

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, includ-

(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;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide business and energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can completely replicate the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are being deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year; and

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates October 8, 2019, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 347—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2, 2019, AS “ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY” IN CELEBRATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY PRIVATE SECTOR INNOVATION AND FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 347

Whereas October has been designated as “National Energy Awareness Month”;

Whereas improvements in energy efficiency technologies and practices, along

with policies of the United States enacted since the 1970s, have resulted in energy savings of more than 60,000,000,000,000 British thermal units and energy cost avoidance of more than \$800,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas energy efficiency has enjoyed bipartisan support in Congress and in administrations of both parties for more than 40 years;

Whereas bipartisan legislation enacted since the 1970s to advance Federal energy efficiency policies includes—

(1) the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.);

(2) the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-12; 101 Stat. 103);

(3) the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13201 et seq.);

(4) the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801 et seq.);

(5) the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17001 et seq.); and

(6) the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-11; 129 Stat. 182);

Whereas energy efficiency has long been supported by a diverse coalition of businesses (including manufacturers, utilities, energy service companies, and technology firms), public-interest organizations, environmental and conservation groups, and State and local governments;

Whereas, since 1980, the United States has more than doubled its energy productivity, realizing twice the economic output per unit of energy consumed;

Whereas about 2,325,000 individuals in the United States are currently employed across the energy efficiency sector, as the United States has doubled its energy productivity and business and industry have become more innovative and competitive in global markets;

Whereas the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy is the principal Federal agency responsible for renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency efforts;

Whereas cutting energy waste saves the consumers of the United States billions of dollars on utility bills annually; and

Whereas energy efficiency policies, financing innovations, and public-private partnerships have contributed to a reduction in energy intensity in Federal facilities by nearly 50 percent since the mid-1970s, which results in direct savings to United States taxpayers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2, 2019, as “Energy Efficiency Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe Energy Efficiency Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 348—PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, AS “NATIONAL CLEAN ENERGY WEEK”**

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 348

Whereas, across the United States, clean and readily abundant forms of energy are powering more homes and businesses than ever before;

Whereas clean energy generation is readily available from zero- and low-emissions sources;

Whereas the clean energy sector is a growing part of the economy and has been a key driver of economic growth in the United States in recent years;

Whereas technological innovation can further reduce costs and increase deployment of clean energy sources;

Whereas the “2019 U.S. Energy and Employment Report” found that—

(1) energy and energy efficiency sectors employ approximately 6,700,000 people; and

(2) the number of jobs in those sectors grew by more than 2 percent from 2017 to 2018;

Whereas the scaling of clean energy is essential to reducing harmful pollution;

Whereas clean energy jobs are inherently local, contribute to the growth of local economies, and cannot be outsourced due to the on-site nature of construction, installation, and maintenance; and

Whereas innovative clean energy solutions and clean energy jobs are part of the energy future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) proclaims the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “National Clean Energy Week”;

(2) encourages individuals and organizations across the United States to support commonsense solutions that address the economic, environmental, and energy needs of the United States in the 21st century;

(3) encourages the Federal Government, States, municipalities, and individuals to invest in clean, low-emitting energy technologies; and

(4) recognizes the role of entrepreneurs and small businesses in ensuring the energy leadership of the United States in the global marketplace and supporting low-cost, clean, and reliable energy in the United States.

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 349—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2019, AS “NATIONAL CONCUSSION AWARENESS DAY”**

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 349

Whereas mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern for children, teens, and adults;

Whereas, according to information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) there are as many as 1,600,000 to 3,800,000 sports-related concussions annually;

(2) as many as 5,300,000 individuals live with a disability because of a traumatic brain injury (TBI);

(3) from 2001 to 2012, the rate of emergency department visits for sports- and recreation-related injuries involving a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury, alone or in combination with other injuries, more than doubled among children 19 years of age or younger, and, in 2012, an estimated 329,290 children were treated in the United States for sports- and recreation-related injuries that included a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury; and

(4) current data sources may only capture 1 out of every 9 concussions across the United States;

Whereas the seriousness of concussions should not be minimized in athletics, and return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols can help ensure recovery;