

wishes to work has a viable pathway to a meaningful and dignified job with the right to form a union, including by establishing new public employment programs, as necessary; and

(iv) subjecting each job created under this Agenda to high-road labor standards that—

(I) require family-sustaining wages and benefits, including child care support;

(II) ensure safe workplaces;

(III) protect the rights of workers to organize; and

(IV) prioritize the hiring of local workers to ensure wages stay within communities to stimulate economic activity;

(B) building the power of workers to fight inequality by—

(i) reversing the corporate erosion of workers' organizing rights and bargaining power so that millions of new clean energy jobs, as well as millions of existing low-wage jobs across the economy, become the family-supporting union jobs that everyone deserves, including by—

(I) passing the bipartisan Protecting the Right to Organize Act;

(II) repealing the ban on secondary boycotts;

(III) requiring employer neutrality with regard to union organizing;

(IV) ensuring that "franchising" and other corporate structures may not be used to hinder collective bargaining on a company-wide, regional, or national basis;

(V) advancing sectoral bargaining in certain economic sectors; and

(VI) ensuring that no workers are misclassified as "independent contractors;"

(ii) expanding union representation for all workers; and

(iii) creating ladders of opportunity, particularly for women and people of color, to access registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs in communities of all sizes across the country;

(C) investing in Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities to build power and counteract racial and gender injustice by—

(i) directing at least 40 percent of investments to communities that have been excluded, oppressed, and harmed by racist and unjust practices, including—

(I) communities of color;

(II) low-income communities;

(III) deindustrialized communities; and

(IV) communities facing environmental injustice;

(ii) ensuring that investments in these communities enable—

(I) the creation of good jobs with family-sustaining wages;

(II) economic ownership opportunities that close the racial wealth gap;

(III) pollution reduction;

(IV) climate resilience;

(V) small business support;

(VI) economic opportunities for independent family farmers and ranchers; and

(VII) the expansion of public services;

(iii) ensuring that affected communities have the power to democratically plan, implement, and administer these projects;

(iv) prioritizing local and equitable hiring and contracting that creates opportunities for—

(I) people of color;

(II) immigrants, regardless of immigration status;

(III) formerly incarcerated individuals;

(IV) women;

(V) LGBTQIAP+ individuals;

(VI) disabled and chronically ill individuals; and

(VII) marginalized communities; and

(v) providing access to quality workforce training, including through registered apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships to ensure real pathways to good careers, including

those that have historically been inaccessible;

(D) strengthening and healing the nation-to-nation relationship with sovereign Native Nations, including by—

(i) making systemic changes in Federal policies to honor the environmental and social trust responsibilities to Native Nations and their Peoples, which are essential to tackling society's economic, environmental, and health crises;

(ii) strengthening Tribal sovereignty and enforcing Indian treaty rights by moving towards greater recognition and support of the inherent self-governance and sovereignty of these nations and their members; and

(iii) promulgating specific initiatives that reflect the nuanced relationships between the Native Nations, including—

(I) the confirmation by Congress that Tribal nations can exercise their full and inherent civil regulatory and adjudicatory authority over their own citizens, lands, and resources, and over activities within their Tribal lands;

(II) the codification of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent as it relates to Tribal consultation; and

(III) the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, without qualification;

(E) combating environmental injustice and ensuring healthy lives for all, including by—

(i) curtailing air, water, and land pollution from all sources;

(ii) removing health hazards from communities;

(iii) replacing lead pipes to ensure clean water is available to all;

(iv) remediating the cumulative health and environmental impacts of toxic pollution and climate change;

(v) ensuring that affected communities have equitable access to public health resources that have been systemically denied, which includes—

(I) upgrading unhealthy and overcrowded homes, public schools, and public hospitals;

(II) ensuring access to healthy food, mental health support, and restorative justice; and

(III) investing in universal childcare, care for individuals with disabilities, senior care, and a robust care workforce; and

(vi) focusing these initiatives in Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities that have endured disproportionately high death rates from COVID-19 due to higher exposure to air pollution and other cumulative health hazards as a result of decades of environmental racism;

(F) averting climate and environmental catastrophe, including by—

(i) contributing to a livable climate and environment for today and for future generations, including by—

(I) staying below 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming;

(II) building climate resilience to keep communities safe; and

(III) ensuring sustainable resource use;

(ii) deploying investments and standards in the electricity, transportation, buildings, manufacturing, lands, and agricultural sectors to spur the largest expansion in history of clean, renewable energy, emissions reductions, climate resilience, and sustainable resource use;

