

for women and minorities in STEM. Specifically, the bill would require the National Science Foundation to award competitive grants to promote activities such as online workshops, mentoring programs, internship opportunities, outreach efforts, and other designed to increase recruitment and retention of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM. It is through these purposeful efforts that we, as a nation, can foster a stronger, more expansive, and diverse STEM workforce that will help us remain a competitive force around the world.

As we work to build and maintain our STEM workforce, it is important for us to promote opportunities for women and minorities that encourage participation so that we engage our entire talent pool and ensure that our nation's future economic and national security are secure.

We have made important strides to provide opportunities for women and minorities in our country, but more work remains and we should continue our efforts by considering and passing these bills. I thank my colleagues for joining me in reintroducing the bills, and encourage others to join us as we work to strengthen the STEM pipeline for everyone in the United States.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KAINE):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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.J. Res. 56

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability" (84 Fed. Reg. 49788 (September 23, 2019)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 343—CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLES OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VELVET REVOLUTION, THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, AND THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 343

Whereas, on January 8, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson, in the "Fourteen Points" address to a joint session of Congress, called for the free "autonomous development" of the peoples of Austria-Hungary;

Whereas the Fourteen Points address became the basis for the founding of an independent Czech-Slovak nation-state;

Whereas, on September 3, 1918, the United States recognized the Czecho-Slovak National Council in Paris as a de facto government at war with the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires;

Whereas, on October 14, 1918, the Czecho-Slovak National Council formed a provisional government, which declared independence from Austria-Hungary on October 18, 1918;

Whereas the peoples of the present day Czech Republic and the peoples of the present day Slovak Republic proclaimed independence on October 28, 1918, and October 30, 1918, respectively, forming the common state of the Republic of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on November 12, 1918, the United States and Czechoslovakia established formal diplomatic relations;

Whereas the United States never recognized—

(1) the annexation of the Czech Sudetenland by Nazi Germany in October 1938;

(2) the subsequent establishment of a German protectorate over Bohemia and Moravia; or

(3) the creation of the German puppet Slovak State in March 1939;

Whereas the Slovak and Czech resistance movements against the Nazi occupation, with the support of the Czechoslovak government-in-exile, launched the Slovak National Uprising in August 1944 and the Prague uprising in May 1945, accelerating the collapse of the Third Reich and demonstrating the courage, patriotism, and freedom-loving spirit of the Czech and Slovak peoples;

Whereas, in February 1948, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia seized power from the democratically elected government of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on August 20, 1968, 20 Soviet and Warsaw Pact military divisions invaded Czechoslovakia in order to crush the "Prague Spring", a period of greater political and economic liberty that followed the appointment of Alexander Dubcek as First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party;

Whereas, in the nonviolent Velvet Revolution of November 1989, the peoples of Czechoslovakia overthrew 40 years of totalitarian communist rule;

Whereas, after the Velvet Revolution, the peoples of Czechoslovakia established vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political systems based on freedom of speech, a free press, free and fair elections, the rule of law, and individual rights, values embodied by Vaclav Havel, the first president of Czechoslovakia after the fall of communism in that country;

Whereas, on January 1, 1993, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic were formally created as independent nation-states after a peaceful dissolution of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on March 12, 1999, and March 29, 2004, respectively, and have made significant contributions to the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization around the world; and

Whereas the peoples of the United States, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic have forged a special relationship based on mutual respect, close cooperation, and the shared values of democracy, the rule of law, economic liberty, and individual rights and responsibility: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic for their considerable achievements in building free, democratic, and prosperous societies over the past 30 years since the fall of communist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia;

(2) congratulates the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on—

(A) the 26th anniversary of the formation of each country; and

(B) the 101st anniversary of the independence of Czechoslovakia;

(3) expresses profound gratitude for the sacrifices made by the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic in support of the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Afghanistan and elsewhere;

(4) reaffirms the strong historical and cultural ties that bind the people of the Czech Republic, the people of the Slovak Republic, and the people of the United States together; and

(5) expresses the continued commitment of the United States to a free, peaceful, and prosperous Europe.

SENATE RESOLUTION 344—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A CREDIBLE, INCLUSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN AFGHANISTAN ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 344

Whereas Afghanistan will hold a presidential election on September 28, 2019, in which the citizens of Afghanistan will have an opportunity to participate;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Population Fund, 63.7 percent of the people of Afghanistan are under 25 years of age, reflecting the need for a fully functioning and transparent government to administer and provide services to the youth of Afghanistan, who are facing significant challenges related to health, education, and employment;

Whereas, in the last parliamentary election in 2018, more than 3,000,000 people in Afghanistan exercised the democratic right to

choose the individuals who would represent the people of Afghanistan in parliament;

Whereas Afghanistan has made significant progress on human rights, including the rights of women and minorities, which are enshrined in the constitution of Afghanistan and further protected by the participation of the people of Afghanistan in democratic elections;

