

“(8) the provision of staff time and training for implementing and monitoring health and safety procedures:

“(9) the development of a feasibility study or business plan for, or the carrying out of any other activity associated with, establishing or expanding a small meat or poultry processing facility; and

“(10) other activities associated with expanding or establishing an eligible entity described in subsection (a)(1)(A), as determined by the Secretary.

“(e) **OUTREACH.**—During the period beginning on the date on which the Secretary publishes the notice under subsection (c)(4) and ending on the date on which the Secretary begins to accept applications under subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall perform outreach to States and eligible entities relating to grants under this section.

“(f) **FEDERAL SHARE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Federal share of the activities carried out using a grant awarded under this section shall not exceed—

“(A) 90 percent in the case of a grant in the amount of \$100,000 or less; or

“(B) 75 percent in the case of a grant in an amount greater than \$100,000.

“(2) **FISCAL YEAR 2021.**—An eligible entity awarded a grant under this section during fiscal year 2021 shall not be required to provide non-Federal matching funds with respect to the grant.

“(g) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The promulgation of regulations under, and administration of, this section shall be made without regard to—

“(1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

“(2) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’).

“(h) **FUNDING.**—

“(1) **MANDATORY FUNDING.**—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030.

“(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—In addition to amounts made available under paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out this section \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030.”

SEC. 6. LOCAL MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAMS.

Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 is amended by inserting before section 404 (7 U.S.C. 7624) the following:

“SEC. 403. LOCAL MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAMS.

“(a) **HIGHER EDUCATION CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall provide competitive grants to junior or community colleges, technical or vocational schools, and land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) to establish or expand career training programs relating to meat and poultry processing.

“(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each fiscal year thereafter, to remain available until expended.

“(b) **PROCESSOR CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall provide grants to smaller establishments and very small establishments (as those terms are defined in the final rule entitled ‘Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems’ (61 Fed. Reg. 38806 (July 25, 1996))) and nongovernmental organizations to offset the cost of training new meat and poultry processors.

“(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each fiscal year thereafter, to remain available until expended.”

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 806—DEFENDING THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. DAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 806

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States clearly, plainly, and unequivocally states that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof”;

Whereas the constitutional protection of this bedrock principle of religious liberty was extended to the actions of the several States through the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas, despite the clear prohibition against laws infringing upon the free exercise of religion, houses of worship and religious organizations have been frequent targets of asymmetric restrictions by State and local government officials during the coronavirus pandemic;

Whereas irrespective of compliance with mask mandates, social distancing, and other protective measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus, houses of worship and religious organizations have been subjected to size restrictions or outright bans on in-person gatherings which severely infringe upon the right of their members to freely exercise their religion;

Whereas, while houses of worship and religious organizations are subjected to severe restrictions under the guise of limiting the transmission of the coronavirus, businesses and secular activities enjoy substantially more favorable treatment by some State and local government officials, including—

(1) New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who severely restricted the number of members who could enter a church or synagogue in color-designated zones, but imposed no size restrictions on “essential” businesses, like acupuncture facilities, hardware stores, and liquor stores, and permitted other “non-essential” businesses to define their own size restrictions;

(2) North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, who required worship services involving more than 10 people to be held outdoors unless a church demonstrated doing so would be “impossible”, but commercial shopping centers could allow people into the stores without limitation;

(3) California Governor Gavin Newsom, who prohibited or severely limited in-person worship services in counties with large numbers of coronavirus cases, but secular businesses and activities such as shopping malls, swap meets, and card rooms were permitted higher attendance;

(4) New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, who prohibited or severely restricted indoor serv-

ices by houses of worship because they were not deemed “essential”, but commercial establishments like marijuana dispensaries and liquor stores were permitted to remain open;

(5) Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak, who imposed strict numerical attendance caps on houses of worship because they were not deemed “essential”, but allowed casinos and amusement parks to operate at half-capacity without specific numerical limits on people within those facilities; and

(6) Mayor of the District of Columbia Muriel Bowser, who prohibited even outdoor religious services attended by more than 100 people, regardless of compliance with face-covering and social distancing requirements, but actively encouraged and participated in crowded political demonstrations attended by thousands of individuals;

Whereas the United States Supreme Court recently granted injunctive relief to 2 houses of worship in New York against the discriminatory actions by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, and declared “even in a pandemic, the Constitution cannot be put away and forgotten”; and

Whereas, for millions of people of the United States, churches, synagogues, and houses of worship are more than just buildings, and the ability to gather together in prayer for people of all faiths, creeds, and beliefs must not be diminished or impeded by the whims of government officials: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms its support for the rights, liberties, and protections enshrined in the United States Constitution; and

(2) commits to vigorously defend the right of all people of the United States to engage in the free exercise of religion.

SENATE RESOLUTION 807—URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA AND ALL PARTIES TO RESPECT HUMAN, CIVIL, AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND ENSURE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN JANUARY 2021, AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA

Mr. MENENDEZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 807

Whereas the United States has an important interest in supporting democracy in Uganda and has consistently demonstrated support for the people of Uganda through efforts to advance good governance, economic growth, and improved access to health and education;

Whereas Uganda has been an important security partner of the United States, including through its contributions to the counterterrorism efforts in East Africa, and to the African Union Mission in Somalia;

Whereas Uganda remains one of the top refugee hosting countries in the world, a contribution that plays an important role in regional stability and humanitarian protection;

Whereas more than 75 percent of Uganda’s population is younger than 30 years of age, and the political, economic, and social stability of country will be shaped by the welfare of its youth, and their access to opportunity, equality, and dignified lives;

Whereas respect for human, civil, and political rights and deepening multiparty democracy are essential to Uganda’s long-term economic prosperity and political stability;