(iii) transforming the power sector in order to move the country, by not later than 2035, to carbon pollution-free electricity that passes an environmental justice screen to prevent concentrating pollution in Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities;

(iv) prioritizing materials and parts that meet high labor, environmental, and human rights standards throughout the supply chain;

(v) supporting sustainable, domestic production of healthy, nutritious food that pays independent farmers and ranchers a fair price for their land stewardship; and

(vi) ensuring that funding under this Agenda goes to workers and communities affected by the economic and environmental crises, not to corporate fossil fuel polluters;

(G) ensuring fairness for workers and communities affected by economic transitions by—

(i) guaranteeing that workers and communities in industries and regions in economic transition due to COVID-19, climate change, and other economic shocks receive—

(I) stable wages and benefits, including full pension and healthcare;

(II) early retirement offerings;

(III) crisis and trauma support; and

(IV) equitable job placement; and

(ii) investing in transitioning areas to support—

(I) economic diversification;

(II) high quality job creation;

(III) community reinvestment;

(IV) retooling and conversion;

(V) reclamation and remediation of closed and abandoned facilities and sites;

(VI) child and adult care infrastructure; and

(VII) funding to shore up budget shortfalls in local and State governments; and

(H) reinvesting in public sector institutions that enable workers and communities to thrive by—

(i) rebuilding vital public services and strengthening social infrastructure in cities and counties, healthcare systems, schools, the postal service, and other services;

(ii) investing in equitable public education opportunities, including career and technical education pathways that prepare youth—especially girls; Black, Brown, and Indigenous students; students with disabilities; students from low-income families; and other students from marginalized groups—for high-quality jobs of the future, and state of the art technology and schools, so that from the beginning students are prepared to transform society and preserve democracy;

(iii) investing in the workers who provide care to children, the elderly, and communities burdened by neglect;

(iv) creating new public institutions, inspired by and improving upon New Deal-era institutions, to ensure universal access to critical resources and to strategically and coherently mobilize and channel investments, in line with the above priorities, at the scale and pace that these times require; and

(v) coupling this institutional renewal with democratic governance and accountability to correct the systemic misallocation of resources and representation that prevents families and communities from meeting fundamental human needs and pursuing fulfilling lives.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 694—RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 694

Whereas, on May 18, 1920—

(1) Congress passed the Act of May 18, 1920 (41 Stat. 601; chapter 190), which blended the enlisted personnel of the Life-Saving Service

and the Revenue Cutter Service, the 2 precursors to the modern United States Coast Guard; and

(2) the United States Coast Guard issued General Order 43, which amended article 817 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Regulations to establish the non-commissioned United States Coast Guard rank of chief petty officer;

Whereas May 18, 2020, marked 100 years since the date of the establishment of the rank of chief petty officer in the United States Coast Guard;

Whereas individuals who are selected to serve in the esteemed position of chief petty officer in the United States Coast Guard must possess the highest standards of professionalism, technical expertise, and personal integrity;

Whereas chief petty officers in the United States Coast Guard provide advice and assistance in matters affecting the enlisted members of the United States Coast Guard and their families; and

Whereas, for 100 years, chief petty officers in the United States Coast Guard have—

(1) been examples of leadership, honor, and selfless service;

(2) freely accepted responsibility beyond the call of printed assignments; and

(3) through their actions, and the performance of their duties, gained the respect and admiration of their seniors and juniors: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes 100 years of service by chief petty officers in the United States Coast Guard; and

(2) honors past and present chief petty officers in the United States Coast Guard, who have served in support of the safety, security, and stewardship of the United States.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 695—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2020 AS “NATIONAL VOTING RIGHTS MONTH”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. JONES, Mr. BENNET, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. UDALL, Mr. REED, Mr. KING, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 695

Whereas voting is one of the single most important rights that can be exercised in a democracy;

Whereas, over the course of history, various voter suppression laws in the United States have hindered, and even prohibited, certain individuals and groups from exercising the right to vote;

Whereas, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, Native Americans and people who were born to United States citizens abroad, people who spoke a language other than English, and people who were formerly subjected to slavery were denied full citizenship and prevented from voting by English literacy tests;

Whereas, since the 1870s, minority groups such as African Americans in the South have suffered from the oppressive effects of Jim Crow laws that were designed to prevent political, economic, and social mobility;

Whereas African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other underrepresented voters were subject

to violence, poll taxes, literacy tests, all-White primaries, property ownership tests, and grandfather clauses that were designed to suppress the right of those individuals to vote;

