

State, local, and Federal corrections systems, which shall conduct activities such as—

(1) providing on-site technical assistance and consultation to Federal, State, and local corrections agencies to safely reduce the use of solitary confinement;

(2) acting as a clearinghouse for research, data, and information on the safe reduction of solitary confinement in prisons and other custodial settings, including facilitating the exchange of information between Federal, State, and local practitioners, national experts, and researchers;

(3) creating a minimum of 10 learning sites in Federal, State, and local jurisdictions that have already reduced their use of solitary confinement and that will coordinate with other Federal, State, and local agencies to participate in training, consultation, and other forms of assistance and partnership with these learning sites;

(4) conducting evaluations of jurisdictions that have decreased their use of solitary confinement to determine best practices;

(5) conducting research on the effectiveness of alternatives to solitary confinement, such as step-down or transitional programs, strategies to reintegrate inmates into the general population in a facility, the role of officers and staff culture in reform efforts, and other research relevant to the safe reduction of solitary confinement;

(6) developing and disseminating a toolkit for systems to reduce the excessive use of solitary confinement;

(7) developing and disseminating an online self-assessment tool for State and local jurisdictions to assess their own use of solitary confinement and identify strategies to reduce the use of solitary confinement; and

(8) conducting public webinars to highlight new and promising practices.

(c) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The program under this section shall be administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

(d) **REPORT.**—On an annual basis, the coordinating center shall report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on its activities and any changes in solitary confinement policy at the Federal, State, or local level that have resulted from the activities of the coordinating center.

(e) **DURATION.**—The Bureau of Justice Assistance shall enter into a cooperative agreement under this section for 5 years.

#### SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated—

(1) to the Director of the Bureau of Prisons such sums as may be necessary to carry out sections 2, 3, 4, and 6, and the amendments made by such sections;

(2) to the Director of the United States Marshals Service such sums as may be necessary to carry out sections 2, 3, 5, and 6, and the amendments made by such sections; and

(3) to the Bureau of Justice Assistance such sums as may be necessary to carry out section 7.

#### SEC. 9. REGULATIONS.

The Director of the Bureau of Prisons and the Director of the United States Marshals Service shall prescribe rules, in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

#### SEC. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) **CONTRACTORS.**—For facilities that contract with the Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Services, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall

apply to contracts finalized and entered into after the effective date of this Act.

### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 640—COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF “WORLD QUANTUM DAY”

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 640

Whereas quantum physics describes nature at the scale of atoms and subatomic particles;

Whereas “World Quantum Day” is celebrated by scientists in more than 70 countries to promote public understanding of quantum science and technology around the world;

Whereas the United States has recognized quantum information science, engineering, and technology as a key technology area for economic competition;

Whereas quantum physics helps us to understand and develop technologies critical to everyday life, such as GPS, semiconductors, and lasers;

Whereas quantum information science is a multidisciplinary field, bridging science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”);

Whereas STEM is a critical part of education for children, and aptitude in STEM is essential for a knowledge-based society and for economic competition;

Whereas the United States needs to reinforce STEM education for all students in order to better prepare children for future careers in emerging technologies, including quantum, to succeed in a 21st-century economy;

Whereas STEM can be a fun and interesting part of education for children, and learning about quantum principles of superposition and entanglement can be an engaging way to teach children and attract the children to study STEM;

Whereas the Planck constant is a fundamental constant governing quantum physics, which is used to define universal measurements such as the kilogram; and

Whereas the rounded first significant digits of the Planck constant are 4.14, and thus April 14 of each year is internationally recognized as “World Quantum Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of “World Quantum Day” to recognize and celebrate the role that quantum physics plays in our daily lives; and

(2) encourages schools and educators to observe the day with appropriate activities that teach students about quantum physics and engage students in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 641—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 7 THROUGH APRIL 13, 2024, AS “NATIONAL WATER WEEK”

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 641

Whereas each community in the United States, both large and small, and urban, rural, and Tribal, deserves to have access to affordable, safe, and clean drinking water, sanitation, and other critical water infrastructure;

Whereas more than 2,000,000 people in the United States lack access to running water, indoor plumbing, or wastewater services;

Whereas small, rural, and disadvantaged community water systems struggle to make needed investments while keeping rates affordable;

Whereas Federal investment in core drinking water, wastewater, stormwater capture, sustainable desalination, and water recycling programs allow local utilities and the customers of those local utilities to have the resources to affordably improve in water reliability and meet Federal regulatory obligations;

Whereas source control is a critical first step to reducing emerging contaminants from entering water systems and the environment, along with advancing the state of the science on the risks of those contaminants, which is essential to protect public health;

