

(2) Subparagraph (E) of section 6382(d)(2) of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 7602 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, is amended by striking “the requirement to complete” and all that follows and inserting “the service requirement under subparagraph (B) of section 6381(1).”

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if enacted immediately after the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3105. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”; considered and passed.

S. 3105

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. RICHARD G. LUGAR POST OFFICE.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”.

**SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**

**SENATE RESOLUTION 457—CONDAMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACK AT NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019, HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE ATTACK, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY THE ATTACK**

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. JONES) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 457

Whereas, on the morning of Friday, December 6, 2019, a second lieutenant in the Royal Saudi Air Force killed 3 sailors and wounded 8 additional individuals in a terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola;

Whereas the 3 victims killed in the attack—

(1) were sailors in aviation training at Naval Air Station Pensacola; and

(2) showed heroism and bravery in the face of evil as they ran towards the shooter, which saved lives;

Whereas Airman Mohammed Sameh Haitham of St. Petersburg, Florida, who was 19 years of age, served the United States with honor and distinction, having recently completed basic military training;

Whereas Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson of Enterprise, Alabama, who was 23 years of age, served the United States with honor and distinction, having recently graduated from the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas Airman Apprentice Cameron Scott Walters of Richmond Hill, Georgia,

who was 21 years of age, served the United States with honor and distinction, having recently completed basic military training;

Whereas the response of Naval Security Forces personnel and local law enforcement officials prevented the additional loss of life; and

Whereas the people of the United States—  
(1) stand united around the community of Pensacola and the families and communities of the victims to support all individuals affected by the attack; and

(2) pray for healing and peace: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the terrorist attack of December 6, 2019, at Naval Air Station Pensacola;

(2) honors the sacrifice and memory of the 3 members of the Navy who lost their lives in the attack;

(3) recognizes the skill and heroism of the law enforcement officials, the members of the Armed Forces, and the first responders who came to the aid of others during the attack;

(4) commends the efforts of individuals who are working to—

(A) care for those who were injured during the attack; and

(B) investigate this horrific incident;

(5) extends its heartfelt condolences and prayers to the families of those who were killed in the attack and to all of the individuals affected in the community of Pensacola and in the United States; and

(6) pledges to continue to work together to prevent future attacks.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 2020 CENSUS AND ENCOURAGING INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2020 CENSUS TO ENSURE A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COUNT**

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KING, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JONES, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas the Constitution of the United States requires an actual enumeration of the population every 10 years, with the 2020 count beginning in remote Alaska in January 2020 and elsewhere in the United States in March 2020;

Whereas the decennial census is a responsibility of the Federal Government, mandated by section 2 of article I of the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas any individual who wants to help administer the 2020 Census should apply at 2020census.gov/jobs;

Whereas the goal of the decennial census is to count every person in the United States once, and only once, and in the right place;

Whereas the goal of the 2020 Census is to eliminate the undercounting and overcounting of specific population groups, problems that were apparent in previous censuses;

Whereas the 2020 Census is quick, safe, and easy to complete;

Whereas, under section 2108(b) of title 44, United States Code—

(1) the confidentiality of all personally identifiable information from the decennial census is protected from public disclosure for 72 years;

(2) the Bureau of the Census is prohibited from sharing any personally identifiable information from the decennial census with any other government agency, including law enforcement and courts of law, or any private entity, for any purpose; and

(3) the information collected through the decennial census is used for statistical purposes only;

Whereas the decennial census is a cornerstone of the representative democracy of the United States, as the data collected through the decennial census—

(1) is the basis for apportioning among the States seats in the House of Representatives; and

(2) is provided to the States for drawing congressional and legislative district lines;

Whereas complete and accurate census data will help ensure that resources for education, health care, rural development, workforce training, housing, transportation, and other matters are allocated fairly and accurately;

Whereas businesses use census data to guide investment in job-creating initiatives, such as the building of new production facilities, and in choosing where to locate new retail and service outlets;

Whereas, in 2020, responding to the census will be easier than ever, as the census form will be available online for the first time and households may choose to respond online, over the phone, or through the mail; and

Whereas a complete and accurate census requires the fullest possible participation from all residents of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is the civic duty of the people of the United States to help ensure that the 2020 Census is as accurate as possible;

(2) the Federal Government, State and local governments, civil society, businesses, religious institutions, libraries, and other national and local organizations should work together as partners to inform the public that the 2020 Census is safe, easy, and important;

(3) individuals who want to help administer the 2020 Census should apply for a job at 2020census.gov/jobs; and

(4) residents of the United States should plan to respond to the 2020 Census to ensure that all people living in a household in the United States, including young children, are included.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 4 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

**SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM CAREERS ACT**

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 314, S. 153.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 153) to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act”.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(2) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation” means the National Science Foundation.