Whereas members of the aforementioned groups and others are currently, in some cases, subject to intimidation, voter roll purges, bans on former prisoners from voting, and financial barriers that act effectively as modern-day poll taxes;

Whereas, in 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to protect the right of African Americans and other traditionally disenfranchised groups to vote, among other reasons;

Whereas, in 2013, in the landmark case of *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), the Supreme Court of the United States invalidated section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, dismantling the preclearance formula provision in that Act that protected voters in States and localities that historically have suppressed the right of minorities to vote;

Whereas, since the invalidation of the preclearance formula provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, gerrymandered districts in many States have gone unchallenged and have become less likely to be invalidated by the courts;

Whereas these gerrymandered districts have been found to have discriminatory impacts on traditionally disenfranchised minorities through tactics that include “cracking”, diluting the voting power of minorities across many districts, and “packing” or concentrating minority voters’ power in one district to reduce their voting power in other districts;

Whereas the courts have found the congressional and, in some cases, State legislative district maps, in Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Wisconsin to be gerrymandered districts that were created to favor some groups over others;

Whereas the decision of the Supreme Court in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), calls on Congress to update the formula in the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

Whereas some form of a restrictive voting law has been instituted in at least 23 States since 2013;

Whereas these restrictive voting laws encompass cutbacks in early voting, voter roll purges, placement of faulty equipment in minority communities, requirement of photo identification, and the elimination of same-day registration;

Whereas these policies could outright disenfranchise or make voting much more difficult for more than 80,000,000 minority, elderly, poor, and disabled voters, among other groups;

Whereas, in 2016, discriminatory laws in North Carolina, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Texas were ruled to violate voters’ rights and overturned by the courts;

Whereas the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (referred to in this preamble as “COVID-19”) public health emergency has only exacerbated the state of elections and the difficulties voters face in obtaining access to the ballot;

Whereas a lack of fair and safe election policies threatens minority communities, which have been disproportionately impacted and disenfranchised due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and their access to the ballot;

Whereas addressing the challenges of administering upcoming elections in 2020 and beyond requires increasing the accessibility of vote-by-mail and other limited-contact options to ensure the protection of voters’ health and safety amid a global pandemic;

Whereas, as voting by mail becomes a safer and more accessible option for voters to ex-

ercise their constitutional right to vote during the unprecedented times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the work of the United States Postal Service will be of paramount importance in successfully conducting elections;

Whereas Congress must work to combat any attempts to dismantle or underfund the United States Postal Service or obstruct the passage of the mail as blatant tactics of voter suppression and election interference;

Whereas there is much more work to be done to ensure all citizens of the United States have the right to vote through free, fair, and accessible elections;

Whereas National Voter Registration Day is September 22; and

Whereas September 2020 would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Voting Rights Month” and to ensure that, through the registration of voters and awareness of elections, the democracy of the United States includes all citizens of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2020 as “National Voting Rights Month”;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to uphold the right of every citizen to exercise the sacred and fundamental right to vote;

(3) commemorates—

(A) the 100th anniversary of Senate passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees women the right to vote; and

(B) the legacy of generations of suffragists who fought to protect women’s rights at the ballot;

(4) encourages Congress to pass—

(A) the For the People Act of 2019 (S. 949 and H.R. 1 of the 116th Congress), to increase voters’ access to the ballot, prohibit the use of deceptive practices to intimidate voters, end gerrymandering, create automatic voter registration, limit the power of restrictive voter identification laws, make critical investments in election infrastructure and technology, and address corruption in campaign finance and ethics;

(B) the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2020 (H.R. 4 of the 116th Congress) (introduced in the Senate as the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019 (S. 561 of the 116th Congress)), to restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) that prohibit discriminatory voting practices, remove barriers to voting, and provide protections for minority voters in States with a history of voting discrimination;

(C) the Natural Disaster and Emergency Ballot Act of 2020 (S. 4033 of the 116th Congress), to ensure that every eligible voter in the United States is able to exercise the right to vote safely and securely during a declared state of emergency by, among other things—

(i) guaranteeing no-excuse absentee voting;

(ii) expanding early voting;

(iii) providing self-sealing return envelopes with prepaid postage for—

(I) voter registration applications;

(II) absentee-ballot applications; and

(III) absentee ballots; and

(iv) providing accommodations for voters on Indian lands;

(D) the Delivering for America Act (S. 4527 and H.R. 8015 in the 116th Congress), to prohibit the United States Postal Service from making changes to operations or levels of service that would reduce those operations or levels of service relative to those that were in effect on January 1, 2020, establish requirements for the processing of election mail, and provide additional funding for the Postal Service Fund;