

Support Forces and Sudan Armed Forces has forced more than 9 million people to flee their homes, and without a ceasefire and sustainable peace agreement, these numbers will only continue to grow; in Ukraine, where Putin's illegal full-scale invasion has pushed nearly 10 million Ukrainians from their homes, including more than 6 million refugees; in Gaza, where approximately 75 percent of the population—1.7 million people—has been displaced and displaced multiple times since last October; and in Haiti, where widespread violence has uprooted more than 360,000 people in the past year.

Even as crises fades from the headlines, the impact to people's lives do not: for nearly 14 million displaced Syrians representing over half the country's population to the estimated 6.5 million Afghan refugees around the world, to the more than 6 million Venezuelan refugees, the long tail of conflict and crisis has left millions displaced year after year.

Behind every number is a story of a life uprooted, but there is also a story of courage, of resilience and hope for a brighter future, the hope of a refugee mother for her child to receive an education, the hope of a refugee woman to someday become a doctor, the hope of a family caught in the crosshairs of war to return to their homes and live in peace.

Achieving this brighter future requires urgent and sustained support from the United States and the international community. Massive cuts proposed by House colleagues to the Migration and Refugee Assistance accounts for fiscal year 2025 would turn our back and imperil the lives of those most at risk.

That is why this day I will be introducing, along with 21 of my Senate colleagues, a resolution reaffirming the importance of promoting the safety, health, and well-being of refugees and displaced persons in the United States and around the world.

This means upholding the long history of the United States welcoming people from around the world who have been oppressed and persecuted. Our U.S. Refugee Admission Program, established in 1980, remains a lifesaving pillar for resettling the most vulnerable refugees.

It means further tapping into the deep generosity of Americans, as demonstrated by the U.S. Government's welcome tour through which private citizens are supporting newly arrived refugees themselves.

It means supporting host communities, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where 75 percent of all refugees are hosted while advocating for refugee inclusion. It means continuing U.S. leadership by the State Department, USAID, and NGO partners in responding to displacement crises with humanitarian assistance and protection for forcibly displaced persons that are at risk of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and other human rights abuses.

It means working in partnership with the international community to resolve conflicts, to address climate change that is destroying lands and livelihoods, and to hold human rights abusers accountable so that people can return to their homes.

In taking these steps, we will not only uplift the lives of vulnerable people around the world, we will also promote regional stability and strengthen U.S. national security.

So on World Refugee Day, let us all join together to mitigate the causes that have forced refugees to leave their homes and help these individuals who are displaced to have an opportunity for a peaceful future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 744—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 28, 2024, AS “STONEWALL DAY”

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 744

Whereas, on June 28, 1969, a police raid at Stonewall Inn sparked a days-long community protest that brought the long and ongoing fight for the equality, rights, and freedoms of individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (referred to in this resolution as “LGBTQIA+”) to national attention;

Whereas the United States recognizes the impact of the Stonewall Inn riots (commonly referred to as the “Stonewall Rebellion” or “Stonewall Uprising”) and its significance in LGBTQIA+ history and the fight for equality;

Whereas, on June 28, 1970, the first Pride marches took place in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles to commemorate the 1-year anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and demonstrate for equal rights;

Whereas Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Stormé DeLarverie, and Miss Major Griffin-Gracy were key leaders in the Stonewall Uprising, and the LGBTQIA+ movement has greatly benefitted from their contributions;

Whereas LGBTQIA+ people and their allies have worked together for more than 60 years to make progress towards achieving full equality for all people in the United States, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or sex characteristics;

Whereas LGBTQIA+ individuals still face discriminatory policies, barriers to critical government services, and disregard for their equitable rights across the United States in the realms of affirming health care, employment, education, housing, immigration, and the justice system;

Whereas transgender people and LGBTQIA+ people of color are disproportionately burdened by such barriers, including by facing increased violence and discrimination;

Whereas millions of LGBTQIA+ people—especially LGBTQIA+ youth and transgender

individuals—still lack consistent legal protection against discrimination in key areas of life as a result of existing gaps in Federal and State civil rights laws;

Whereas, on June 24, 2016, the Stonewall National Monument was established as the 412th unit of the National Park System, making it the first in the country dedicated to LGBTQIA+ equality;

