

buy a gun from a licensed dealer. He then managed to circumvent the process by purchasing his weapon from somebody who appears to have been in the business of manufacturing and selling guns but who is not a registered firearms dealer. By not registering as a dealer, the seller was able to skirt the legal requirement and sell a weapon to the shooter without conducting the necessary background check.

So to prevent unlicensed dealers from continuing to break the law, the RESPONSE Act creates a nationwide task force to investigate and prosecute those individuals. The task force will focus on those who are illegally selling firearms, as well as those attempting to buy firearms who provide false statements as part of the background check.

While preventing unlicensed dealers from selling weapons without appropriate background checks is an important way to reduce violence, it is only one factor. I think we have to admit there isn't one single solution. It is multifactorial. There are multiple things we can and should do.

The second major piece of this legislation improves the quality and availability of mental health care. I asked the Odessa police chief following the shooting in Midland-Odessa: What is it you think we might have been able to do? He said: Well, we need better access to mental health diagnoses and treatment.

We clearly need to do more to identify and support struggling individuals who could pose a danger to themselves and to others. We know for a fact that the majority of gun deaths are suicides, self-inflicted. While mental illness is not the prevailing cause of mass violence, enhanced mental health resources, I believe, are critical to saving lives. The RESPONSE Act includes a range of measures, such as expanding mental health crisis intervention teams, improving coordination between mental health providers and law enforcement, and bolstering the mental health workforce.

Importantly, this bill expands something called assisted outpatient treatment programs, or AOTs. This is something we passed as part of the 21st Century Cures Act, my Mental Health and Safe Communities Act to help focus on, as a priority, pilot projects of these assisted outpatient treatment programs. Here we seek to expand them further based on the proven success. AOTs, or assisted outpatient treatment, provide families of individuals with mental illness an opportunity to get treatment for their loved one in their community rather than in an institution. Making mental health resources more accessible will serve our most vulnerable friends and neighbors in countless ways and, I believe, make our communities safer.

Third, the RESPONSE Act seeks to increase the safety of our students. I have heard from countless parents—no doubt, the Presiding Officer has too—

that parents literally are in fear of sending their children to school, not knowing whether they may be victimized by one of these senseless attacks, especially in the aftermath of Santa Fe and Parkland High School. Parents are rightfully concerned about sending their kids to school, and they should not have to live with that.

The RESPONSE Act includes provisions to help identify students whose behavior indicates a threat of violence and then provide the student with the appropriate services they may need not to be a danger to themselves or others. By promoting best practices within our schools, as well as internet safety policies, we can help protect both students and school faculty and provide parents with a little peace of mind.

Finally, because so often these shooters advertise on social media or cry out for attention to law enforcement or other people ahead of time, this legislation includes provisions to ensure law enforcement can receive timely information about potential threats made online. Online providers and platforms have the ability to share information with law enforcement today during emergencies. And in the fight against child abuse, the RESPONSE Act would expand the scope of information they can share to include information about potential acts of mass violence or self-harm or hate crimes or acts of domestic terrorism.

The RESPONSE Act has been endorsed already by a number of law enforcement and mental health organizations, including the National Council for Behavioral Health, National Alliance on Mental Illness, the National District Attorneys Association, Fraternal Order of Police, and a number of others.

I am glad to say it also has received support already—even though we are only introducing it today—from a number of our colleagues here: Senators MCSALLY, TILLIS, ERNST, CAPITO, and Senator TIM SCOTT. I hope we can work together to build a big bipartisan list of cosponsors as other Senators have the opportunity to review this legislation—again, using the Fix NICS bill as a model of how we can build consensus and get something done that will save lives.

There is no quick fix, as I said, but there are commonsense measures we can take to reduce mass violence and protect the American people. As Texans continue to grieve in the aftermath of these attacks, I am committed to upholding my promise that I made to their families and friends to do something—to do what we can to prevent more communities from facing this sort of heartbreak.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

**SENATE RESOLUTION 374—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 23, 2019, AS A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE TRAGIC TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS BARRACKS IN BEIRUT, LEBANON, IN 1983**

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. JONES, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 374

Whereas, in 1982, the United States deployed members of the Armed Forces to Lebanon as part of a multinational peacekeeping force;

Whereas, early on the morning of October 23, 1983, a truck packed with explosives detonated outside of a building at Beirut International Airport that served as quarters for several hundred members of the Armed Forces deployed as part of the peacekeeping force;

Whereas 241 members of the Armed Forces were killed in the blast;

Whereas the members of the Armed Forces killed included 220 Marines, members of the Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 8th Marines Regiment, which made October 23, 1983, the deadliest day for the Marine Corps since the Battle of Iwo Jima in February and March 1945 during World War II;

Whereas, in addition to the Marine Corps casualties, 18 Navy sailors and 3 Army soldiers were killed, and more than 100 other members of the Armed Forces were injured;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces from 39 States and Puerto Rico died while serving in Beirut, Lebanon, from 1982 to 1984;

Whereas, on the same day as the bombing of the Marine Corps barracks, another suicide bomber killed 58 French paratroopers housed at another building in Beirut; and

Whereas it is fitting and proper to recognize the events of October 23, 1983, and the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who died in Beirut on that day through the establishment of a national day of remembrance on October 23, 2019: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of a national day of remembrance on October 23, 2019, for members of the Armed Forces of the United States who were killed or injured by the terrorist attack on the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, on October 23, 1983; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to support and participate in appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities in observance of such a national day of remembrance.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 375—RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW UPRISING**

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 375

Whereas October 2, 2019, marks the 75th anniversary of the tragic conclusion to the

