

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Virginia; Revision Listing and Implementing the 2010 Primary Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Giles County Nonattainment Area” (FRL No. 11418-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5422. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Colorado; 2017 Base Year Inventory and Emission Statement Rule Marginal Nonattainment Requirements, Revisions to Regulation 3” (FRL No. 11837-02-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5423. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Designations of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; New York, New Jersey, Connecticut; New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT 2015 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area; Reclassification to Serious” (FRL No. 12108-01-R1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5424. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Clean Air Act Reclassification; Colorado; Reclassification of the Denver Metro/North Front Range 2015 Ozone Nonattainment Area to Serious” (FRL No. 12110-01-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5425. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Part D Plans Generally Include Drugs Commonly Used By Dual-Eligible Enrollees: 2024”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5426. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance under Section 367(b) Related to Certain Triangular Reorganizations and Inbound Nonrecognition Transactions” (RIN1545-BM19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5427. A communication from the Security Officer II of the Office of Senate Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding The New Start Treaty (OSS-2024-0897); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5428. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Fiscal Year 2022 Report to Congress on the Nurse Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5429. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Geriatrics Academic Career Awards Program FY 2017-FY 2022”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5430. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Labor and the Acting Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's fiscal year 2023 Actuarial Evaluation of the Expected Operations and Status of the PBGC Funds; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5431. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-497, “Dedication of Lot 841 in Square 5755 for Alley Purposes, S.O. 22-01599, Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5432. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-498, “Unlawful Restrictions in Land Records Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5433. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5434. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-507, “Lafayette Elementary School Grass Field Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5435. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-508, “Department of For-Hire Vehicles Delivery Vehicle Traffic Enforcement Expansion Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5436. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-509, “Pesticide Operations Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5437. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-510, “DC Water Critical Infrastructure Freedom of Information Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5438. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's activities under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act during fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5439. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, a legislative proposal that would amend the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines applicable to human smuggling offenses to address serious deficiencies that frustrate efforts to obtain justice at sentencing for victims; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5440. A communication from the Chair of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of the recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 81st Plenary Session; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5441. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, transmitting, pursuant to

law, a report relative to an audit of the Garden for the period from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5442. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Exemption of ‘Diversity and Equal Employment Program Records’” (RIN2900-AR95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2024; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-5443. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Black Sea Bass Fishery; 2018 February Recreational Season Modification” (RIN0648-BH35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 23, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5444. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; Commercial Accountability Measures Framework Adjustment” (RIN0648-BH80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 23, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5445. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustments to 2018 Management Area Annual Catch Limits; Correction” (RIN0648-XF898) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 23, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5446. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment and Amendment of United States Area Navigation Routes; Eastern United States” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2040) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5447. A communication from the Director of Regulations, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Notice to Lessees and Operators of Federal Oil and Gas, and Sulphur Leases in the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf Expanded Rice's Whale Protection Efforts During Reinitiated Consultation with NMFS” (BOEM NTL No. 2023-G01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-144. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee

applying to the United States Congress pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution to call a convention for proposing amendments to set a limit on the number of terms to which a person may be elected as a Member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms to which a person may be elected as a Member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the United States Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states; now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Thirteenth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate concurring, that the General Assembly hereby makes an application to Congress, as provided by Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America to set a limit on the number of terms to which a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms to which a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this application be sent to the President and the Secretary of the Senate of the United States, and the Speaker and Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States; to the members of the said Senate and House of Representatives from this State; and to the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their cooperation. Be it further

Resolved, That this application be considered as covering the same subject matter as the applications from other states to Congress to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms to which a person may be elected to the House of Representatives of the United States and to the Senate of the United States; and that this application be aggregated with the same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on this subject; and that this application will not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject. Be it further

Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

POM-145. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland urging the federal government to publish, without delay, the federal Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the United States Congress to pass a joint resolution affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-eighth Amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, In 1972, the 92nd Congress of the United States, at its second session, in both houses, by a constitutional majority of two-thirds, adopted the following proposition to amend the U.S. Constitution:

“Joint Resolution Resolved by the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (Two-Thirds of Each House Concurring Therein), That the following article is pro-

posed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE ———

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.”; and

Whereas, Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides a two-step procedure for the adoption of an amendment; and

Whereas, The first requirement for the adoption of an amendment under Article V is the proposal of an amendment either by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress, or by a convention called by application of two-thirds of the states; and

Whereas, The second requirement for the adoption of an amendment under Article V is ratification of an amendment by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, The U.S. Constitution does not limit the time for states to ratify an amendment and does not grant Congress the authority to unilaterally limit the time by which an amendment may be ratified; and

Whereas, A time limitation for the ratification of amendments by the states would be a substantive change to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, To have full force and effect, a substantive change to the U.S. Constitution must be within the text of an amendment so that it may be ratified by the states as part of the requirements of Article V; and

Whereas, The time limitation on state ratifications was in the preamble section of the resolution by Congress and not within the text of the amendment presented to states for state approval; and