Whereas, on June 28, 2024, the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center will open at 51 Christopher Street, the location of the Stonewall Uprising, for the purpose of celebrating and honoring the legacy of the Stonewall Rebellion and the birth of the modern LGBTQIA+ civil rights movement;

Whereas Pride Live is a nonprofit organization committed to raising awareness and support for the LGBTQIA+ community and preserving and advancing equality;

Whereas Pride Live has worked with the LGBTQIA+ community to establish Stonewall Day and the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center, which honor the legacy of the Stonewall Rebellion and celebrate the progress made by the LGBTQIA+ civil rights movement;

Whereas the Members of the 118th Congress support the rights and well-being of LGBTQIA+ individuals and recognize the need to dismantle State-sanctioned and government-funded discrimination against LGBTQIA+ people; and

Whereas June 28, 2024, would be an appropriate date to designate as “Stonewall Day”:

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the equal rights and protections of all people, including LGBTQIA+ people;

(2) recognizes the significance of the Stonewall Uprising and its historic role in the equal rights movement for LGBTQIA+ people;

(3) supports the designation of June 28, 2024, as “Stonewall Day”;

(4) acknowledges that Pride Live will operate the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center as a place where people can learn about and connect with the LGBTQIA+ community's ongoing struggle for civil rights and liberties; and

(5) encourages the celebration of “Stonewall Day” to commemorate the significance of the grand opening of the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center and the long and ongoing fight for equality.

SENATE RESOLUTION 745—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR AND CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SERVICEMEN'S READJUSTMENT ACT OF 1944, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE “G.I. BILL”

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

S. RES. 745

Whereas, on July 28, 1943, in seeking a solution to integrate returning members of the Armed Forces into civilian life, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called for a comprehensive set of veterans benefits during a fireside chat saying, “While concentrating on military victory, we are not neglecting the planning of the things to come . . . . Among many other things we are, today, laying plans for the return to civilian life of our gallant men and women in the Armed Services.”;

Whereas, on June 22, 1944, in demonstration of the full support of the United States

for the transition of members of the Armed Forces to civilian life, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 284, chapter 268);

Whereas the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 was the culmination of the tireless work and advocacy of veterans service organizations and Members of Congress;

Whereas the Act made immediate financial support, transformative educational benefits, and home loan guarantees available to the approximately 16,000,000 veterans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II;

Whereas the Act helped approximately 7,800,000 veterans enroll in post-secondary education or training, helped to democratize higher education in the United States, and caused total post-secondary education enrollment to grow exponentially from 1,676,856 in 1945, with veterans accounting for 5.2 percent of total post-secondary education enrollment, to 2,338,226 in 1947, with veterans accounting for 49.2 percent of the total;

Whereas the Act contributed approximately 450,000 engineers, 240,000 accountants, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, 122,000 dentists, 17,000 writers and editors, and thousands of other professionals to the workforce of the United States and expanded the middle class more than at any other point in the history of the United States;

Whereas the Act expressed the duty, responsibility, and desire of a grateful United States to see to it that those who served on active duty in the Armed Forces are afforded every opportunity to become disciplined forces for prosperity and progress in the United States through economic opportunity and investment;

Whereas Congress passed subsequent Acts to provide educational assistance to new generations of veterans, including the Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-358), the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Act of 1977 (title IV of Public Law 94-502), the Veterans' Educational Assistance Act of 1984 (title VII of Public Law 98-525), the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (title V of Public Law 110-252), and the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-48);

Whereas, since the enactment of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, the Department of Veterans Affairs has paid more than \$400,000,000,000 in educational assistance to approximately 25,000,000 veterans and their families who continue to excel academically in post-secondary education;

Whereas the Act created the home loan guarantee program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which, since 1944, has provided a pathway for more than 28,000,000 veterans to purchase a home guaranteed by the Department, the majority of which are purchased with no down payment;

Whereas the Act improved health care opportunities for veterans by transferring medical facilities from the Army and the Navy and providing funding for hospitals of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Whereas this combination of opportunities changed the social and economic fabric of the United States for the better, with a 1988 report from the Subcommittee on Education and Health of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress concluding that for every \$1 the United States invested pursuant to the Act, \$6.90 was returned in growth to the economy of the United States;

