

S. RES. 450

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948, represents the first comprehensive agreement among countries as to the specific rights and freedoms of all human beings;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the basic principles of liberty and freedom enshrined in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights;

Whereas awareness of human rights—

(1) is essential to the realization of fundamental freedoms;

(2) promotes equality;

(3) contributes to preventing conflict and human rights violations; and

(4) enhances participation in democratic processes;

Whereas Congress has a proud history of promoting human rights that are internationally recognized; and

Whereas December 10 of each year is celebrated around the world as “Human Rights Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 10, 2019, as “Human Rights Day”;

(2) recognizes the 71st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(3) reaffirms the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(4) supports the right of human rights defenders all over the world to promote the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to observe Human Rights Day; and

(B) to continue a commitment to upholding freedom, democracy, and human rights around the globe.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 451—CONGRATULATING ASTRONAUTS DR. JESSICA U. MEIR AND CHRISTINA H. KOCH FOR THE HISTORIC ACCOMPLISHMENT OF COMPLETING THE FIRST ALL-FEMALE SPACEWALK**

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ERNST, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 451

Whereas, on October 18, 2019, Dr. Jessica U. Meir and Christina H. Koch became the first astronauts to take part in an all-female spacewalk;

Whereas, although the first spacewalk took place in 1964, the first female spacewalk did not take place until 1984, when Kathryn Sullivan became the first woman of the United States to perform a spacewalk with male astronaut David Leestma;

Whereas the October 18, 2019 spacewalk was the first spacewalk for Dr. Meir and the fourth spacewalk for Ms. Koch;

Whereas, during the 7 hour and 7 minute mission, the 2 astronauts successfully replaced a faulty 232-pound battery unit that charges and discharges the solar power system of the International Space Station;

Whereas Dr. Meir and Ms. Koch continue to perform critical tasks in support of the mission of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this preamble as “NASA”) and are conducting numerous experiments to advance scientific knowledge and the understanding of the long-term effects of space on humans;

Whereas Ms. Koch is expected to break the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman when she completes her mission to the International Space Station, spending 328 total consecutive days in space;

Whereas Dr. Meir is a native of Caribou, Maine, and her impressive academic credentials include a bachelor of arts in Biology from Brown University, a master of science in Space Studies from the International Space University, and a doctorate in Marine Biology from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography;

Whereas Ms. Koch is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and her superior academic credentials include a bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering, a bachelor of science in Physics, and a master of science in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University;

Whereas NASA did not even admit women into its astronaut program until 1978;

Whereas Dr. Meir and Ms. Koch were both members of the 2013 Astronaut Candidate Class of NASA, which was comprised of 8 astronauts and was the first class to include equal numbers of men and women;

Whereas Dr. Meir and Ms. Koch are an inspiration to girls and boys across the United States and have spoken to hundreds of students from the International Space Station to answer their questions and to encourage them to pursue their dreams;

Whereas developing the next generation of women astronauts is a priority for the study and exploration of space: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and expresses pride in Dr. Jessica U. Meir and Christina H. Koch for successfully completing the first all-female spacewalk in history; and

(2) supports the efforts of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this resolving clause as “NASA”) to—

(A) fully integrate women into the astronaut corps; and

(B) ensure that one of the next humans to walk on the Moon will be a woman.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 452—COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF WORLD AIDS DAY**

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 452

Whereas, as of the end of 2018, an estimated 37,900,000 people were living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), including 1,700,000 children;

Whereas the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals established a global target to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030;

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was launched in 2002, and, as of 2018, has helped provide antiretroviral therapy to approximately 18,900,000 people living with HIV/AIDS and to 719,000 pregnant women to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS to their children, saving an estimated 32,000,000 lives;

Whereas the United States is the largest donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and, as of December 2019, every \$1 contributed by the United States has leveraged an additional \$2 from other donors;

Whereas the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program remains the largest commitment in history by any country to combat a single disease;

Whereas, as of 2018, PEPFAR has supported treatment for approximately 14,600,000 people, including by providing antiretroviral drugs to 2,400,000 pregnant women living with HIV to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child during birth;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2018, PEPFAR directly supported HIV testing and counseling for nearly 95,000,000 people;

Whereas considerable progress has been made in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including a 16-percent reduction in new HIV infections, a 41-percent reduction in new HIV infections among children, and a 33-percent reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths between 2010 and 2018;

Whereas approximately 23,300,000 people had access to antiretroviral therapy in 2018, compared to only 7,700,000 people who had access to such therapy in 2010;

Whereas it is estimated that, without treatment, ½ of all infants living with HIV will die before their second birthday;

Whereas, despite the remarkable progress in combatting HIV/AIDS, significant challenges remain;

Whereas there were approximately 1,700,000 new HIV infections in 2018, structural barriers continue to make testing and treatment programs inaccessible to highly vulnerable populations, and an estimated 8,100,000 people living with HIV globally still do not know their HIV status;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 37,000 people are diagnosed with HIV in the United States every year and 14 percent of the 1,100,000 people in the United States living with HIV are not aware of their HIV status;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 675,000 people with AIDS have died since the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, including 15,807 deaths among people with diagnosed HIV in 2017, with the disease disproportionately affecting minority communities;