Whereas water infrastructure projects often rely on specific products and technologies, and substitutions may not be readily available, so it is critical to consider the realities unique to the water sector, and the near-term challenges that water infrastructure projects face;

Whereas countless disadvantaged communities in the United States struggle to make needed investments in critical water infrastructure while simultaneously keeping rates affordable;

Whereas water research helps solve some of the most pressing challenges for the water sector, such as—

- (1) aging infrastructure;
- (2) emerging contaminants;
- (3) resiliency to extreme weather;
- (4) drought and water scarcity; and
- (5) significant shifts in population;

Whereas research and development aimed at finding cost-effective solutions to the most pressing challenges for the water sector—

(1) create more resilient and effective water systems;

(2) create new jobs and support thriving communities nationwide; and

(3) result in improved public health and safety and promote equitable solutions throughout the United States; and

Whereas Congress and the executive branch should assist water utilities to ensure that those communities can continue to fulfill their core mission of protecting public health and the environment while supporting local economic growth by addressing challenges related to—

(1) managing aging water infrastructure, and escalating operation and maintenance costs, supply chain disruptions, and workforce shortages;

(2) addressing growing water quality impairments and regulations from emerging contaminants and nutrients; and

(3) ensuring proper climate adaptation, system resiliency, and security measures are in place: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That Congress hereby designates the week of April 7 through April 13, 2024, as “National Water Week”.

### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1819. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S.

Res. 174, condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 1819.** Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 174, condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023; as follows:

On page 13, line 24, insert “and” after “Eswatini”;

On page 14, lines 12 and 13, strike “reform; and” and insert “reform.”;

On page 14, strike lines 14 through 19.

#### PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT, ADMINISTER, OR ENFORCE CERTAIN RULES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 350, S. 4072.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 350, S. 4072, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

#### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 7888

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7888) to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

#### LEGACY MINE CLEANUP ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 344, S. 3858.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3858) to establish within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of

the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are in boldfaced brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are in italic.)

S. 3858

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Legacy Mine Cleanup Act of 2024”.

#### SEC. 2. OFFICE OF MOUNTAINS, DESERTS, AND PLAINS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(H) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(I) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(J) the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(3) COVERED MINE SITE.—The term “covered mine site” means the land, water, and surrounding watersheds where extraction, beneficiation, or processing of hardrock ores or minerals occurred, but has been discontinued, including discontinued temporarily.

(4) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term “Indian country” has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(5) NAVAJO NATION ABANDONED URANIUM MINE SITE.—The term “Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine site” means an abandoned uranium covered mine site on land of the Navajo Nation.

(6) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains established by subsection (b)(1).

(7) REGIONAL OFFICE.—The term “Regional Office” means a Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Director, to be appointed by the Administrator (or a designee).

(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office shall be—

(1) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, and stakeholders response actions of the Environmental Protection Agency at a covered mine site, including a cov-

ered mine site in Indian country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code), in accordance with Federal law;

(2) to establish and disseminate best practices for covered mine site response actions, including identifying—

(A) innovative technologies and reuse approaches that support and make progress toward those response actions; and

(B) waste storage and disposal solutions;

(3) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, Federal land management agencies, States, and voluntary nongovernmental organizations, watershed groups, nonliable entities and mining companies, and other entities voluntary response actions at covered mine sites, where applicable, including timely issuance of administrative guidance for nonliable parties;

(4) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency and other Federal Government entities, pursuant to existing authorities under section 3303 of title 41, United States Code, hiring practices to support small business concerns to carry out response actions at covered mine sites;

(5) to coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, to ensure interagency coordination of covered mine site response actions, with priority given to coordinating response actions at covered mine sites for which there is no potentially responsible party; and

(6) to coordinate other actions as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(A) to support efforts to investigate, characterize, or clean up a discharge, release, or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into the environment at or from a covered mine site; or

(B) to establish best practices to protect and improve human health and the environment and implement appropriate reuse options, including through the use of innovative technologies to recover valuable resources from covered mine site features or areas, as applicable.

(d) DUTIES.—The Administrator shall carry out through the Office, at a minimum, the following duties:

(1) PRIORITY MINE LIST.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Annually, the Administrator shall identify covered mine sites that are prioritized for response actions, which may include covered mine sites that are or are not included on the National Priorities List developed by the President in accordance with section 105(a)(8)(B) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9605(a)(8)(B)).

(B) CREATION OF LIST; REPORTS.—The Administrator shall annually—

(i) create a list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(I) the methodology used to identify those covered mine sites under that subparagraph; and

(II) the status of response actions carried out at covered mine sites on the list.

(C) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall—

(i) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices, Federal agencies, States, Indian Tribes, *Alaska Native Corporations*, and stakeholders to update the list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and