

homelessness, and the rights of individuals with disabilities;

Whereas social workers support individuals and communities in a wide range of settings, including hospitals, health and behavioral health care facilities, nursing homes, community centers, Veterans Affairs clinics, schools, child welfare agencies, law enforcement agencies, disaster relief agencies, correctional institutions, and private practice settings;

Whereas social workers work in all levels of government to advance the promise of the United States and the health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas social workers are one of the largest providers of mental health, behavioral health, and social care services in the United States, working daily to help thousands of people in the United States overcome mental illnesses, such as depression and anxiety, and meet basic needs;

Whereas social workers are on the frontlines of the addiction crisis in the United States, helping individuals get the treatment they need and prevail over substance use disorders;

Whereas social workers play a vital role in helping United States veterans and their families access benefits, secure housing, and cope with stress and post-traumatic stress disorder;

Whereas social workers play a vital role in promoting the health, well-being, and dignity of older adults and their ability to live safely and securely in their own homes and communities;

Whereas social workers play a vital role in supporting the millions of family caregivers across the country who are caring for loved ones in need of assistance;

Whereas social workers are a vital source of assistance, comfort, and support for individuals and families coping with illness, death, and grief;

Whereas social workers play a vital role in helping individuals, families, and communities rebuild their lives and neighborhoods after climate-related natural disasters such as fires, floods, and hurricanes;

Whereas social workers play a vital role in promoting infant and maternal health and keeping children and families safe from interpersonal violence;

Whereas social workers support students and collaborate with parents, teachers, school boards, and community agencies to promote student success in schools across the country;

Whereas social workers are a critical source of information, services, and support in the rural communities of the United States;

Whereas social workers served on the frontlines of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, delivering behavioral health services and helping individuals, families, and communities cope with the devastating loss of life, jobs, and safety during the pandemic;

Whereas the 2024 Social Work Month theme, “Empowering Social Workers: Inspiring Action, Leading Change” embodies how social workers are invaluable to the ever-changing dynamics of our country;

Whereas social workers enter the profession because they have a strong desire to help empower individuals, families, communities, and the United States to overcome issues that prevent them from reaching their full potential;

Whereas social workers are essential to community well-being, and, as practitioners, social workers are trained to help individuals address personal and systemic barriers to optimal living;

Whereas social workers are employed to effect positive change in individuals, families, groups, and entire communities;

Whereas social workers advocate for equal rights for all;

Whereas the social work profession is one of the fastest growing professions in the United States, but the profession is still not large enough to meet the demand in the face of the mental health crisis;

Whereas there is a need to make a meaningful investment in recruitment and retention of the social work profession; and

Whereas social workers are ethically bound to work throughout our society to meet individuals where they are and help empower individuals and our society to reach the goals they wish to attain: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Social Work Month and World Social Work Day on March 19, 2024;

(2) recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of social workers who have, since the dawning of the social work profession, advanced the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities, and the United States;

(3) acknowledges the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who promote the importance of social work and observe Social Work Month and World Social Work Day; and

(4) encourages individuals to engage in appropriate ceremonies and activities to promote further awareness of the integral role that social workers play in making a more perfect Union.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 593—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED VALUE OF ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS AND CONDEMNING THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S PURPORTED SUSPENSION OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW START TREATY

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 593

Whereas the United States maintains bipartisan support to ensure national security and the defense of United States allies and partners;

Whereas President Ronald Reagan stated “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought” in his 1984 State of the Union address, and affirmed the conviction with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985;

Whereas, in January 2022, President Joseph R. Biden joined the leaders of the People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to reaffirm that “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought”;

Whereas the United States, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed the 1994 Budapest Memorandum, committing “to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine” and “to refrain from the threat or use of force” against the country;

Whereas the United States has a history of leadership in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, including its work with Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation to ensure Ukraine did not retain any nuclear weapons left on its territory when it became independent;

Whereas the Russian Federation further illegally invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, and has used veiled and blatant nuclear saber-rattling in service of its war of aggression against a sovereign state;

Whereas the war has led to thousands of casualties, including over 10,000 civilians and more than 560 children killed, along with the displacement of over 6,400,000 Ukrainians and an enduring global food crisis;

