

S. RES. 392

Whereas the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) was created in 2013 to build a cadre of emerging leaders in member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with the goal of fostering regional cooperation and partnership with the United States;

Whereas YSEALI is composed of influential young leaders who are between 18 and 35 years of age from ASEAN countries (Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and Timor-Leste who are making a difference in their communities, countries, and the region;

Whereas 65 percent of the population of the ASEAN region is under 35 years of age, and these 400,000,000 youth will determine the future of the region for decades to come;

Whereas YSEALI aims to further strengthen the enduring partnership between the United States and ASEAN;

Whereas YSEALI encourages its leaders to partner with each other and the United States Government to address common challenges, including economic growth, sustainable development, education, and civic engagement;

Whereas YSEALI academic and professional exchange programs in the United States allow visiting leaders to experience the culture and values of the United States first-hand, while establishing personal and professional ties to experts, institutions, organizations, companies, and local governments in the United States;

Whereas YSEALI exchange visitors, upon returning to their countries, help promote a positive understanding of the United States;

Whereas YSEALI allows United States experts to visit ASEAN countries to share their expertise and work with YSEALI alumni on projects that advance common goals;

Whereas YSEALI programs in the Indo-Pacific region build the capacity of civil society in the fields of human rights, good governance, anti-corruption and transparency, social entrepreneurship, and media literacy, which are key to the Indo-Pacific efforts of the United States Government;

Whereas YSEALI programming increases the visibility of the United States in the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas, in 5 years, YSEALI has grown into a thriving community of more than 5,000 alumni and more than 140,000 virtual network participants;

Whereas YSEALI alumni are already distinguishing themselves as influential government officials, entrepreneurs, human rights activists, journalists, social entrepreneurs, and educators;

Whereas outstanding YSEALI alumni include 2 Malaysian cabinet ministers and a Pulitzer Prize-winning Burmese journalist imprisoned for investigating human rights violations against the Rohingya;

Whereas YSEALI alumni are valuable partners to embassies and agencies of the United States overseas;

Whereas the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409; 132 Stat. 5387) (referred to in this preamble as “ARIA”) emphasized the importance of ASEAN to the United States and supported the elevation of the relationship between the United States and ASEAN to a strategic partnership; and

Whereas ARIA authorized \$25,000,000 to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023 to support Indo-Pacific young leaders initiatives, including YSEALI, the ASEAN Youth Volunteers Program, and other people-to-people exchange programs that focus on building the capacity of democracy, human rights, and good governance activists in the Indo-Pacific region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the partnership of the United States with young leaders in Southeast Asia; (2) recognizes the importance of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) in—

(A) advancing the soft power of the United States in Southeast Asia; and

(B) promoting human rights, democracy, and good governance in the Indo-Pacific region;

(3) emphasizes the key role of YSEALI in—

(A) strengthening the relationship of the United States with the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); and

(B) elevating the profile and standing of the United States as a main partner in the region;

(4) stresses the importance of YSEALI in building leadership capacity among civil society in ASEAN member states and across Southeast Asia; and

(5) encourages the Department of State to promote the YSEALI program to the maximum extent possible as a valuable tool to advance mutually beneficial cooperation with partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

since the initial arrival of Sikhs in the United States in the late 1800s;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States pursue diverse professions that add to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including—

(1) by serving as members of the Armed Forces; and

(2) by making significant contributions to agriculture, information technology, other technology, small businesses, the hospitality industry, trucking, and medicine;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States served in the United States military during the World Wars;

Whereas Sikhs stand for—

(1) equality of gender; (2) equality of race; and (3) freedom of faith;

Whereas Hoosier Sikhs are 1 of the fastest growing business communities in Indiana;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States distinguish themselves by fostering respect among all people through faith and service;

Whereas Sikhism preaches a message of devotion, truthful living, equality of mankind, and social justice;

Whereas the Senate is committed to providing education to the people of the United States about—

(1) the religions of the world;

(2) the value of religious diversity;

(3) tolerance grounded in the principles of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

(4) a culture of mutual understanding; and (5) the importance of reducing violence; and

Whereas the Senate seeks to further diversity in the Senate community and afford all people of the United States the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikhs of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the historical, cultural, and religious significance of the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak;

(B) the contributions and sacrifices made by Sikhs of the United States; and

(C) the discrimination that Sikhs of the United States have faced in the United States and around the world; and

(2) expresses respect for all Sikhs who practice their faith.

