

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;

(E) the Securing America's Federal Elections Act, or the SAFE Act (S. 2238 of the 116th Congress), to provide funding for States to improve the administration of elections, including by enhancing technology and election security, replacing antiquated voting systems, and meeting new standards for administering elections; and

(F) other voting rights legislation that seeks to advance voting rights and protect elections in the United States;

(5) recommends that public schools and universities in the United States develop an academic curriculum that educates students about—

(A) the importance of voting, how to register to vote, where to vote, and the different forms of voting;

(B) the history of voter suppression in the United States before and after passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

(C) current measures that have been taken to restrict the vote;

(6) encourages the United States Postal Service to issue a special John R. Lewis stamp during the month of September—

(A) to honor the life and legacy of John R. Lewis in supporting voting rights; and

(B) to remind people in the United States that ordinary citizens risked their lives, marched, and participated in the great democracy of the United States so that all citizens would have the fundamental right to vote; and

(7) invites Congress to allocate the requisite funds for public service announcements on television, radio, newspapers, magazines, social media, billboards, buses, and other forms of media—

(A) to remind people in the United States when elections are being held;

(B) to share important registration deadlines; and

(C) to urge people to get out and vote.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 696—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 4, 2020, AS “NATIONAL POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS DAY”, AND RAISING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE

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

S. RES. 696

Whereas designating September 4, 2020, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day” will raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease, one of the most prevalent genetic kidney disorders, which affects approximately 500,000 people in the United States;

Whereas National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day will help to foster an understanding of the impact polycystic kidney disease has on individuals and their families;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease is a progressive, genetic disorder of the kidneys that causes damage to the kidneys and the cardiovascular, endocrine, hepatic, and gastrointestinal organ systems;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease affects the health and finances of individuals, and equally affects individuals of all ages, races, ethnicities, and sexes;

Whereas, of the individuals diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease, approximately 10 percent have no family history of the disease, with the disease developing as a spontaneous mutation;

Whereas there are very few treatments and no cure for polycystic kidney disease, which

is 1 of the 4 leading causes of kidney failure in the United States;

Whereas almost 50 percent of individuals with polycystic kidney disease experience kidney failure by age 60;

Whereas friends, loved ones, spouses, and caregivers of individuals with polycystic kidney disease can assist with the challenges created by polycystic kidney disease, including by helping such individuals maintain a healthy lifestyle and make regular visits to their health care providers;

Whereas the severity of the symptoms of polycystic kidney disease and limited public awareness of the disease may cause individuals to forego regular visits to their physicians or avoid following the health recommendations of their doctors, which experts suggest could help prevent further complications should kidney failure occur;

Whereas individuals who have chronic, life-threatening diseases like polycystic kidney disease may experience depression;

Whereas the PKD Foundation and its more than 35,000 patient and family advocates around the United States are dedicated to—

(1) conducting research to find treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease;

(2) fostering public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) educating individuals and their families about the disease to improve their treatment and care; and

(4) providing support, including by sponsoring the annual “Walk for PKD”, to raise funds for polycystic kidney disease research, education, advocacy, and awareness; and

Whereas, on September 4, 2020, the PKD Foundation is partnering with sister organizations in Canada, Australia, and other countries to increase international awareness of polycystic kidney disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 4, 2020, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to find a cure for polycystic kidney disease; and

(4) encourages all people in the United States and interested groups to support National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day through appropriate ceremonies and activities to promote public awareness of polycystic kidney disease and to foster an understanding of the impact of the disease on individuals and their families.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 44—RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11, 2020, AS “NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE”

Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REED, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mrs. MURRAY)) submitted the fol-

lowing concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 44

Whereas, on September 11, 2001, the United States endured violent terrorist attacks and events (referred to in this preamble as the “attacks”) in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, leading to the tragic deaths and injuries of thousands of innocent United States citizens and others from more than 90 different countries and territories;

Whereas, in response to the attacks, firefighters, uniformed officers, emergency medical technicians, physicians, nurses, military personnel, and other first responders immediately rose to service in the heroic attempt to save the lives of the individuals in danger;

Whereas, in the immediate aftermath of the attacks, thousands of recovery workers, including trades personnel, iron workers, equipment operators, and many others, joined with uniformed officers and military personnel to help search for and recover victims lost in the attacks;

Whereas, in the days, weeks, and months following the attacks, thousands of individuals in the United States spontaneously volunteered to help support rescue and recovery efforts, braving both physical and emotional hardship;

Whereas many first responders, rescue and recovery workers, volunteers, and survivors of the attacks continue to suffer from serious medical illnesses and emotional distress related to the physical and mental trauma of the attacks;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of brave individuals continue to serve every day, answering the call to duty as members of the Armed Forces, with some having given their lives or suffered injury—

(1) to defend the security of the United States; and

(2) to prevent further terrorist attacks;

Whereas people of the United States witnessed and endured the tragedy of September 11, 2001, and, in the immediate aftermath of the attacks, became unified under a remarkable spirit of service and compassion that inspired the people of the United States;

Whereas, in the years immediately following the attacks, there was a marked increase in volunteerism and national service among the people of the United States, which continues to this day;

Whereas, in 2009, Congress passed, and President Barack Obama signed, the bipartisan Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13; 123 Stat. 1460), which—

(1) established, at the request of the 9/11 community, Federal recognition of September 11 as a “National Day of Service and Remembrance” (commonly referred to as “9/11 Day”); and

(2) charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with leading that annual day of service;

Whereas, during the period beginning on the date of establishment of September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, millions of individuals in the United States observe that date by engaging in a wide range of service activities and private forms of prayer and remembrance;

Whereas, during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) national emergency—

(1) Americans have once again rallied together to rise to the challenge by caring for the sick, providing essential services, and volunteering in their communities; and

(2) there have been robust calls to strengthen, expand, and participate in all forms of national and community service; and

Whereas the trends described in the preceding clause are the continuation of an