Whereas the Russian Federation's illegal war against Ukraine represents the greatest threat to European security and freedom in a generation;

Whereas, on February 27, 2022, President of Russia Vladimir Putin ordered his military to put Russia's nuclear forces on “special combat readiness” in an escalatory response to the United States' and its Western allies' unequivocal condemnation of the Russian Federation's illegal invasion of Ukraine;

Whereas, on September 21, 2022, President Putin warned he was “not bluffing” when he said Russia has “various weapons of mass destruction” and “will use all the means available to us” to defend its territory shortly before annexing additional Ukrainian lands through “referendums”;

Whereas, in February 2021, the United States and Russian Federation extended the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed on April 8, 2010, and entered into force on February 5, 2011 (commonly referred to as the “New START Treaty”), for 5 years until February 5, 2026;

Whereas, on February 21, 2023, President Putin announced the Russian Federation's purported suspension of the New START Treaty, the last major remaining bilateral nuclear arms control agreement, in a move deemed legally invalid by the United States;

Whereas New START has had bipartisan support and limits the Russian nuclear arsenal to 1,550 warheads on no more than 700 deployed delivery vehicles, and to 800 deployed and non-deployed strategic launchers;

Whereas New START has permitted robust and strict transparency and verification measures and on-site inspections, which have provided valuable insight into Russia's nuclear arsenal;

Whereas the United States has decades of bipartisan leadership in nuclear arms control, including cooperation with the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation even when relations were strained;

Whereas, in June 2023, the United States Government announced it is now ready to engage in a dialogue with the Russian Federation on a post-2026 nuclear arms control framework and is “prepared to stick to the central limits as long as Russia does” while also stating a “willingness to engage in bilateral arms control discussions” with the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China “without preconditions”;

Whereas the nuclear weapon states recognized by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968 (commonly referred to as the “Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty” or “NPT”), including the Russian Federation, the United States, and the People's Republic of China, have an obligation to “pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament”;

Whereas, in November 2023, senior United States and Chinese officials held “a candid and in-depth discussion on issues related to arms control and nonproliferation as part of ongoing efforts to maintain open lines of communication and responsibly manage the U.S.-PRC relationship”;

Whereas the absence of a new framework for nuclear arms control after the expiration of New START would affect strategic stability and increase the risk of an unrestrained nuclear arms race with the Russian Federation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns in the strongest terms the Russian Federation's nuclear escalatory rhetoric and veiled threats on the potential use of nuclear weapons to further its invasion and aggression against a free and independent Ukraine;

(2) condemns the Russian Federation's purported suspension of its participation in the New START Treaty;

(3) calls for immediate cessation of nuclear saber-rattling and nuclear escalatory rhetoric from the Russian Federation;

(4) emphasizes the continued value of arms control agreements between the United States and the Russian Federation;

(5) calls for the Russian Federation to promptly return to full implementation of the New START Treaty, including on-site inspections, provision of treaty-mandated notifications and data, and resumption of Bilateral Consultative Commission meetings;

(6) calls on the President to continue to engage the People's Republic of China in further bilateral talks on nuclear risk reduction and arms control, and to pursue new multilateral arms control efforts involving the 5 permanent members of the United Nations Security Council; and

(7) calls on the President to continue to pursue nuclear arms control and risk reduction dialogue with the Russian Federation to maintain strategic stability, ensure the conflict in Ukraine does not escalate to nuclear use, and avoid an unrestrained nuclear arms race.

ful, competitive, and integrated employment;

Whereas the availability of assistive technology in the workplace promotes economic self-sufficiency, enhances work participation, and is critical to the employment of people with disabilities and older adults; and

Whereas State assistive technology programs support a continuum of services that include—

(1) the exchange, repair, recycling, and other reutilization of assistive technology devices;

(2) device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, and others;

(3) the demonstration of devices to inform decision making; and

(4) State financing to help individuals purchase or obtain assistive technology through a variety of initiatives, such as financial loan programs, leasing programs, and other financing alternatives that give individuals affordable, flexible options to purchase or obtain assistive technology: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 17, 2024, as “National Assistive Technology Awareness Day”; and

(2) commends—

(A) assistive technology specialists and program coordinators for their hard work and dedication in serving people with disabilities who are in need of finding the proper assistive technology to meet their individual needs; and

(B) professional organizations and researchers dedicated to facilitating the access and acquisition of assistive technology for people with disabilities and older adults in need of assistive technology devices.