(3) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

(4) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

**SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND COMPUTER SCIENCE.**

(a) SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.—

The Director shall, through the research and education activities of the Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pursue careers in STEM and computer science, in coordination with other Federal agencies that serve veterans.

(b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its outreach efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—

(1) report on the Foundation’s existing outreach activities;

(2) identify the best method for the Foundation to leverage existing authorities and programs to facilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and studies, including teaching programs; and

(3) include options for how the Foundation could track veteran participation in research and education programs of the Foundation, and describe any barriers to collecting such information.

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS REPORT.—The National Science Board shall provide in its annual report on indicators of the state of science and engineering in the United States any available and relevant data on veterans in science and engineering careers or education programs.

(d) ROBERT NOYE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) higher education programs that serve or support veterans.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—

(A) by striking “and students” and inserting “, students”; and

(B) by inserting “, and veterans” before the period at the end;

(3) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “and veterans” before the period at the end; and

(4) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “and veterans” before the period at the end.

(e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS AND MASTER TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS UPDATE.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-1a(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)(F)—

(A) by striking “and individuals” and inserting “, individuals”; and

(B) by inserting “, and veterans” before the period at the end; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and veterans” before the period at the end.

(f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS UPDATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and students who are veterans” after “these fields”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (K); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following:

“(J) creating opportunities for veterans to transition to careers in computer and network security; and”.

(g) GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.—Section 5(c)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C.

7404(c)(6)(C)) is amended by inserting “or veterans” after “disciplines”.

(h) VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM EDUCATION INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish, or designate, an interagency working group to improve veteran and military spouse equity and representation in STEM fields.

(2) DUTIES OF INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—An interagency working group established under paragraph (1) shall develop and facilitate the implementation by participating agencies of a strategic plan, which shall—

(A) specify and prioritize short- and long-term objectives;

(B) specify the common metrics that will be used by Federal agencies to assess progress toward achieving such objectives;

(C) identify barriers veterans face in reentering the workforce, including a lack of formal STEM education, career guidance, and the process of transferring military credits and skills to college credits;

(D) identify barriers military spouses face in establishing careers in STEM fields;

(E) describe the approaches that each participating agency will take to address administratively the barriers described in subparagraphs (C) and (D); and

(F) identify any barriers that require Federal or State legislative or regulatory changes in order to be addressed.

(3) REPORT.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall—

(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the strategic plan required under paragraph (2); and

(B) include in the annual report required by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6621(d)) a description of any progress made in carrying out the activities described in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(4) SUNSET.—An interagency working group established under paragraph (1) shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after the date that it is established.

**SEC. 4. COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES STUDY AND REPORT ON BARRIERS FACED BY STUDENT VETERANS PURSUING DEGREES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATH.**

(a) STUDY.—Not later than August 1, 2022, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete a study on academic success rates of student veterans pursuing covered degrees and barriers faced by such students in pursuing such degrees.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Assessment of available information on the percentage or number of student veterans pursuing a covered degree with educational assistance furnished under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) Assessment of available information on the percentage or number of such students who pursue a covered degree and do not obtain such degree in four or fewer academic years.

(3) Identification of the reasons that such students do not obtain such degree in four or fewer academic years and whether such reasons are barriers to obtaining such degrees.

(4) Development of recommendations for legislative or administrative action to better align the educational assistance furnished under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, with the needs of such students and address the reasons identified under paragraph (3).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than August 1, 2022, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to the study completed under subsection (a), along with recommendations for such legislative or administrative action as the Comptroller General considers appropriate.