SENATE RESOLUTION 393—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 550TH BIRTHDAY OF GURU NANAK AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SACRIFICES MADE BY SIKHS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 393

Whereas Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 120 years;

Whereas, during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikhs of the United States worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific, and Eastern Railroad;

Whereas Sikhism is a monotheistic religion and the fifth largest religion in the world, with—

(1) more than 25,000,000 Sikhs worldwide; and

(2) almost 1,000,000 Sikhs in the United States;

Whereas 2019 is the year of the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak, the first of 10 gurus and founders of Sikhism;

Whereas the Gurpurab of Guru Nanak—

(1) is 1 of the most important dates on the Sikh calendar; and

(2) is celebrated across the United States and worldwide;

Whereas Vaisakhi, which is 1 of the most historically significant days of the year for Sikhs—

(1) is celebrated on April 14; and

(2) is the day on which Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the 10th Guru of Sikhism, created the Warrior Saint tradition of the volunteer soldier known as “Khalsa”;

Whereas the Sikh place of worship is known as Gurdwara Sahib, and there are more than 500 Gurdwaras Sahib across the United States;

Whereas a hallmark of Sikh values and tradition is the community kitchen in every Gurdwara, known as the “Langar”, where food is served, for free, to all visitors to the Gurdwara regardless of faith, religion, or background;

Whereas Sikh men and women have contributed to the society of the United States

SENATE RESOLUTION 394—HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WHO CARRIED OUT THE MISSION THAT KILLED ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 394

Whereas the world’s number one wanted terrorist, Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim al-Badri, also referred to by his nom de guerre Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was killed after years of relentless pursuit by the United States;

Whereas President Donald J. Trump stated, “Capturing or killing Baghdadi has been the top national security priority of my Administration,” and “The world is now a much safer place.”;

Whereas, on October 26, 2019, members of the United States Special Operations Command flawlessly executed a daring and complex nighttime raid coordinated with numerous partners to assault the compound in

which Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was residing, ultimately leading to his demise;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said of the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, “This is a devastating blow. This is not just their leader, it’s their founder. He was an inspirational leader in many ways. He formed ISIS in 2014, he led to establishing the physical caliphate throughout the region, so this is a major blow to them.”; and

Whereas, although all members of the raid force were able to return to a safe location following the operation, two service members suffered minor injuries and one military working dog was also injured: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) declares that the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi represents a measure of justice and relief for the innumerable victims of ISIS;

(2) commends the men and women and military working dogs of the United States Armed Forces and the United States intelligence community for their flawless plan and execution to capture or kill the ISIS leader;

(3) commends the President for ordering the successful operation to locate and eliminate Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi;

(4) recognizes the support from our allies and partners, including the Syrian Kurds, for assisting with executing this daring raid;

(5) reaffirms its commitment to disrupting, dismantling, and defeating ISIS and affiliated radical Islamic terrorist organizations around the world that threaten United States national security, eliminating safe havens for terrorists, and bringing terrorists to justice.

SENATE RESOLUTION 395—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 395

Whereas, on November 4, 1979, 66 United States diplomats, military personnel, and civilians were taken hostage from the United States Embassy in Tehran by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in what became known as the Iran Hostage Crisis;

Whereas 13 of the 66 American hostages were released by November 20, 1979;

Whereas 8 members of the United States Armed Forces died in an attempt to rescue the hostages on April 25, 1980;

Whereas another American hostage was released on July 11, 1980, after 250 days in captivity;

Whereas, after 444 days in captivity, the remaining 52 hostages were released on January 20, 1981, with the signing of the Algiers Accords;

Whereas the Iran Hostages were subjected to mock executions and other forms of physical and emotional torture at the hands of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

Whereas the Iran Hostages and their families still suffer from the events of the Iran Hostage Crisis;

Whereas the Algiers Accords prevented the Iran Hostages from taking legal action to pursue compensation from the Islamic Republic of Iran for their time in captivity;