Whereas, Because of the placement of the time limitation, the states ratified the text of the Equal Rights Amendment but did not ratify the time limit by Congress; and

Whereas, A time limit was approved in the Equal Rights Amendment by Congress in 1972, but has not been subsequently approved by the states and thus is without force or effect; and

Whereas, In comparison, in 1978, Congress passed the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, which included a time limitation within the text of the Amendment offered to the states for ratification; and

Whereas, The time limitation for the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment ended before ratification of the amendment by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, Because the time limit was within the text of the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, the time limit had full force and effect and the amendment expired in 1985; and

Whereas, In comparison, the Twenty-first Amendment and the Twenty-second Amendment include time limitations within the text of each amendment, and the timelines were ratified by three-fourths of the states in accordance with the text of the amendments; and

Whereas, In 1789, the First Congress proposed, in accordance with Article V, the Madison Amendment relating to compensation of members of Congress; and

Whereas, Over 202 years later, the Madison Amendment was ratified by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, In 1992, having finally met the requirements of Article V, the Madison

Amendment was published as the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by the Archivist of the United States during the Administration of President George H.W. Bush; and

Whereas, Following publication of the Madison Amendment by the Archivist of the United States, Congress affirmed the Madison Amendment as the Twenty-seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, As of January 27, 2020, three-fourths of the states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment; and

Whereas, Unlike the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, the Equal Rights Amendment does not contain a time limit in its text where it would be of full force and effect; and

Whereas, In contrast to the Madison Amendment, which took 203 years to ratify, the Equal Rights Amendment took only 48 years to ratify; and

Whereas, The text of Article V of the U.S. Constitution grants the states the power of ratification, not rescission; and

Whereas, Samuel Johnson's dictionary of 1755 defines “ratify” as “to confirm; to settle”; and

Whereas, Bouvier's Law Dictionary of 1856, considered to be the first American legal dictionary, states that a ratification once done, “cannot be revoked or recalled”; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote in a July 20, 1788, letter to Alexander Hamilton that ratification is “in toto and for ever”; and

Whereas, Various attempts to rescind ratifications of provisions of the U.S. Constitution or its amendments, including the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Nineteenth Amendments, have never been honored; and

Whereas, The General Assembly of Maryland set a precedent for this resolution in 1961 by passing House Joint Resolution 14 urging Congress to pass the Equal Rights Amendment; and

Whereas, Maryland was one of the early states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in May 1972, two months after Congress proposed it for ratification; and

Whereas, Maryland adopted the Maryland Equal Rights Amendment to the Maryland Constitution in 1972; and

Whereas, The Maryland Equal Rights Amendment is only effective to the degree that it does not conflict with federal law; and

Whereas, The Maryland Attorney General filed an amicus brief in 2022 in support of a lawsuit brought by three ratifying states to require the Archivist of the United States to certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as an amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, Over several decades, the General Assembly of Maryland has passed laws and created protections attempting to guarantee equal rights under the law for all Marylanders, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed, religion, or sex—which includes legal equality and protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and decisions regarding reproductive healthcare or other aspects of an individual's bodily autonomy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it is the opinion of the General Assembly of Maryland that the Equal Rights Amendment meets the requirements of Article V of the U.S. Constitution and should be recognized as the 28th Amendment; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden to publish, without delay, the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges the Congress of the United States to pass a joint resolution affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland calls on other states to join in this action by passing similar resolutions; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500; the Honorable Kamala Harris, Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Colleen Joy Shogan, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20408; the Maryland Congressional Delegation; and the presiding officer of each House of the legislature of each state of the United States, with the request that it be circulated among leadership of the legislative branch of the state governments.

POM-146. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee urging the federal government to do all within its power to secure the border and protect our country; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 801

Whereas, recent events in Texas have demonstrated the federal government's disinclination to fulfill a duty imposed by the United States Constitution and federal statutory law, namely the protection of the several states from illegal immigration; and

Whereas, the security of our nation's borders and the safety of our citizens are paramount to protecting the American way of life; and

Whereas, due to the present administration's abrogation of its duty to secure the border, more than six million illegal immigrants have crossed our southern border in the last three years; and

Whereas, Article 1, §10, Clause 3, of the United States Constitution reserves to the states the right of self-defense, including the right to secure a state's border against an invasion; and

Whereas, the state of Texas has acted properly in declaring an invasion pursuant to such constitutional provision and invoking Texas's constitutional authority to defend and protect its citizens and sovereign property; and

Whereas, the Texas National Guard, Texas Department of Public Safety officers, and other qualified Texas personnel have been deployed to secure the Texas border; and

Whereas, federal government officials and agencies have since encroached upon Texas's constitutional right to protect against threats to the public safety; and

Whereas, the members of this General Assembly have consistently taken steps to address illegal immigration in Tennessee and support the state of Texas in doing likewise; now, therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Thirteenth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate Concurring, That this General Assembly stands in support of the state of Texas's efforts to secure its border against illegal immigration and affirms the several states' constitutional right to protect and defend their citizens and property against any threat to public safety and security; and be it further

Resolved, That this General Assembly commends Governor Lee for previous support of

securing the Texas border and urges him to send continued support; and be it further

Resolved, That this General Assembly urges the federal government to do all within its power to secure the border and protect our country; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, the Governor of the State of Tennessee, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation, and the Governor of Texas.

