

Whereas community colleges and other workforce development training providers across the United States are well situated—

(1) to train the next generation of workers in the United States; and

(2) to address the educational challenges created by emerging industries and technological advancements;

Whereas participation in a career and technical education (referred to in this preamble as “CTE”) program decreases the risk of students dropping out of high school, and all 50 States and the District of Columbia report higher graduation rates for CTE students, as compared to other students;

Whereas community and technical colleges operate as open access institutions serving millions of students annually at a comparatively low cost;

Whereas the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Public Law 115-224; 132 Stat. 1563) supports the development and implementation of high-quality CTE programs that—

(1) combine rigorous academic content with occupational skills; and

(2) served approximately 12,500,000 high school and college students between 2018 and 2019;

Whereas there are more than 600,000 registered apprentices in the United States, and there is growing and bipartisan support for expanding quality earn-and-learn strategies to help current and future workers gain skills and work experience;

Whereas the federally supported workforce system and partner programs—

(1) have helped rebuild the economy of the United States and provide increased economic opportunities; and

(2) provide a pathway into 21st century jobs that support families while ensuring that businesses in the United States find the skilled workforce needed to compete in the global economy; and

Whereas workforce development is crucial to sustaining economic security for workers in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2021 as “National Workforce Development Month”;

(2) supports Federal initiatives to promote workforce development; and

(3) acknowledges that workforce development plays a crucial role in supporting workers and growing the economy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 347—DESIGNATING AUGUST 16, 2021, AS “NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY”

Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. OSSOFF, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 347

Whereas the members of the airborne forces of the Armed Forces of the United States have a long and honorable history as bold and fierce warriors who, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project the ground combat power of the United States by air transport to the far reaches of the battle area and to the far corners of the world;

Whereas, on June 25, 1940, experiments with airborne operations by the United States began when the Army Parachute Test

Platoon was first authorized by the Department of War;

Whereas, in July 1940, 48 volunteers began training for the Army Parachute Test Platoon;

Whereas the first official Army parachute jump took place on August 16, 1940, to test the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by means of a parachute;

Whereas the success of the Army Parachute Test Platoon before the entry of the United States into World War II validated the airborne operational concept and led to the creation of a formidable force of airborne formations that included the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, and 101st Airborne Divisions;

Whereas, included in those divisions, and among other separate formations, were many airborne combat, combat support, and combat service support units that served with distinction and achieved repeated success in armed hostilities during World War II;

Whereas the achievements of the airborne units during World War II prompted the evolution of those units into a diversified force of parachute and air-assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf region, and Somalia, and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo;

Whereas, since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the members of the United States airborne forces, including members of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) of the 25th Infantry Division, the 75th Ranger Regiment, special operations forces of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force, and other units of the Armed Forces, have demonstrated bravery and honor in combat, stability, and training operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas the modern-day airborne forces also include other elite forces composed of airborne trained and qualified special operations warriors, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, and Air Force combat control and pararescue teams;

Whereas, of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces, thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, dozens have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor;

Whereas the members and former members of the United States airborne forces are all members of a proud and honorable tradition that, together with the special skills and achievements of those members, distinguishes the members as intrepid combat parachutists, air assault forces, special operation forces, and, in the past, glider infantry;

Whereas individuals from every State of the United States have served gallantly in the airborne forces, and each State is proud of the contributions of its paratrooper veterans during the many conflicts faced by the United States;

Whereas the history and achievements of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the people of the United States; and

Whereas, since the airborne forces, past and present, celebrate August 16 as the anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon, August 16 is

an appropriate day to recognize as National Airborne Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2021, as “National Airborne Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Airborne Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 348—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 AND CALLING FOR FURTHER ACTION TO STRENGTHEN HOME AND COMMUNITY LIVING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KING, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 348

Whereas, in enacting the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), Congress recognized that “historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem”;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 recognized the rights of individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their communities through independent living, equality of opportunity, and economic self-sufficiency;

Whereas, 31 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and 22 years after the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), many individuals with disabilities continue to live in segregated institutional settings because of a lack of support services;

Whereas continued instances of segregated institutional settings have hindered the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in communities, schools, and workplaces, undermining the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas people with disabilities living in institutional and long-term care settings suffered disproportionate rates of infection and death during the COVID-19 pandemic, with data showing 60 percent of COVID-19 deaths involved a person with a disability;

Whereas people of color with disabilities experience disproportionately greater barriers to quality, accessible health care, education, and employment opportunities, infringing on the right of such people under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to full participation in their communities;

Whereas, 31 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, people with disabilities continue to face higher rates of unemployment and barriers to accessible workplaces and access to competitive integrated employment opportunities.

Whereas, 31 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, some telecommunication, electronic, and information technologies continue to be developed without the goal of full accessibility and inclusion for all people of the United States; and

Whereas, 31 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, many businesses, public and private organizations, transportation systems, and services are still not accessible to all individuals with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of independent living for individuals with disabilities made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.);

(2) encourages all people of the United States to celebrate the advancement of inclusion and equality of opportunity made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

(3) pledges to continue to work on a bipartisan basis to identify and address the remaining barriers that undermine the national goals of equality of opportunity, independent living, economic self-sufficiency, and full participation for individuals with disabilities, including by focusing on individuals with disabilities that remain segregated in institutions;

(4) pledges to work with States to improve access to home- and community-based services for individuals with disabilities;

(5) calls on the Department of Labor to provide information, resources, and technical assistance that enable individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency; and

(6) calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to provide information, resources, and technical assistance regarding home- and community-based services and supports that enable individuals with disabilities to live independently.