Whereas many of the Iran Hostages and their families finally became eligible to receive compensation through the enactment in 2015 of the Justice for United States Vic-

tims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act (34 U.S.C. 20144) and the creation of the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund; and

Whereas, 40 years after its founding, the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to promulgate a culture of fear, oppression, and violence as one of the leading state sponsors of terrorism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Iran Hostage Crisis;

(2) honors the suffering of the Iran Hostages and their families during the Iran Hostage Crisis, as well as the sacrifices made by those who attempted to rescue the hostages; and

(3) supports the designation of a national day of remembrance on November 4, 2019, for the Iran Hostage Crisis.

SENATE RESOLUTION 396—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2019 AS ‘‘NATIONAL HEALTH LITERACY MONTH’’

Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 396

Whereas health literacy is the degree to which individuals can obtain and understand basic health information in order to make informed health decisions;

Whereas, according to the latest national assessment of health literacy, a majority of adults have intermediate health literacy, while more than 75,000,000 adults have basic or below basic health literacy;

Whereas language and cultural differences can affect health literacy and thereby lower effective health communication between providers and patients;

Whereas, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, low health literacy is associated with higher rates of emergency care use, increased hospitalizations, and, among seniors, higher mortality;

Whereas the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality also found that low health literacy can be associated with a lack of medication adherence;

Whereas experts estimate that the annual cost of low health literacy to the United States economy is between \$106,000,000,000 and \$238,000,000,000;

Whereas mental health literacy may lead to better outcomes for individuals with mental disorders, particularly individuals with suicidal ideation, either by facilitating early help-seeking by those individuals or helping others identify early signs of mental disorders and seek help on behalf of those individuals;

Whereas health literacy can assist in preventing disease and illness, increasing life expectancy, improving patient care and outcomes, and reducing health care costs;

Whereas, in 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy that establishes 7 goals; and

Whereas advocacy organizations have recognized the month of October as “National Health Literacy Month” to increase awareness about the importance of making health information easy to understand: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2019 as “National Health Literacy Month”;

(2) encourages individuals to assess and improve their health knowledge and literacy;

(3) recommends that health care providers deliver health services in a clear and comprehensive manner; and

(4) encourages all interested parties to promote the importance of health literacy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 397—CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE MIKE MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP ACT CREATING THE MIKE MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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

S. RES. 397

Whereas the distinguished tenure of Mike Mansfield as Majority Leader of the Senate spanned 16 years, making him the longest serving Majority Leader in the history of the Senate;

Whereas Mike Mansfield served as the United States Ambassador to Japan from 1977 to 1988, the longest tenure of any United States ambassador anywhere in the world;

Whereas, while serving as Ambassador, Mike Mansfield was fond of reminding the people of the United States and Japan that the “U.S.-Japan relationship is the most important bilateral relationship in the world, bar none”;

Whereas, in 1994, through the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Act (Public Law 103-236; 108 Stat. 428), Congress authorized the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program to build a corps of Federal Government employees (in this preamble referred to as “Mansfield Fellows”) knowledgeable about the language, culture, economy, and politics of Japan, so as to enhance mutual cooperation and understanding between the United States and Japan;

Whereas the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State provides financial support to make possible the deployment of Mansfield Fellows and their families to Japan, and the Government of Japan provides generous in-kind support, including a 2-month home-stay and language training;

Whereas the first cohort of Mansfield Fellows, recruited from across the Federal Government, began their service in Japan on September 1, 1996;

Whereas the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program has created a robust network of officials from the Governments of the United States and Japan with deep understanding of the economic, political, and strategic dimensions of the United States-Japan relationship who work together to advance the mutual interests of the United States and Japan;

Whereas Mansfield Fellows have served in 52 ministries and agencies of the Government of Japan, dozens of Diet offices, and more than a dozen private sector companies and nongovernmental organizations in Japan;

Whereas alumni of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program are currently employed throughout the Federal Government, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Departments of State, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Transportation, and the Treasury, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as serving in the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps;

Whereas, every day, Mansfield Fellows are drawing on their experience to enhance United States-Japan bilateral relations and