POM-147. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to reform the Foreign Intelligence & Surveillance Act and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and restore the rights of privacy and unreasonable search and seizure that have been taken from the American people by actions of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 111

Whereas, the United States Constitution was enacted as the foundational law of the land in 1787; and

Whereas, the first ten amendments of the United States Constitution contain the inviolate and irrevocable set of God-given and inalienable rights that all persons in the United States of America maintain; and

Whereas, foundational in these rights are speech, assembly, search and seizure with a valid warrant, to face one's accuser, religion, private property, and many others; and

Whereas, there have been many moments in the nation's history when the arms of government and tyrannical rules and congress have tried to curtail and subvert these liberties and withhold the rights of citizens to further governmental objectives; and

Whereas, the misdeeds of government include Woodrow Wilson's Sedition Act, which imprisoned Americans for speaking out against United States involvement in World War I, the Palmer Raids which ushered in an era of crackdown searches and harassment of political opponents, the imprisonment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry during World War II, repeated and incessant violation of the Fourth Amendment by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and elements of the American intelligence community, and the century long Jim Crow era, which saw tacit and active governmental measures to repress the rights of Americans of color; and

Whereas, the Church Hearings of the mid 1970s brought to light many misdeeds of the United States government and precipitated badly needed reform of federal enforcement and intelligence community activities; and

Whereas, in 1978, the United States government took great steps and established clear procedures for the physical and electronic surveillance and collection of foreign intelligence information and separated out protections for United States citizens by the Foreign Intelligence and Surveillance Act (FISA); and

Whereas, the FISA law established the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC) which is a court that holds nonpublic sessions to consider issuing federal search warrants; and

Whereas, the FISC lacks many of the constitutionally provided precautions afforded to litigants in other federal courts of law, such as the right of a private party to be present at the proceedings; further, the FISC has been called out and cited as being the subject of misfeasance and malfeasance by

less than scrupulous intelligence and law enforcement officers and agencies; and

Whereas, Presidents Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan each established needed restraints on the intelligence community and law enforcement directed guardrails for protection of private citizens, culminating with President Reagan's Executive Order 12333; and

Whereas, Executive Order 12333 underscored the needs and requirements to provide timely and accurate information about American enemies and underscored the protection of constitutional rights of American citizens; and

Whereas, for most of the decades of the 1980s and 1990s, the intelligence community and FBI appeared to be behaving and respecting the rights of citizens in the United States; and

Whereas, in 2001, after the attack on the United States by foreign Islamic terrorists from Southwest Asia, the United States Congress and the Bush Administration moved with reckless haste by greatly empowering the American intelligence community, FBI, and other federal entities by broadly expanding surveillance powers under the broad guise of "protecting" the American citizens; and

Whereas, the outcome of the efforts to protect has resulted in nearly all semblances of privacy being taken away by the actions of the United States Congress. The outcome of the family of law passed in the aftermath of what is known as 9/11 is that no phone is guaranteed to be private, no email communication can be considered secure, and the emergence of a leviathan of a police state capable of chilling suppression of our God-given liberties; and

Whereas, as a result of the USA Patriot Act, a citizen can become the subject of a purported terror investigation and directed by law not to tell anyone of an invasive search on his home, under penalty of prison; and

Whereas, Section 215 of the USA Patriot Act violates the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution by ignoring the prohibition of warrantless searches against United States citizens; and

Whereas, Section 215 also violates the Fifth Amendment by prohibiting ex post facto notice of warrantless searches and thereby violating the basic tenets of due process guaranteed to citizens of the United States; and

Whereas, it is the American ethos to right wrongs and correct governmental errors such as the eradication of slavery, the end of the Jim Crow era, the awarding of voting rights to women, and many others. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to fully repeal and rewrite every word of the USA Patriot Act and does hereby implore the Congress to turn its attention to the rights of the free people of the United States of America; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives implores both the governor of the state of Louisiana and the attorney general to stand up for the citizens of our state and not participate in any violations of any of our rights guaranteed in our Bill of Rights, which are a product of the sacrifice of our ancestors and have been maintained by two hundred fifty years of commitment to the rule of law and the supremacy of the individual over the government; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-148. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Kentucky urging the United States Congress to fund the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority through federal appropriation rather than fees charged to individual states and racetracks; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 238

Whereas, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) was created as an organization that regulates the sport of Thoroughbred horse racing in the United States and was empowered by the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020; and