Warsaw Uprising, a landmark event during World War II, in which brave citizens of Poland revolted against the German Nazi occupation of the city of Warsaw in the face of daunting and seemingly insurmountable odds;

Whereas the Warsaw Uprising, which was part of a nationwide resistance against the German Nazi occupation of Poland and lasted for 63 days, was started by the Polish Home Army, the underground resistance effort that included many young and brave individuals;

Whereas the Warsaw Uprising occurred just over a year after the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in April 1943, which was the single largest act of Jewish resistance against forces of Nazi Germany;

Whereas, after the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, the remaining Jewish Poles from Warsaw were sent to Treblinka, the killing center and labor camp, and murdered;

Whereas, beginning August 1, 1944, the Polish Home Army fought against the German Nazi occupation of Warsaw, using mostly homemade weapons and far outnumbered by the overwhelming German Nazi force, at a cost of approximately 200,000 citizens of Poland killed, wounded, or missing;

Whereas Adolf Hitler ordered the annihilation of the city of Warsaw and the extermination of its citizens as punishment for the uprising, decimating 80 percent of Warsaw with no regard for the lives of the citizens of Warsaw or for the rich heritage of historic architecture in Warsaw;

Whereas a Soviet-led army halted its march toward the city of Berlin at the banks of the Vistula River on the specific orders of Stalin to allow the German Nazis to decimate the Poles;

Whereas, throughout the Warsaw Uprising, many people fled the city of Warsaw, remained in hiding, or were wounded or killed, and the surviving population of Warsaw, which once totaled more than 1,300,000 people, was then sent to prisoner of war camps and endured harsh conditions;

Whereas, after World War II, thousands of Polish refugees fled from Poland due to persecution and came to the United States for safety, security, and new opportunities;

Whereas the deep, rich history and traditions of immigrants from Poland who settled in the United States, particularly in the States of Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin, have undeniably shaped the social fabric and foundation of the United States;

Whereas, in the 20th century, Cleveland, Ohio; Buffalo, New York; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Detroit, Michigan; and Chicago, Illinois; served as the major epicenters for immigrants and workers from Poland whose remarkable contributions to industry led to the incorporation of new towns and the subsequent growth of those towns;

Whereas the heroic actions of the Polish underground resistance during World War II and the brave citizenry of Poland provide a valuable lesson in perseverance and patriotism;

Whereas the legacy of the Warsaw Uprising serves as one of the most poignant reminders of the human cost of the Allied war effort during World War II to defeat Adolf Hitler and the German Nazis; and

Whereas the bravery demonstrated by the citizens of Poland during the Warsaw Uprising continues to inspire people throughout the world who are subjected to tyranny and oppression and who join the fight for freedom, democracy, and the pursuit of liberty: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising;

(2) commends the bravery, heroism, and patriotism of the individuals who fought as part of the Polish Home Army in order to liberate Poland from German Nazi occupation; and

(3) honors the memory of the soldiers and civilians whose lives were lost during the fighting, and the individuals who suffered in concentration camps and death camps during World War II and the Holocaust.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 28—CONGRATULATING THE PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR INAUGURAL SEASON

Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. CON. RES. 28

Whereas the Portland Trail Blazers have proudly and energetically represented Oregon's pioneering spirit on the national basketball stage since 1970;

Whereas the signature phrase "Rip City", coined by long-time announcer Bill Schonely, has come to represent the city of Portland and Trail Blazers fans throughout Oregon;

Whereas dedicated administrators Harry Glickman and Larry Weinberg worked behind the scenes to establish a sustainable and beloved franchise;

Whereas the Blazers, as they are known, won their first National Basketball Association title in 1977;

Whereas Bill Walton, colorful personality and backbone of the franchise, was named the Most Valuable Player for the NBA Finals that year, and won the NBA League MVP Award in 1978;

Whereas the Blazers and their fans own the longest ever streak of consecutive sold-out NBA games, at 814 games;

Whereas history-making players including Geoff Petrie, Clyde Drexler, Terry Porter, and Arvydas Sabonis powered the Blazers through the first quarter century of their existence;

Whereas 21 consecutive playoff appearances (1983 to 2003) by the Blazers ranks 2nd all-time in NBA history;

Whereas Blazers Brandon Roy and Rasheed Wallace represented Oregon nationally as All-Stars in 2008 and 2001, respectively, demonstrating that the talent of the Blazers had not waned;

Whereas Damian Lillard and Brandon Roy blazed into their NBA careers with Rookie of the Year honors in 2012 and 2006, respectively, representing Portland as a hub for dedicated basketball stars;

Whereas Damian Lillard and his outstanding teammates have lifted this franchise back into the realm of deep playoff runs, including last year's strong showing in the Western Conference Finals;

Whereas the owner and benefactor of the Blazers for 30 years, Paul Allen, is deeply missed after his death on October 18, 2018; and

Whereas the Portland Trail Blazers have brought Oregonians together for 50 years, each year generating as much excitement, hope, and promise as the first year: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) recognizes the Portland Trail Blazers for embarking upon their 50th season;

(2) congratulates all players, administrators, and fans of the Portland Trail Blazers

for half a century of dedication to the sport and franchise;

(3) joins Oregonians and Blazers fans everywhere to celebrate Rip City's 50th anniversary; and

(4) directs the Clerk of the Senate to produce copies of this resolution for the Portland Trail Blazers team members, staff, and management.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 967. Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 968. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 969. Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 970. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 971. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 972. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 973. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 974. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 975. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 976. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 977. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 978. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 979. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 980. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 948 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 3055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.