(1) leveraged hundreds of millions of dollars in outside funding and in-kind donations each year; and

(2) expanded the capacity of local and national programs to deliver on missions that strengthen the communities of the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers have provided millions of hours of service across the United States, helping to—

(1) improve the lives of the most vulnerable people of the United States;

(2) protect the environment;

(3) contribute to public safety;

(4) respond to disasters and public health emergencies;

(5) strengthen the educational system of the United States; and

(6) expand economic opportunity for all;

Whereas service in AmeriCorps promotes bridge-building, collaboration, and leadership skills, and AmeriCorps programs bring the people of the United States together from different backgrounds, generations, and geographic locations;

Whereas AmeriCorps funds, conducts, and disseminates research on the civic health of the United States and the return on taxpayer investment in national service programs;

Whereas AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers recruit and supervise millions of community volunteers, demonstrating the value of AmeriCorps as a powerful force for encouraging people to become involved in community service;

Whereas, for more than 5 decades, millions of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the RSVP, Foster Grandparent, and Senior Companion programs have played an important role in strengthening communities by sharing their experience, knowledge, and accomplishments with the individuals they serve;

Whereas, over the past 30 years, nearly 1,300,000 individuals have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to “get things done for America” by becoming AmeriCorps members through the AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC programs;

Whereas AmeriCorps members throughout the United States, in return for completing their service terms, have earned more than \$4,500,000,000 to use to further their own educational advancement and career readiness at colleges and universities across the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps is a proven pathway to employment, providing members with valuable career skills, experience, and contacts to prepare them for the 21st century workforce;

Whereas leaders across political parties and ideologies recognize the value that national service provides to their communities and country, leveraging the power of AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to meet the most urgent and pressing needs;

Whereas national service programs have engaged millions of people in the United States in results-driven service in the most vulnerable communities of the United States including in rural, urban, and suburban communities, providing hope and help to individuals with economic and social needs; and

Whereas AmeriCorps Week, observed in 2024 from March 10 through March 16, is an appropriate time for the people of the United States to—

(1) salute current and former AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers for their positive impact on the lives of people in the United States;

(2) thank the community partners of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors for making the programs possible;

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 594—DESIGNATING APRIL 17, 2024, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 594

Whereas assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a person with a disability or an older adult;

Whereas an assistive technology service is any service that directly assists a person with a disability or an older adult in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device;

Whereas, in 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 1 in 4 people in the United States, or almost 61,000,000 individuals, has a disability;

Whereas, during the 2021–2022 school year, the Department of Education reported that there were more than 7,300,000 children with disabilities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, among adults 65 years of age and older, 2 in 5 have a disability;

Whereas assistive technology enables people with disabilities and older adults to be included in their communities and in inclusive classrooms and workplaces;

Whereas assistive technology devices and services are necessities, not luxury items, for millions of people with disabilities and older adults, without which they would be unable to live in their communities, access education, or obtain, retain, and advance gain-

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 595—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI AND AMERICORPS SENIORS VOLUNTEERS IN THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 595

Whereas 30 years ago Congress established the Corporation for National and Community Service—now known as AmeriCorps—to unite national service programs under 1 agency, to create service opportunities that strengthen communities, and to expand pathways to education, careers, and civic participation for those who serve;

Whereas, since their inception, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors national and community service programs have proven to be highly effective ways to—

(1) unite and engage the people of the United States in meeting a wide range of local and national needs;

(2) promote greater civic engagement; and

(3) provide pathways to education and careers;

Whereas each year 200,000 individuals serve in AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors at nearly 40,000 locations across the United States to give back in an intensive way to communities, States, territories, Tribal nations, and the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors funds have been invested in nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based organizations, as well as local governments and Tribal nations, and those funds have—