Whereas, HISA submits to the regulatory authority of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), resulting from a challenge at the United States Court of Appeals, and promulgates rules subject to modification and approval by the FTC; and

Whereas, HISA has jurisdiction over races that are involved in interstate commerce, including those that are subject to off-track betting and advance deposit wagering, and the horses and horse people who participate in those races; and

Whereas, HISA is responsible for developing and enforcing rules for racetrack safety, regulating such matters as track surface maintenance, veterinary oversight, injury data reporting, jockey safety, horseshoe requirements, and use of riding crops; and

Whereas, HISA levies fines and suspensions from racing for violations of the rules; and

Whereas, HISA is also charged with developing anti-doping and medication control rules to ensure fairness and protect the health of equines and the jockeys who ride them; and

Whereas, HISA must also cover its technology and administration costs; and

Whereas, HISA operates on revenues from fines related to the racetrack safety and anti-doping and medication control programs plus fee assessments on individual states and racetracks, with the fee assessments calculated on a formula totaling starts and purses; and

Whereas, individual racing commissions can choose to cover the assessed fee for the state, decline to cover these financial assessments and pass the burden onto the racetracks in the state, which can then pass the costs along to horse people and customers, or state legislatures can appropriate funding to pay the fee assessment; and

Whereas, commissions that voluntarily enter into agreements with HISA to have existing personnel conduct tasks like sample collection, investigation, and violation adjudication, receive a credit toward their state's total fee assessment, reducing revenues received by HISA; and

Whereas, HISA's revenues are further reduced by the nonparticipation of states choosing to avoid the financial burden of the assessment fees by not sending their simulcasting signal out of state, thereby avoiding this federal programs jurisdiction, obviously not an ideal situation; and

Whereas, HISA's budget inevitably exceeds the revenues it receives to continue this mission and work; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby recognize the importance of consistently robust and reliable safety regulation of the Thoroughbred horseracing sport while acknowledging participants and spectators value the same.

Section 2. The Senate hereby urges the United States Congress to fund the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority through federal appropriation rather than the assessment fees levied on states and racetracks.

Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and each member of the Kentucky Congressional delegation.

POM-149. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Hawaii urging the United States Congress to adopt the Social Security 2100 Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 91

Whereas, the Social Security Act was originally passed in 1935 to provide essential benefits and financial security to retired individuals, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities; and

Whereas, individuals receiving Retired Insurance Benefits constitute the largest group of Social Security beneficiaries, with over fifty-two million retired workers or family members receiving monthly payments as of 2023; and

Whereas, more than ten thousand individuals from the baby boomer generation become eligible for Retirement Insurance Benefits from Social Security every day; and

Whereas, as a result of the retirement of the large baby boomer generation, it is projected that under existing law, the trust fund reserves for the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and Disability Insurance Trust Fund will be depleted by 2034; and

Whereas, it is projected that a depletion of the two Social Security trust funds will result in only seventy-eight percent of scheduled benefits being paid to beneficiaries on a timely basis after 2034; and

Whereas, in a response to this projected cut in benefits, concerned congressional leaders introduced the Social Security 2100 Act in 2023, which is intended to permanently improve Social Security's long-term health by extending the solvency of the two Social Security Trust Funds without increasing taxes on the middle class; and

Whereas, according to United States Representative John B. Larson, co-introducer of the Social Security 2100 Act, the Social Security 2100 Act increases benefits by two percent across the board for all Social Security beneficiaries for the first time in fifty-two years, improves the cost-of-living adjustment to reflect economic inflation experienced by seniors, and increases benefits for lower income retirees; and

Whereas, the Social Security 2100 Act also restores student benefits up to age twenty-six for dependent children of disabled and deceased workers; increases access to benefits for children living with grandparents or other relatives; repeals the windfall elimination provision and government pension offset that currently penalizes certain public servants; ends the five-month waiting period to receive disability benefits; and increases benefits by an additional five percent for seniors who have been receiving benefits for fifteen years or more; and

Whereas, the Social Security 2100 Act would cut taxes for twenty-three million middle-income beneficiaries while paying for benefits by applying the Federal Insurance Contributions Act to earnings over \$400,000 and adding an additional 12.4 percent net investment income tax for taxpayers making over \$400,000; and

Whereas, it is imperative that Social Security remains a well-funded public entitlement without being privatized through self-directed retirement accounts that would subject beneficiaries, and particularly retiree savings accounts, to considerable risk and redirect Social Security assets into the coffers of Wall Street brokerages and investment banks; and

Whereas, the United States Congress must act urgently to preserve Social Security ben-

efits for current and future retirees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the United States Congress is urged to adopt the Social Security 2100 Act; and be it further

Resolved, That the United States Congress is strongly encouraged to reject any legislation that would lead to the privatization of Social Security benefits; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

