

shall, in accordance with applicable procedures for the appropriate handling of classified information, promptly provide reasonable access to documents, statistical data, and any other information that the Comptroller General determines is necessary to conduct the study and develop the report required under subsection (b).

(f) INPUT FROM CERTAIN NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.—In conducting the study and developing the report under subsection (b), the Comptroller General shall consider the views of experts from certain non-Federal entities, including experts from—

- (1) the scientific and medical research community;
- (2) the State and local law enforcement community; and
- (3) the civil rights and criminal justice reform communities.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my Judiciary Committee colleagues, Chairman GRAHAM and Senator DURBIN, as the lead cosponsor of the “Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act.”

This bill will ensure that fentanyl-related substances remain in Schedule I and will help deter the manufacture of fentanyl-related substances responsible for overdose deaths.

In 2018, the number of fentanyl-related deaths in the United States increased from 28,000 to 32,000.

This is more than double the number of heroin-related overdose deaths. It is a staggering number of lives lost that we simply cannot accept.

To address the increasing deaths, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued a temporary order to control fentanyl-related substances, or fentanyl analogues, as a class.

That order is set to expire on February 6th.

Based on the information my office has received from the DEA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is clear that this order has been effective.

The number of law enforcement encounters of new fentanyl analogues has decreased from 8 to 2. That is significant and means that the order has reduced the supply of new fentanyl analogues by 75 percent.

This decrease in supply has reduced the need for widespread prosecutions of fentanyl-related offenses. In fact, since the DEA’s order went into effect, it is my understanding that there has only been two related prosecutions.

Additionally, although the number of fentanyl-related overdose deaths has continued to increase, the rate at which these deaths has increased has declined significantly.

For example, between the 12 month periods ending January 2017 and January 2018, fentanyl deaths increased by nearly 36 percent.

Comparatively, between the 12 month periods ending May 2018 and May 2019, which is the latest data available, the rate of fentanyl deaths only increased by just over 9 percent.

I would have preferred a long-term solution to addressing this problem that can garner strong bipartisan support, and I am eager to continue working with my colleagues on such a solution.

However, given the limited amount of time that we have before the DEA’s temporary order expires, we cannot sit idly by and do nothing.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation. Given the staggering number of overdose deaths associated with fentanyl-related substances, inaction is not an option.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3203. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the requirements for appointment, qualifications, and pay for therapeutic medical physicists of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President. Physicians at the Department of Veterans Affairs depend on Therapeutic Medical Physicists to help plan and deliver critical radiation treatment to patients. Inadequate support from these medical professionals can place veterans at risk for radiation injury or inappropriate treatment. As radiation therapy has become more sophisticated and more common over the past fifteen years, the Department has struggled to recruit and retain Therapeutic Medical Physicists. The average salary in the private sector for a PhD board certified Therapeutic Medical Physicists with ten to fourteen years of work experience is approximately \$190,000, but current law limits salaries for these employees at the Department to \$166,500, inhibiting the Department’s ability to recruit qualified individuals to fill these positions.

When faced with Therapeutic Medical Physicist shortages, the Department outsources this work to expensive contractors. Consequently, the Department substantially overspends on these services, which could be done more reliably in-house and at a much lower cost. Furthermore, contracts for TMP services are awarded for a short period, which results in frequent turnover that can be potentially dangerous from the perspective of quality care and patient safety.

Today, I am pleased to introduce the Department of Veterans Affairs Therapeutic Medical Physicist Pay Cap Relief Act with my colleague Senator MURKOWSKI. This legislation would improve the recruitment and retention of Therapeutic Medical Physicists by allowing the Department to pay these professionals at rates competitive with the private sector. This bill would also improve the quality of care for veterans by reducing the turnover of Therapeutic Medical Physicists, and lead to lower total costs for the De-

partment by eliminating the use of expensive contractors. With these savings, the Department could raise salaries and hire more Therapeutic Medical Physicists.

This commonsense, bipartisan legislation is an opportunity to invest in professionals who treat those who have sacrificed for our nation, and improve the standard of care we provide to our veterans. I look forward to working with my colleagues to swiftly implementing the provisions of the Department of Veterans Affairs Therapeutic Medical Physicist Pay Cap Relief Act.

Thank you, Mr. President.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 474—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF MARTIN F. MCMAHON V. SENATOR TED CRUZ, ET AL

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 474

Whereas, Senators Ted Cruz, Lindsey Graham, Mitch McConnell, and Rand Paul have been named as defendants in the case of *Martin F. McMahon v. Senator Ted Cruz, et al.*, Case No. 1:19-cv-03774-TSC, currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend Members of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senators Ted Cruz, Lindsey Graham, Mitch McConnell, and Rand Paul, and any other Member who may be named as a defendant in the case of *Martin F. McMahon v. Senator Ted Cruz, et al.*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing representation by the Senate Legal Counsel and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, this resolution concerns a pro se lawsuit recently filed in Federal court in the District of Columbia against Senators CRUZ, GRAHAM, MCCONNELL, and PAUL. In this lawsuit, plaintiff seeks to obtain judicial supervision over the upcoming impeachment trial of the President under the Ninth Amendment. Plaintiffs suit is subject to dismissal on jurisdictional grounds as the Constitution grants the Senate the sole power to try impeachments, and the Judicial Branch has no power to oversee the actions and participation of Senators in an impeachment trial. This resolution would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent the named defendant Senators in order to seek dismissal of the claims against them.

