDIA ENTITIES AND DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS TO DEVELOP COMMON GROUND SOLUTIONS TO ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO MEDIA DIVERSITY

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 306

Whereas the principle that an informed and engaged electorate is critical to a vibrant democracy is deeply rooted in our laws of free speech and underpins the virtues on which we established our Constitution, “in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,

provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. . . .”;

Whereas having independent, diverse, and local media that provide exposure to a broad range of viewpoints and the ability to contribute to the political debate is central to sustaining that informed engagement;

Whereas it is in the public interest to encourage source, content, and audience diversity on our Nation’s shared telecommunications and media platforms;

Whereas the survival of small, independent, and diverse media outlets that serve diverse audiences and local media markets is essential to preserving local culture and building understanding on important community issues that impact the daily lives of residents;

Whereas research by the American Society of News Editors, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the Pew Research Center, and others has documented the continued challenges of increasing diversity among all types of media entities;

Whereas with increasing media experience and sophistication, it is even more important to have minority participation in local media to ensure a diverse range of information sources are available and different ideas and viewpoints are expressed to strengthen social cohesion among different communities; and

Whereas the constriction in small, independent, and diverse media outlets and limited participation of diverse populations in media ownership and decisionmaking are combining to negatively impact our goal of increasing local civic engagement and civic knowledge through increased voter participation, membership in civic groups, and knowledge of local political and civil information: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to diversity as a core tenet of the public interest standard in media policy; and

(2) pledges to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 307—CONGRATULATING THE EASTBANK ALL-STARS FROM RIVER RIDGE, LOUISIANA, FOR WINNING THE 2019 LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 307

Whereas Little League Baseball was founded in 1939, and the first Little League Baseball World Series tournament was played in 1947;

Whereas Little League Baseball is the largest youth sports program in the world with nearly 200,000 teams in more than 80 countries and all 50 States;

Whereas Little League Baseball affords children around the world a competitive arena that instills the principles of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and teamwork;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars team was founded in River Ridge, Louisiana, and includes a roster of young men from the Greater New Orleans area;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars displayed skill, competitiveness, and determination throughout their entire season and the Little League Baseball World Series tournament;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars advanced to the Little League Baseball World Series tournament by winning the State of Louisiana Championship and the Southwest Regional Championship;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars, representing the State of Louisiana and the Southwest Region, became the first team ever to lose the first game of the Little League World Series, and then go on to win the Little League World Series Championship;

Whereas, on August 25, 2019, in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, the Eastbank All-Stars from River Ridge, Louisiana, the United States Champions representing the Southwest Region, defeated the International Bracket Champions in the 73rd Little League Baseball World Series Championship;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars’ 8-0 shut-out victory was the first Little League Baseball World Series Championship in the history of the team;

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars became the first team from the State of Louisiana to ever win the United States Championship game and the World Series Championship game;

Whereas manager Scott Frazier and coaches Donald Abadie and Kevin Johnson did a masterful job in leading #2 Alton Shorts, #3 Ryder Planchard, #4 Stan Wiltz, #5 William Andrade, #6 Peyton Spadoni, #7 Derek DeLatte, #9 Connor Perrot, #10 Ryan Darrah, #12 Jeffrey Curtis, #15 Gavin Berry, #22 Reece Roussel, #23 Marshall Louque, and #24 Egan Prather to victory in the Little League Baseball World Series Championship;

Whereas Eastbank right fielder, Reece Roussel, set the Little League World Series record with an amazing 17 hits throughout the tournament, including a .739 batting average, as well as two key hits in the championship game;

Whereas Eastbank third baseman, Marshall Louque, secured three hits and three runs batted in (RBIs) in the championship game;

Whereas Marshall Louque and Reece Roussel set the Little League World Series record, hitting seven doubles each;

Whereas Eastbank pitcher, Egan Prather, pitched an impressive shutout in the championship game, striking out six Curaçao batters along the way;

Whereas the parents, families, friends, and fans of the Eastbank All-Stars deserve recognition for proudly supporting the team throughout their historic season; and

Whereas the Eastbank All-Stars were strong ambassadors of the great State of Louisiana and the United States of America on the world stage: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate congratulates—

(1) the Eastbank All-Stars for their hard work and determination in winning the 73rd Little League Baseball World Series Championship;

(2) Scott Frazier and the Eastbank coaching staff for the founding of the organization and leading the team to its first Little League World Series victory;

(3) the Eastbank All-Star players for showing poise and exemplifying the strength and resilience of the people of Louisiana by never giving up and fighting through adversity to make all of us proud of their historic accomplishment;

(4) the parents, families, friends, and fans of the Eastbank All-Stars;

(5) the community of River Ridge, the Greater New Orleans area, and the State of Louisiana; and

(6) the Pabao Little League team from Willemstad, Curaçao for a hard-fought championship game and an outstanding season.