POM-150. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to support H.R. 82 and S. 597 of the 118th Congress, the Social Security Fairness Act, and all similar legislation and to take such actions as are necessary to review and eliminate all provisions of federal law which reduce Social Security benefits for those receiving pension benefits from federal, state, or local government retirement or pension systems, plans, or funds; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Whereas, the Congress of the United States of America has enacted both the Government Pension Offset (GPO), reducing the spouse and survivor Social Security benefit and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), reducing the earned Social Security benefits payable to any person who also receives a public pension benefit; and

Whereas, the GPO negatively affects a spouse or survivor receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by a spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO formula unfairly reduces the spouse or survivor Social Security benefit by two-thirds of the amount of federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit received by the spouse or survivor, in many cases completely eliminating the Social Security benefit even though the spouse paid Social Security taxes for many years; and

Whereas, the GPO has a harsh effect on hundreds of thousands of citizens and undermines the original purpose of the Social Security dependent/survivor benefit; and

Whereas, according to recent Social Security Administration figures, more than half a million individuals nationally are affected by the GPO; and

Whereas, the WEP applies to those persons who have earned federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefits, in addition to working in employment covered under Social Security and paying into the Social Security system; and

Whereas, the WEP unfairly reduces the earned Social Security benefit using an averaged indexed monthly earnings formula and may reduce Social Security benefits for affected persons by as much as one-half of the retirement benefit earned as a public servant in employment not covered under Social Security; and

Whereas, the WEP causes hardworking individuals to lose a significant portion of the Social Security benefits that they earned themselves; and

Whereas, according to recent Social Security Administration figures, more than one and a half million individuals nationally are affected by the WEP; and

Whereas, in certain circumstances, both the WEP and GPO can be applied to a qualifying survivor's benefit, each independently reducing the available benefit and in combination eliminating a large portion of the

total Social Security benefit available to the survivor; and

Whereas, because of the calculation characteristics of the GPO and WEP, they have a disproportionately negative effect on employees working in lower-wage government jobs, like policemen, firefighters, teachers, and state employees; and

Whereas, Louisiana is making every effort to improve the quality of life of its citizens and to encourage them to live here, yet the current GPO and WEP provisions compromise their quality of life; and

Whereas, the number of people affected by GPO and WEP is growing everyday as more and more people reach retirement age; and

Whereas, individuals drastically affected by the GPO and WEP may have no choice but to return to work after retirement in order to make ends meet, but the earnings accumulated during this return to work can further reduce the Social Security benefits to which the individual is entitled; and

Whereas, the GPO and WEP are established in federal law, and repeal of the GPO and WEP can only be enacted by congress; and

Whereas, the Legislature of Louisiana adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 of the 2022 Regular Session memorializing congress to support H.R. 82 of the 117th Congress and other state legislators to do the same in order to reduce or eliminate the GPO and WEP. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to eliminate or reduce them by supporting H.R. 82 and S. 597 of the 118th Congress and all similar purposed legislation; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation and the president of the United States.

POM-151. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to support the nation of Israel in the wake of October 7, 2023, terror attacks and Israel's efforts to root out Hamas; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 21

Whereas, the United States Department of State has designated Hamas as a terrorist organization; and

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas launched a coordinated series of terrorist attacks on Israel that resulted in the slaughter of women, children, and the elderly totaling eight hundred fifty-nine civilians, two hundred eighty-three Israeli Defense Force soldiers, fifty-seven policemen, and ten members of the Israeli Security Agency, Shin Bet; and

Whereas, Hamas terrorists abducted two hundred forty-eight people, including at least six Americans, to use as hostages and human shields; and

Whereas, the United Nations has issued a report stating that it has grounds to believe Hamas has sexually assaulted its hostages, including gang rape; and

Whereas, Hamas has launched over four thousand rockets into Israel; and

Whereas, since October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists have killed over nine hundred Israelis, at least eleven Americans, and injured more than two thousand others; and

Whereas, Hamas terrorists use Palestinian civilians as human shields; and

Whereas, Hamas terrorists hide and launch attacks from civilian centers; and

Whereas, since October 7, 2023, Hamas is directly responsible for the deaths of an indeterminable number of Palestinian civilians; and

Whereas, Hamas considers the death of Palestinian civilians a good thing as the innocent collateral dead are "martyrs" to the goals of Hamas; and

Whereas, United States government assessments indicate that, "Iran provides up to \$100 million annually in support to Palestinian terrorist groups, including Hamas"; and

Whereas, foreign support will sustain Hamas in its terror campaign to destroy Israel; and

Whereas, Israel is a major ally and strategic partner of the United States; and

Whereas, Israel holds paramount importance to direct negotiations in achieving a permanent settlement with the Palestinians, without preconditions; and

Whereas, Israel stands firm in its rejection of unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state, considering it a detrimental reward to terrorism and an impediment to future peace settlements; and

Whereas, it is imperative to affirm Israel's commitment to peaceful negotiations and reject any imposition of international dicta that undermine the sovereignty and security of Israel; and

Whereas, the state of Louisiana has not forgotten the humanitarian aid provided by Israel to the people of Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the 2016 flood; and

Whereas, Louisiana and Israel share numerous economic and educational ties that benefit many Louisiana businesses and universities. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby:

(1) Stand with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric terror campaign launched by Hamas and its supporters.

