

(7) children accounted for 30 percent of the world's population but 42 percent of all forcibly displaced people, millions of whom were unable to access basic services, including education; and

(8) 86 percent of all refugees were hosted by developing nations, and less than 1 percent of vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement had the opportunity to resettle because sufficient numbers of places do not exist;

Whereas refugees are major contributors to local economies and served as critical frontline health professionals and essential workers combating the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide;

Whereas the United States has an obligation to provide humanitarian protection to refugees, as well as interpreters, translators, and others in Afghanistan who served alongside United States and NATO troops, diplomats, and development workers;

Whereas the United States supports the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to increase protection for LGBTQI+ refugees overseas and to support global resettlement of LGBTQI+ refugees; and

Whereas the United States Refugee Admissions Program, which was established over 40 years ago, is a lifesaving solution crucial to global humanitarian efforts, strengthens global security, advances United States foreign policy goals, supports regional host countries, and assists individuals and families in need: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the bipartisan commitment of the United States to promote the safety, health, and well-being of millions of refugees, including the education of refugee children and displaced persons, who flee war, persecution, or torture in search of peace, hope, and freedom;

(2) recognizes those individuals who have risked their lives working, either individually or for nongovernmental organizations and international agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to provide lifesaving assistance and protection for people displaced around the world;

(3) underscores the importance of the United States Refugee Admissions Program as a critical tool for the United States Government to strengthen national and regional security and encourage international solidarity with host countries;

(4) calls upon the Secretary of State and United States Ambassador to the United Nations to—

(A) continue providing robust funding for refugee protection overseas and resettlement in the United States;

(B) uphold the United States international leadership role in responding to displacement crises with humanitarian assistance, and restore its leadership role in the protection of vulnerable refugee populations that endure sexual violence, human trafficking, persecution and violence against religious minorities, forced conscription, genocide, and exploitation;

(C) work in partnership with the international community to find solutions to existing conflicts and prevent new conflicts from beginning;

(D) continue supporting the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to advance the work of nongovernmental organizations to protect refugees regardless of their country of origin or religious beliefs;

(E) continue to alleviate pressures on frontline refugee host countries that absorb the majority of the world's refugees through humanitarian and development support; and

(F) respond to the global refugee crisis by meeting robust refugee admissions goals; and

(5) reaffirms the goals of “World Refugee Day” and reiterates the strong commitment of the United States to protect the millions of refugees who live without material, social, or legal protections.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I have 8 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY

The Subcommittee on Cybersecurity of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

The Subcommittee on Energy of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

The Subcommittee on Economic Policy of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, June 24;

that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act, under the previous order; further, that all time on the bill expire at 11 a.m.; that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to each vote, with all provisions of the order remaining in effect; that upon disposition of S. 1251, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Jackson-Akiwumi nomination, with all postcloture time expiring at 1:45 p.m.; finally, that if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, for the information of Senators, there will be two rollcall votes starting at 11 a.m. and one vote at 1:45 p.m.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MURPHY. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MARSHALL and Senator BROWN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. I ask unanimous consent to use two scientific models as props during my speech.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, it seems like every week, we get a new update on the timeline for the origin of the COVID-19 virus. This week, we learned that in October of 2019—October 2019—that over 1,000 soldiers from over 100 countries had gathered in Wuhan, China, for a military Olympics, if you will.

Then what we learned is that, several weeks after that event, many of our own athletes and our own military personnel became ill, as well as folks from other countries. We went back further and talked to some of those soldiers. They told us that Wuhan, China, looked like a ghost town during that event. A town of over 11 million people looked like a ghost town.

What I am frustrated about is that the CDC has not investigated this, that the military has not investigated it, and that, during the proper times, we could have tested their antibodies. When we learned of this, maybe, perhaps, in March or in April, they probably still had antibodies. Even today, we could investigate it, but we need

the FDA to do its job as well. We need the FDA to pass a T-cell test so we can go back and see if these soldiers who became ill after this event—to see if, indeed, this was from the COVID-19 virus.

Certainly, the timeline, by all accounts, is going backward every month, but I think it is time to update the American public, too, on what I feel are the lab origins of this virus. Certainly, this is just a theory, but I think we need to look into and discover and talk more about the biological origin of this virus.

This is a model of COVID-19, the virus that has killed millions of people across the world. It looks very much like the original SARS virus, with an exception, and that exception is a protein spike. The protein spike that I am talking about is composed of two units. We will call those two units S-1 and S-2, and this is a model of that COVID-19 protein spike. It is very special. It is very unique.

Let's talk about the S-1 spike just for a second. The S-1 spike looks very similar—it looks exactly like viral gain-of-function research that was conducted between a lab in North Carolina and with Dr. Shi, the “bat lady” from the Wuhan Institute of Virology. That S-1 spike sticks to lung cells like glue. Again, this is NIH-funded research, the North Carolina lab, and the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

What we did is we took the basic, original SARS virus, and we slapped a protein spike on it that made it stick to human cells like glue. Think of it as being like a key in a lock. Think about, if you have a human cell as the lock, that there needs to be a special key. So they invented a special key that would impact and go into only human cells. That was done in about 2015, but then, after that, things go dark. We don't know what happened, but, somehow, this COVID-19 virus has another part of this protein spike, and we will call it the S-2 unit.