Whereas free and fair elections are a fundamental part of a strong democracy and allow the citizens of a country to exercise full civil, political, and human rights;

Whereas a credible electoral process is necessary for citizens of a country to trust in the democratic institutions and political leaders of that country;

Whereas elections should serve as peaceful processes through which the will of the voters is expressed and political power is transferred or reaffirmed;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan will go to the polls to exercise their democratic right to vote amid heightened threats and attacks by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban has targeted campaign rallies, candidates, and election events, resulting in 48 deaths on September 17, 2019, alone;

Whereas, since 2001, the United States has invested significantly in efforts to bring security and stability to the region, accounting for more than \$800,000,000,000 in efforts that include—

(1) helping to rebuild Afghanistan, including efforts to rebuild and reform the institutions of Afghanistan; and

(2) helping to defend the rights of the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States have been deployed to Afghanistan, of which—

(1) more than 20,500 have been wounded; and

(2) more than 2,400 have died while serving;

Whereas the international community has also made critical investments in democratic processes and institutions in Afghanistan;

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as “NATO”) invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty for the first time in history in the wake of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas, since the date on which NATO invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty, the longest and most challenging mission of NATO has been in commanding the International Security Assistance Force mandated by the United Nations—

(1) beginning in August 2003 and ending in December 2014; and

(2) which, at its largest, comprised more than 130,000 troops from 50 NATO allies and partner countries;

Whereas, in January 2015, NATO launched the Resolute Support Mission, which comprises approximately 17,000 troops from 39 NATO allies and partner countries as of September 2019;

Whereas the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces will have responsibility for providing security for the presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

Whereas, despite threats from the Taliban, people across Afghanistan are risking their lives to support, administer, and secure democratic election operations, including—

(1) 13,000 women and men who are serving as independent election observers;

(2) 50,000 citizens of Afghanistan who have signed up to be poll watchers from the political parties; and

(3) more than 200 members of the independent media who have been accredited to cover and report on the campaigns and election processes; and

Whereas a democratically elected and legitimate government that reflects the will of the people of Afghanistan is in the security interests of Afghanistan and the allies of Afghanistan, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

(2) commends the people of Afghanistan for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections;

(3) condemns all threats against the administration of free and fair democratic elections, including all acts of terrorism designed to depress turnout and intimidate voters; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Government to peace and stability in furtherance of a democratic Afghanistan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 345—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT, AND ENHANCE THE STATE OF, CYBERSECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 345

Whereas internet-based devices are present in every aspect of life for many people in the United States, with constant connection providing opportunities for innovation and modernization;

Whereas a connected society is subject to cybersecurity threats that can compromise even the most personal and sensitive of information;

Whereas malware is any malicious software that can be used to compromise the integrity of an electronic device, including the various types of software that give cyber criminals unique methods to monitor and control online activity or steal personal information or other sensitive data, such as—

- (1) adware;
- (2) botnets;
- (3) ransomware;
- (4) rootkits;
- (5) spyware;
- (6) Trojans;
- (7) viruses; and
- (8) worms;

Whereas an insider threat occurs when a current or former employee, contractor, or business partner who has or previously had authorized access to the network, system, or data of an organization intentionally misuses that access in a manner that constitutes a cybercrime;

Whereas 28 percent of electronic crime events are known to be caused by insider threats;

Whereas public Wi-Fi hotspots can be convenient, but are not always secure, and may expose anyone connected to the network to a malicious cyberattack;

Whereas there are more than 10,000,000 attempted cyberattacks reported to the Pentagon each day;

Whereas everyone can take simple steps to minimize the chance of a cybercrime, including—

- (1) setting strong passwords;
- (2) installing updates;
- (3) understanding privacy settings; and
- (4) thinking critically and carefully about online offers;

Whereas National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort between government and industry—

(1) to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity;

(2) to provide education to public and private sector partners through events and initiatives;

(3) to ensure that public and private sector partners, and all people of the United States, have the tools and resources needed to be safer and more secure online; and

(4) to increase the resilience of the United States in the event of a cyber incident;

Whereas, in 2019, National Cybersecurity Awareness Month will emphasize personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and in the workplace, focusing on key areas such as—

- (1) citizen privacy;
- (2) consumer devices; and
- (3) e-commerce security;

Whereas the theme of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019 is “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”;

Whereas there are approximately 310,000 unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that there will be 1,800,000 unfilled cybersecurity positions globally by 2022; and

Whereas the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security works with public sector, private sector, and government partners—

- (1) to share information;
- (2) to build greater trust; and
- (3) to lead the national effort to protect and enhance the resilience of the physical and cyber infrastructure of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month;

(2) commits to continuing to work with Federal agencies, businesses, educational institutions, and other organizations to enhance the state of cybersecurity in the United States; and

(3) recognizes October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019, with the theme “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”, as an opportunity—

(A) to provide education to the people of the United States about cybersecurity; and

(B) to help all people of the United States be safer, more secure, and more aware while online and using connected devices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 346—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2019, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 346

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;