(2) Reaffirm Israel's right to self-defense as a sovereign nation.

(3) Condemn Hamas' brutal terror campaign against Israel.

(4) Call on Hamas to immediately cease all attacks and safely release all living hostages and return the bodies of deceased hostages to their families.

(5) Mourn the nine hundred Israelis and eleven Americans killed and over two thousand six hundred others wounded by Hamas since its attack on October 7, 2023.

(6) Mourn the loss of all innocent civilians who died and recognize those injured and suffering due to the fighting in the Middle East.

(7) Support the United States' commitment to Israel's security.

(8) Urge full enforcement of the Taylor Force Act (title X of division S of Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 1143) and other restrictions in United States law to prevent United States foreign assistance from benefitting terrorists, directly or indirectly.

(9) Urge full enforcement of United States sanctions against Iran to prevent Iran's funding of terrorist groups including Hamas. And be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby support Israel in its right to categorically reject any international dicta concerning a permanent settlement with the Palestinians that is not the product of direct negotiations between the concerned parties devoid of any preconditions. And be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby stand with Israel in its opposition to unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state as such statehood, particularly in the aftermath of the October 7th massacre, would serve as an egregious and unprecedented reward to terrorism, thereby obstructing prospects for future peace settlements. And be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to support the nation of Israel in the wake of the October 7, 2023, terror attacks, support Israel's ongoing efforts to root out Hamas, reaffirm support for Israel's principled stance on negotiations, and stand with Israel in opposition to any unilateral impositions that will serve to undermine Israel's right to defend its people and territory. And be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Consul General of the State of Israel to the Southwest in Houston, Texas, to the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C. for transmission to the proper authorities in the State of Israel, and to the Louisiana Chapter of American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and the Louisiana Chapter of Christians United for Israel. And be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-152. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to compel the United States Food and Drug Administration to fulfill its duties regarding inspection and testing of imported seafood; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 10

Whereas, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in 2019 the United States imported six billion pounds of edible seafood products, including one and one half billion pounds of shrimp, an increase of nearly six and one half million pounds more than the shrimp imported in 2018; and

Whereas, the 2019 shrimp imports alone, valued at six billion dollars, accounted for twenty-seven percent of the total value of imported seafood that year, which reached twenty-two billion dollars; and

Whereas, it is estimated that over half of the imported seafood consumed in the United States is from aquaculture, or seafood farming, rather than wild-caught; and

Whereas, the FDA is responsible for the safety of all fish and fishery products entering the United States and sold in Louisiana; and

Whereas, the FDA's seafood safety program is governed by its Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point regulations, which address food safety management through the analysis and control of biological, chemical, and physical hazards from raw material production and procurement and handling to manufacturing, distribution, and consumption of the finished product; and

Whereas, FDA regulations are supposed to measure the compliance of imported seafood with inspections of foreign processing facilities, sampling of seafood offered for import into the United States, domestic surveillance sampling of imported products, inspections of seafood importers, foreign country program assessments, and the use of information from foreign partners and FDA overseas offices; and

Whereas, in 2011 the FDA was only inspecting two percent of the seafood imported into the United States; and

Whereas, unfortunately 2011 is the last year for which data regarding the percentage of imports inspected is available due to a lack of transparency and inadequate assessment measures; and

Whereas, in 2011 the Government Accountability Office (GAO) noted that the FDA's assessment of foreign aquaculture operations

was limited by the FDA's lack of procedures, criteria, and standards; and ten years later, a 2021 GAO report found that the agency was failing to monitor the effectiveness of its own enforcement policies and procedures; and

Whereas, in contrast, the European Union regularly conducts physical checks of approximately twenty percent of all imported fish products that are fresh, frozen, dry, salted, or hermetically sealed, and for certain fishery products, physical checks are conducted on approximately fifty percent of imports; and

Whereas, the Louisiana State University School of Renewable Natural Resources published a 2020 paper titled "Determination of Sulfite and Antimicrobial Residue in Imported Shrimp to the USA", which presented findings from a study of shrimp imported from India, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Bangladesh, and Ecuador and purchased from retail stores in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and

Whereas, a screening of these shrimp for sulfites and residues from antimicrobial drugs found the following: (1) five percent of the shrimp contained malachite green, (2) seven percent contained oxytetracycline, (3) seventeen percent contained fluoroquinolone, and (4) seventy percent contained nitrofurantoin, all of which have been banned by the FDA in domestic aquaculture operations; and

Whereas, although the FDA requires that food products exposed to sulfites must include a label with a statement about the presence of sulfites, of the forty-three percent of these locally purchased shrimp found to contain sulfites, not one package complied with this labeling requirement; and