SENATE RESOLUTION 349—HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RITCHIE BOYS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 349

Whereas, in 1942, the Federal Government ordered that a Maryland National Guard Training Ground be turned into a War Department Military Intelligence Training Center, which was named Camp Ritchie after the late Governor, Albert C. Ritchie;

Whereas, starting in 1942, more than 19,000 men trained at Camp Ritchie in Maryland and became known as the Ritchie Boys;

Whereas, while the approximately 2,800 refugees who had fled Nazi persecution in Germany and Austria and had come to the United States as “enemy aliens” prior to the entry of the United States into World War II only constituted approximately 14 percent of the total number of Ritchie Boys, they had the strongest motivation to return to Europe and fight for their newly adopted country;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys included—

(1) soldiers of many faiths (including Protestant, Jewish, and Catholic soldiers);

(2) both soldiers born in the United States and foreign-born soldiers from more than 70 countries;

(3) soldiers with German, Japanese (Nisei), and other language skills; and

(4) more importantly, soldiers with general intelligence skills suitable for being trained

as order-of-battle specialists, counterintelligence operatives, photo interpreters, psychological warfare experts, and other specialists;

Whereas, during World War II, Ritchie Boys were assigned to every unit of the Army and the Marines as well as to the Office of Strategic Services and the Counter Intelligence Corps;

Whereas, starting in 1942, the Ritchie Boys were sent as individual specialists to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (“SHAEP”) in small elite teams to join combat units in the North African, Mediterranean, European, and Pacific theaters and to military camps, prisoner-of-war camps, and interrogation centers (such as Fort Hunt, VA) in the United States;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys accompanied the Army on D-Day in Europe as foot soldiers with all Army divisions and as paratroopers with all airborne divisions and were often selected to be the second soldier to land after the commander in order to provide needed immediate interpretation in languages such as French, German, and Italian;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys served as personal interpreters for General George Patton and other military leaders;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys served honorably in the Pacific in the assaults on Guadalcanal, Okinawa, Iwo Jima, and the Philippines, including 2 Marine Corps Ritchie Boys who died in the initial landing on Iwo Jima and a Ritchie Boy who was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for bravery;

Whereas about 140 Ritchie Boys lost their lives during World War II;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys garnered more than 65 Silver Star Medals and numerous Bronze Star Medals as well as at least 5 Legion of Honor and many Croix de Guerre Medals;

Whereas, among the 150-man Second Mobile Radio Broadcast Company of the Ritchie Boys, 6 members received the Croix de Guerre Medal and at least 15 received Bronze Star Medals for service and bravery;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys made significant contributions to the success of the Allied Forces on the Western Front through their knowledge and their skills, as demonstrated by a classified postwar report by the Army finding that the Ritchie Boys were the source of nearly 60 percent of the credible intelligence gathered in Europe during World War II;

Whereas many of the Ritchie Boys continued to serve their country following the conclusion of World War II, including through service as translators or interrogators prosecuting war criminals with the Judge Advocate General’s Office during trials at Dachau and Nuremberg;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys include such notable figures as David Rockefeller, Archibald Roosevelt Jr., William Sloane Coffin, Philip Johnson, J.D. Salinger, and William Warfield, as well as Senators John Chafee of Rhode Island and Frank Church of Idaho, and the father of the current senior Senator from Oregon, Ron Wyden;

Whereas the Ritchie Boys also contributed outside of the military through careers as writers, artists, architects, academics, diplomats, economists, financiers, philanthropists, and psychologists;

Whereas, because the roles of the Ritchie Boys remained classified for decades, the public generally lacks awareness of their contributions;

Whereas Camp Ritchie closed in 1998, and a museum and educational center is now being planned for the location; and

Whereas, approximately 200 Ritchie Boys are still living, ranging in age between 95 and 107: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the bravery and dedication of the Ritchie Boys;

(2) recognizes the importance of their contributions to the success of the Allied Forces during World War II; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to Mr. Landon Grove of the Ritchie History Museum.

SENATE RESOLUTION 350—RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTRY OF MISSOURI—THE “SHOW ME STATE”—INTO THE UNION AS THE 24TH STATE

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

S. RES. 350

Whereas the 200th anniversary of the entry of Missouri into the Union as the 24th State marks a time for Missourians and all people of the United States to remember the past and celebrate the future, including recognizing the significant contributions of the State of Missouri to the culture, governance, and intellect of the United States;

Whereas Congress and President James Monroe approved statehood and entry into the Union for the Missouri Territory on August 10, 1821, making it the Nation’s 24th State and the “Gateway to the West”;

Whereas the City of Jefferson, lying on the Missouri River, was named the Missouri State capital in 1821 for President Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States;

Whereas the State served as the “Gateway to the West”, symbolized by the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, representing a new beginning for so many people in the United States and marking the beginning for Lewis and Clark, the Pony Express, the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails, and individuals venturing West to test their luck in the Gold Rush;

Whereas, despite the State’s role in some dark moments in the history of the United States, Missouri proves that we can have a brighter future, as evidenced by the fact that as commander of the District of South-eastern Missouri, General Ulysses S. Grant utilized the Mississippi River to combat Confederate forces, and Francis Preston Blair, Jr., who later became a United States Senator, fought for the Union and organized the protection of Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, which contributed to the Confederate defeat in Missouri;

Whereas General John Pershing, born in Laclede, Missouri, was president and first captain of the West Point class of 1886, became a 5-star general and commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) during World War I and served as the Chief of Staff of the United States Army from 1921 to 1924;

Whereas Missouri is the birthplace of President Harry S. Truman, the 33rd President, who—

(1) served as a captain in World War I, a United States Senator, and Vice President before succeeding President Franklin D. Roosevelt;

(2) oversaw the end of World War II and rocketed the United States to the international stage through his foreign policy, including the founding of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (“NATO”) and the recognition of Israel; and

(3) promoted the advancement of civil rights by desegregating the United States