Whereas recipients of benefits under the Act include 14 Nobel laureates, 24 Pulitzer Prize-winners, and three Supreme Court justices;

Whereas nearly 1,300 Members of Congress served in the Armed Forces on or after June 22, 1944, and directly benefitted from the enactment of the Act;

Whereas Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, Kansas, a former National Commander of The American Legion and for whom the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-48), commonly known as the "Forever GI Bill", was named, is credited with drafting the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944; and

Whereas June 22, 2024, is the 80th anniversary of the date on which President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 into law: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the achievements of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 284, chapter 268), commonly known as the "G.I. Bill", in democratizing higher education, increasing home ownership, establishing greater citizenship through economic empowerment, and empowering a generation that would serve for decades to guide the transformation of the United States into a global force for good;

(2) considers the veterans benefitting from the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 on the 80th anniversary of its enactment—

(A) to be equal to the challenge of creating a lasting prosperity for the United States as their forebears; and

(B) to have the opportunity to become the heirs to the Greatest Generation;

(3) affirms the responsibility of Congress to be a faithful steward of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that such assistance endures as an honorable investment of public dollars; and

(4) encourages all people of the United States to celebrate June 22, 2024, as the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 746—COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE OF 3 YEARS SINCE THE TRAGIC BUILDING COLLAPSE IN SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, ON JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida)) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 746

Whereas June 24, 2024, marks 3 years since portions of the Champlain Towers South condominium building in Surfside, Florida, catastrophically collapsed; and

Whereas, in the aftermath of the devastating collapse—

(1) 1 of the largest rescue and recovery operations in the history of the United States commenced to locate scores of residents who were unaccounted for and believed to be in the collapsed building;

(2) first responders from across the State of Florida immediately answered the call of duty, including firefighters, uniformed police officers, rescue and recovery crews, emergency medical technicians, physicians, nurses, and others rushing to save the lives of individuals trapped in the building;

(3) international rescue crews and emergency support organizations from Israel and Mexico responded to the site to aid in the search and recovery efforts;

(4) National Urban Search and Rescue Response System task forces from Florida, Vir-

ginia, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and emergency specialists from California, deployed to Surfside, Florida, to provide critical support;

(5) teams worked tirelessly around the clock to rescue survivors and recover the remains of individuals killed in the tragic collapse; and

(6) on June 30, 2021, the National Institute of Standards and Technology announced it would launch a formal investigation into the cause of the collapse: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the passage of 3 years since the tragic building collapse in Surfside, Florida, on June 24, 2021;

(2) honors the survivors and the 98 lives lost in the collapse of the Champlain Towers South condominium building and offers heartfelt condolences to the families, loved ones, and friends of the victims;

(3) commends the bravery and selfless service demonstrated by the local, State, national, and international teams of first responders deployed in the aftermath of the collapse; and

(4) expresses support for the survivors and community of Surfside, Florida.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 747—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF POLLINATORS TO ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES BY DESIGNATING JUNE 16 THROUGH JUNE 22, 2024, AS "NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK"

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

S. RES. 747

Whereas pollinators like native bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles play a vital role in agriculture throughout the United States and help to produce a healthy and affordable food supply while also maintaining the health and diversity of ecosystems;

Whereas various native pollinator species help to reproduce at least 80 percent of flowering plants, making pollinators indispensable for sustaining the biodiversity of natural ecosystems;

Whereas enhancing native pollinator and honey bee populations can result in improved and essential pollination services for neighboring land, including agriculture and wildlife ecosystems;

Whereas it is in the strong economic interest of agricultural producers and consumers in the United States to help ensure healthy, sustainable, pollinator populations, as pollinators add more than \$18,000,000,000 in revenue to crop production in the United States each year, including more than 100 crops that either need or benefit from native pollinators;

Whereas pollinators also contribute to clean air and water, stable soil, and a diversity of wildlife needed for healthy and productive natural ecosystems;

Whereas more than ¼ of North American bumble bees are facing risk of extinction, while iconic species like the North American migratory monarch butterfly and the American bumble bee have declined by 85 percent and 90 percent respectively due to dwindling habitat, disease, and other threats;

Whereas the Western monarch butterfly population has significantly declined from nearly 10,000,000 butterflies in the 1980s to fewer than 2,000 butterflies in 2020, and while numbers have made modest gains in the last