Whereas, the drug and sulfite residues included in this screening can be harmful to human health during both handling and consumption and have been known to cause all of the following: liver damage and tumors, reproductive abnormalities, cardiac arrhythmia, renal failure, hemolysis, asthma attacks, and allergic reactions; and

Whereas, the results of this study confirm that existing screening and enforcement measures for imported seafood are insufficient; whatever the percentage of imports inspected may be, seafood is currently being imported that contains unsafe substances that put American consumers at risk; and

Whereas, because imported seafood is not held to the same standards as domestic seafood, domestic fishing industries are put at a distinct and significant disadvantage commercially; and

Whereas, according to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the average value of Louisiana shrimp fell from three dollars and eighty cents per pound in 1980 to one dollar fifty cents per pound in 2017; and

Whereas, this unfair competition allows foreign competitors to flood the United States market with seafood harvested under intensive farming practices using antimicrobial drugs, while devastating local industries and the coastal communities built around them; and

Whereas, shrimp consumption is on the rise in the United States, yet domestic shrimp profits have decreased in recent years, particularly for shrimp sourced in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic regions; and

Whereas, Senator John Kennedy has previously introduced legislation to bolster Louisiana's shrimp, red snapper, and seafood industry and protect American consumers from illegal exports; and

Whereas, this legislation would increase funding to the Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP) and would allow SIMP to conduct audits on seafood under its purview

to prevent foreign seafood imports that misrepresent themselves from entering U.S. markets; and

Whereas, proposed legislation such as this is a necessary step that Congress must take to protect American consumers and bolster the Louisiana seafood industry. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to compel the United States Food and Drug Administration to fulfill its duties regarding inspection and testing of imported seafood. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-153. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey condemning the United States Senate Republicans' blocking of legislation codifying access to in vitro fertilization, and reaffirming New Jersey citizens' freedom to access reproductive health care and family planning services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 148

Whereas, In the United States, one in six people of childbearing age struggle with fertility and require some type of medical assistance in order to conceive a child; and

Whereas, Fortunately, 90 percent of infertility cases are treatable with medical therapies including drug treatment, surgery, and in vitro fertilization (IVF); and

Whereas, IVF is a process whereby an egg is removed from a person's body and combined with sperm inside a laboratory for fertilization; and the fertilized egg, called an embryo, is then transferred into the uterus; and

Whereas, In a recent decision, *LePage v. Mobile Infirmary Clinic, P.C.*, the Alabama Supreme Court ruled that embryos are "extrauterine children; add that the state's "Wrongful Death of a Minor Act, applies on its face to all unborn children without limitation;" and

Whereas, Following the *LePage* holding, Governor Kay Ivey of Alabama signed into law S.B. 159 to ensure criminal and civil immunity for those administering or receiving IVF services; and

Whereas, Notwithstanding this new enactment, the *LePage* ruling constitutes to threaten the rights of Alabamians who are planning to have children, and endangers the overall future of family planning in the state; and

Whereas, following the *LePage* decision, a number of congressional Republican senators joined Democrats in criticizing the ruling, and expressed their support for in vitro fertilization (IVF); and

Whereas, Tammy Duckworth, a Democratic Senator from Illinois who utilized IVF to conceive her two children, introduced Senate Bill 3612 (SB3612), part of a four-bill package of legislation known as the "Right to IVF Act," in order to protect the rights of individuals to seek reproductive assistance, such as IVF, and protect the physicians who provide these services, without the fear of prosecution; and

Whereas, Specifically, SB3612, known as the "Access to Family Building Act," would bar the limitation of access to assisted reproductive technology, such as IVF; and

Whereas, SB3612 grants the individual rights to: (1) access assisted reproductive technology; (2) continue or complete ongoing assisted reproductive technology treatment or procedure, and (3) retain all rights regard-

ing the use or disposition of genetic materials; and

Whereas, Consistent with the longstanding precedent in New Jersey of support for reproductive freedoms, New Jersey Senator Cory Booker expressed support of SB3612 by co-sponsoring the bill; and

Whereas, Senator Duckworth urged her Republican colleagues, as many initially denounced the *LePage* ruling for the harmful precedent that the decision has set regarding reproductive assistance services, to join the Democrats' effort to protect access to IVF by unanimously passing SB3612; and

Whereas, Instead of supporting the passage of SB3612, a measure affirmatively supporting IVF, Republican senators proposed an alternative measure, the "IVF Protection Act," which would discourage states from enacting burdensome restrictions on reproductive assistance but nonetheless allow such enactments by states; and

Whereas, SB3612 failed in a procedural vote, by a tally of 48-47, to advance, with 60 votes being needed to invoke cloture to move the bill to a final vote; and

Whereas, All of the Republican senators, with the exception of two members, voted to reject the move to advance the bill; and

Whereas, Two Republican senators, Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski and Maine Senator Susan Collins, voted with the Senate Democratic majority and independents to advance the measure; and