Whereas December 1 of each year is internationally recognized as “World AIDS Day”; and

Whereas, in 2019, commemorations for World AIDS Day focused on the vital role that communities play in addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World AIDS Day, including the goal to achieve zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths;

(2) commends the efforts and achievements in combatting HIV/AIDS made by PEPFAR, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(3) supports efforts to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030;

(4) urges, in order to ensure that an AIDS-free generation is achievable, rapid action by all countries toward further expansion and scale-up of antiretroviral treatment programs, including efforts to reduce disparities and improve access for children to life-saving medications;

(5) encourages the scaling up of comprehensive prevention services, including biomedical and structural interventions, to

ensure inclusive access to programs and appropriate protections for all people at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, especially hard-to-reach populations;

(6) calls for greater focus on the HIV-related vulnerabilities of women and girls, including women and girls at risk for or who have survived violence or faced discrimination as a result of the disease;

(7) supports continued leadership by the United States in domestic, bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to fight HIV;

(8) encourages and supports greater degrees of ownership and shared responsibility by developing countries in order to ensure the sustainability of the domestic responses to HIV/AIDS by those countries; and

(9) urges other members of the international community to sustain and scale up their support for and financial contributions to efforts around the world to combat HIV/AIDS.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, and John Bobbitt, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Subcommittee on Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Ju-

diciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 2.30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an FDA detailee on my HELP Committee staff, Michael Varrone, be granted floor privileges through August 2020.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that two members of my team, Whitney Wagner and Brian Webster, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SUPPORTING THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA, AND THE SIXTH REPLENISHMENT

On Monday, December 2, 2019, the Senate passed S. Res. 318, as follows:

#### S. RES. 318

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria has been an effective partnership of governments, the private sector, civil society, and affected communities to galvanize political and financial efforts to improve the response to these epidemics since 2002;

Whereas, in 2017, the Global Fund contributed to extraordinary improvements in global health that would otherwise not have occurred, including a more than 50 percent reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths since the peak in 2005, a 37 percent decline in tuberculosis (TB) deaths since 2000, and a 60 percent decline in the number of malaria deaths since 2000;

Whereas, since the Global Fund's creation in 2002, more than 27,000,000 lives have been saved in the countries where it invests;

Whereas the Global Fund and its partners work to maintain a steadfast commitment to transparency and accountability and have received high marks in multilateral aid reviews and by independent watchdog groups;

Whereas a 2019 study published in the *Annals of Global Health* found evidence of associated improvements in government accountability, control of corruption, political freedoms, regulatory quality, and rule of law that are significant in countries where the Global Fund invests;

Whereas, despite progress in combating AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, challenges such as drug and insecticide resistance, reaching marginalized and vulnerable populations, and complacency in the fight against infectious diseases threaten further progress;

Whereas United States leadership has been critical to the success of the Global Fund, both as its largest donor and through its oversight role on the Board of the Global Fund;

Whereas Global Fund programs and activities support and complement United States bilateral health programs, including the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the President's Malaria Initiative, and the United States Agency for International Development tuberculosis program;

Whereas the United States is limited by law from contributing more than 33 percent of the Global Fund budget, thereby encouraging other partners to significantly increase their contributions;

Whereas the Global Fund's requirements for co-financing have spurred domestic investments, with recipient countries committing 41 percent more of their own funding to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria for 2018–2020 compared to 2015–2017;

Whereas the Global Fund has called on donors to support its Sixth Replenishment by mobilizing a minimum of \$14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for 2021–2023;

Whereas Canada, the European Union, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Japan, Portugal, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom have responded to the call by significantly increasing their respective pledges for the Sixth Replenishment;

Whereas recipient countries also are expected to increase their co-financing by 48 percent, growing to \$46,000,000,000 in 2021–2023; and

Whereas, with these resources secured, the Global Fund projects it will reduce the number of deaths due to AIDS, TB, and malaria by nearly 50 percent, avert 234,000,000 infections or disease cases, and save an additional 16,000,000 lives: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the work of the Global Fund and its partners for their contributions aimed at ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria;

(2) affirms the support of the United States for the goal of securing a minimum of \$14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment, to be held on October 10, 2019, in Lyon, France;

(3) supports United States contributions of 33 percent of the budget provided by the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment, consistent with section 202(d) of the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7622(d)), and provided that the Fund continues to uphold its longstanding commitment to transparency, accountability, and results in combating AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria;

(4) urges donor countries to step up the fight and increase their pledges for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment;

(5) urges Global Fund recipient countries to continue to make and meet ambitious co-financing commitments to sustain progress in ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; and

(6) encourages United States bilateral aid programs to continue their collaboration with the Global Fund to maximize the life-saving impact of global health investments.

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3009

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3009) to provide for a period of continuing appropriations in the event of a lapse in appropriations under the normal appropriations process, and establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to enact appropriations.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.