SENATE RESOLUTION 475—RECOGNIZING THE LEADING ROLE OF UTAHNS IN THE FIGHT FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST VOTES BY WOMEN UNDER THE EQUAL SUFFRAGE LAW OF UTAH ON FEBRUARY 14, 1870

Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 475

Whereas, on February 10, 1870, the territorial legislature of Utah passed an Act granting women the right to vote, which was signed into law on February 12, 1870, by Acting Governor Stephen Mann;

Whereas, on February 14, 1870, women voted in the Salt Lake City election, becoming the first women to vote under an equal suffrage law within what is now the United States;

Whereas, in 1887, Congress revoked the voting rights of women in Utah;

Whereas, on November 5, 1895, the new Utah Constitution was adopted with a provision stating, "The rights of citizens of the State of Utah to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. Both male and female citizens of this State shall enjoy equally all civil, political and religious rights and privileges.";

Whereas, on November 3, 1896, Martha Maria Hughes Cannon, who will be honored by a statue in the United States Capitol in 2020, was elected to the Utah State Senate and became the first woman to serve as a State senator in the United States; and

Whereas, in 1919, women's suffrage was extended to all United States citizens with the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the leading role of Utahns in the fight for women's suffrage and the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guaranteeing that the "right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex"; and

(2) celebrates the sesquicentennial of the first votes by women under the equal suffrage law of Utah on February 14, 1870.

SENATE RESOLUTION 476—CONGRATULATING THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY BISON FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2019 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION TITLE

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 476

Whereas the North Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as "NDSU") Bison football team won the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the "NCAA") Division I Football Championship Subdivision title game in Frisco, Texas, on January 11, 2020, in a well-fought victory over the James Madison University Dukes by a score of 28 to 20;

Whereas, including the 2019 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision title,

the NDSU Bison football team has won 16 NCAA football championships;

Whereas the NDSU Bison football team has won 8 of the last 9 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision titles, an achievement that continues to be unmatched in modern collegiate football history;

Whereas the NDSU Bison football team completed the 2019 NCAA football season with a perfect record of 16 wins and 0 losses, becoming the first collegiate football team in any division to accomplish this feat since the Yale University Bulldogs in 1894;

Whereas the NDSU Bison football team has recorded consecutive undefeated seasons and extended its winning streak to an NCAA Football Championship Subdivision record of 37 wins in a row, displaying remarkable skill and commitment;

Whereas head coach Matt Entz and his staff led the NDSU Bison football team to a dominant season and a championship during his first year as head coach at NDSU, instilling leadership and excellence in the members of the NDSU Bison football program;

Whereas quarterback Trey Lance became the first player in the history of the NDSU Bison football team and the first freshman player in the history of the NCAA to win the Walter Payton Award, which is awarded to the top offensive player in the Division I Football Championship Subdivision;

Whereas thousands of Bison fans once again attended the championship game, reflecting the tremendous pride and dedication of Bison Nation, which has supported and helped drive the achievement of the NDSU Bison football team; and

Whereas the 2019 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision title was a victory for both the NDSU Bison football team and the entire State of North Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the North Dakota State University Bison football team for winning the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title;

(2) commends the players, coaches, and staff of the North Dakota State University Bison football team for—

(A) their tireless work and dedication; and
(B) fostering a continued tradition of excellence; and

(3) recognizes the students, alumni, and loyal fans for supporting the North Dakota State University Bison football team during its successful quest to bring home yet another NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision trophy for North Dakota State University.

SENATE RESOLUTION 477—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3 THROUGH 7, 2020, AS "NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK"

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 477

Whereas the American School Counselor Association has designated February 3 through 7, 2020, as "National School Counseling Week";

Whereas school counselors have long advocated for equitable opportunities for all students;

Whereas school counselors help develop well-rounded students by guiding students through academic learning, social and emotional development, and career exploration;

Whereas personal and social growth can help lead to increased academic achievement;

Whereas school counselors play a vital role in ensuring that students are ready for both college and careers;

Whereas school counselors play a vital role in making students aware of opportunities for financial aid and college scholarships;

Whereas school counselors assist with and coordinate efforts to foster a positive school climate, resulting in a safer learning environment for all students;

Whereas school counselors have been instrumental in helping students, teachers, and parents deal with personal trauma as well as tragedies in their communities and the United States;

Whereas students face myriad challenges every day, including peer pressure, bullying, mental health issues, the deployment of family members to serve in conflicts overseas, and school violence;

Whereas a school counselor is one of the few professionals in a school building who is trained in both education and social and emotional development;

Whereas the roles and responsibilities of school counselors are often misunderstood;

Whereas the school counselor position is often among the first to be eliminated to meet budgetary constraints;

Whereas the national average ratio of students to school counselors is 442 to 1, almost twice the 250 to 1 ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association, the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and other organizations; and

Whereas the celebration of National School Counseling Week will increase awareness of the important and necessary role school counselors play in the lives of students in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of February 3 through 7, 2020, as "National School Counseling Week"; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe National School Counseling Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role school counselors play in schools and the community at large in preparing students for fulfilling lives as contributing members of society.

SENATE RESOLUTION 478—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 26 THROUGH FEBRUARY 1, 2020, AS "NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK"

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PERDUE, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. COTTON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BURR, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LEE, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. DAINES) submitted the