The theory is that, in the Wuhan Institute of Virology and, possibly, in the Wuhan CDC Lab, further research was done. They developed a special part of this spike—again, the S-2 unit. This is what is so special about it: It has what we call a furin cleavage site. The furin cleavage site is—and don't take it from me; take it from Nobel Laureate Dr. David Baltimore.

Dr. Baltimore said that the furin cleavage site with its double arginine codon—and I am paraphrasing here—is the smoking gun for the lab origin of the virus in that this double arginine codon just doesn't occur in nature and that only human cells have the ability to use that furin cleavage site and break this into two separate units. That is what allows this virus to dump its genetic material into human lung cells and replicate.

As a physician, as a person who has studied virology a bit, this protein spike just doesn't look like it comes from nature. Everything about it

would suggest that it was made in a laboratory. It is just too mean. It is too angry. It is just too perfect. It is too infectious. The unique thing about it is, though some would make us believe that this virus comes from bats, this virus doesn't like bats.

It only took American scientists and Chinese scientists 4 months to discover the origin of the original SARS virus, that it came from a bat and then it went to another animal, an intermediate host. It only took us 4 months to discover that virus. The MERS virus, on the other hand, it took us about 9 months. Here we are 18 months later, and we don't have any type of an intermediate host. All of the mapping that we are seeing points to this virus being made in a laboratory.

Now, the Wuhan lab could disprove me. They have the data to prove me wrong, but I am afraid that the data is now gone. It is gone forever—most likely destroyed—unless, of course, we can find it in a cloud somewhere.

It is outrageous that a comprehensive investigation on the origins of COVID-19 has still not been carried out. Now, I am proud that this body passed a resolution that Senator GILLIBRAND and I put together that calls for a transparent investigation of the COVID-19 outbreak, mandated by the World Health Assembly. It unanimously passed this body, and that resolution demands a full and transparent investigation to include the United States and our allies and our partners around the world.

Now, it is time for the Senate to do our job. It is time for the Senate to fully investigate the origins of this virus as well. It would be utterly irresponsible to suffer through the worst pandemic in a century and not have the origins fully investigated.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

#### REMEMBERING JAMES TIMOTHY “MUDCAT” GRANT, JR.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last week, America lost a baseball legend, a pioneer in civil rights, Jim “Mudcat” Grant.

He joined the Cleveland Indians in 1958. He spent 14 years in the Major Leagues. I remember watching him play when I was a kid growing up in Cleveland in the 1960s.

Cleveland has been, more than any other franchise, perhaps, a pioneer for change in baseball. Cleveland had the first Black player in the American League, Larry Doby, Hall of Famer. He came into the league only about 2 months after Jackie Robinson integrated the National League. Cleveland had the first Black manager, Hall of Famer Frank Robinson. Cleveland also had “Mudcat” Grant, who refused to be silent in the face of segregated hotels and racist slurs and discrimination from management.

Grant was an accomplished singer with a beautiful voice. He organized

the singing group “Mudcat and the Kitchens” to make up the income he was denied that other players had, that White players had, in advertising and endorsements. Companies wouldn't hire a Black player. They toured the country during the off-season, performing with Johnny Carson and in places a little less known.

I remember Grant in later years serving as an announcer for Cleveland Indian games with a southern drawl that was unmistakable.

He didn't just use that voice, though, for entertainment or commentating on plays; he used it to speak out for civil rights.

During the national anthem at one game, predating Colin Kaepernick, Mudcat Grant—in the 1960s, before civil rights and voting rights had passed this Congress, he said this during the national anthem. He said:

This land is not free. I can't even go to Mississippi and sit down at a lunch counter.

A Major League Baseball player.

In 1958, he and his White teammate Gary Bell roomed together for away games, becoming the first time—players, in those days, when they were paid less than management, charged less, whatever, players roomed together. Two players would room together. Gary Bell and Mudcat Grant were the first Black and White roommates in the major leagues in 1958.

While running for President, Senator John F. Kennedy invited Mudcat Grant to breakfast. Grant didn't hold back. He talked openly with Senator Kennedy, with the future President, about the poverty he grew up in, the racism he endured every day—this was 1960—as a Major League Baseball player.

Of course, it wasn't only his activism we remember Mudcat Grant for. We know his talent on the field. He was Minor League's Rookie of the Year in 1954, only 7 years after baseball was integrated.

In 1965, he was the first Black player to win 20 games in the American League. He should have been the first, but listen to this: For years, major league managers conspired to prevent Black pitchers from becoming 20-game winners. That almost doesn't make sense.

Well, Grant said some catchers would tell the hitters, the opposing hitters, while they were catching, what was coming because they didn't want you to do well as a pitcher.

Other managers, when a player was reaching—a pitcher was getting close to 20 games, other managers sat the player down so he couldn't win 20 games as a Black man.

After Black players pass away, we often hear about how they were among the underappreciated talents of the game. That is not a coincidence. In addition to being a singer, Grant was also a writer. He published a book in 2007 called “The Black Aces.” It is about the great African-American pitchers. Part of his project is to tell more stories about Black players and to teach