Whereas, Following the failure to support the passage of SB3612, Senate Republicans issued a statement of support for the use of IVF technology; and

Whereas, It is disingenuous for the Republican lawmakers in the United States Senate to sign on to a statement giving support for IVF, while failing to support the passage of the measure which would create a federal statutory right to assisted reproductive technology; and

Whereas, New Jersey has long been a state that supports, and provides protections for, the reproductive freedom of its citizens, including the right to make the deeply personal choice of whether to start or expand a family through IVF; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. a. This resolution condemns the action of the Republican members of the United States Congress in failing to support the passage of SB3612.

b. This resolution further condemns the contradictory move on the part of the Republican senators of the United States Congress in publishing a statement in support of IVF technology, notwithstanding their rejection of SB3612.

c. This resolution affirms the New Jersey Legislature's commitment to protecting its citizens' right to family plan, reproductive freedom, and full access to reproductive health care, including IVF.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to each member of Congress elected from this State, the President, the Vice-President, and the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

POM-154. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the President of the United States to secure our border and provide the needed policies and resources to protect American citizens and communities throughout this country from the effects of illegal immigration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 234

Whereas, On January 20, 2021, President Joe Biden signed a proclamation on the termination of emergency with respect to the

southern border of the United States and redirection of funds diverted to border wall construction; and

Whereas, On January 21, 2021, the United States Department of Homeland Security paused deportation for certain noncitizens in the United States for 100 days and suspended new enrollments in Migrant Protection Protocols policy, also known as the “remain in Mexico” program; and

Whereas, Upon those actions, the number of migrants who have unlawfully crossed the southern border into Texas has increased at a very alarming rate; and

Whereas, The negative impacts of illegal immigration and this border crisis are evident in communities throughout the United States and the Biden Administration has put our national security at risk; and

Whereas, State and local officials nationwide have sounded the alarm regarding the straining of their resources, the scourge of fentanyl deaths, the tragedy of human trafficking, including children smuggled across the border, and the flow of illegal firearms and dangerous gang members; and

Whereas, Texas Governor Greg Abbott is clearly exercising his Constitutional authority to defend his state against the consequences of the Biden Administration’s inexcusable indifference toward the suffering its policies are inflicting upon borders communities and across this country; and

Whereas, In this Commonwealth, our duty is to uphold our oath to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and ensure the safety of its citizens, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President of the United States to secure our border and provide the needed policies and resources to protect American citizens and communities throughout this country from the effects of illegal immigration; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania encourage Governor Josh Shapiro to joint with dozens of governors from across the country in support of Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s actions to protect our citizens; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the following:

- (1) The President of the United States.
- (2) The Vice President of the United States.
- (3) The United States Secretary of Homeland Security.
- (4) The President pro tempore of the United States Senate.
- (5) The Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.
- (6) The chairperson of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the United States Senate.
- (7) The chairperson of the Committee on Homeland Security of the United States House of Representatives.
- (8) Each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.
- (9) The Governor of the State of Texas.
- (10) The Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

POM-155. A resolution adopted by the Lancaster City Council, Pennsylvania, calling for a ceasefire in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 5473. An act to amend certain laws relating to disaster recovery and relief with respect to the implementation of building codes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-194).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 6249. An act to provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-195).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 3033. A bill to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-196).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 4729. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a pilot program for family caregivers for individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or a related disorder with neurological and organic brain dysfunction; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 4730. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the energy credit with respect to electrochromic glass; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4731. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for food-based interventions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4732. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize funding for the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network to engage in certain research and evaluation activities with respect to family caregivers and to revise the definition of the term “family caregiver”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4733. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to develop or expand in-person and virtual peer support programs for family caregivers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 4734. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to ensure services for home modifications under part B of title III of such Act may be used for certain purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4735. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide financial planning

services related to the needs of family caregivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 4736. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to develop and expand integrated caregiver support services for family caregivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4737. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 North Hatcher Avenue in Purcellville, Virginia, as the “Secretary of State Madeleine Albright Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 4738. A bill for the relief of Vichai Sae Tung (also known as Chai Chaowasaree); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4739. A bill to advance research to achieve medical breakthroughs in brain tumor treatment and improve awareness and adequacy of specialized cancer and brain tumor care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4740. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude debt held by certain insurance companies from capital assets; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 4741. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a phase-in for plasma-derived products under the manufacturer discount program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 4742. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish the Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program Foundation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4743. A bill to improve the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 4744. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish fair and consistent eligibility requirements for graduate medical schools operating outside the United States and Canada; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4745. A bill to establish the Federal Food Administration to protect the public health by ensuring the safety of food, preventing foodborne illness, maintaining safety reviews and reassessments of food additives, reducing the prevalence of diet-related chronic diseases, enforcing pesticide residue tolerances, improving the surveillance of foodborne pathogens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 4746. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to make the filing of a petition for relief under chapter 11 that is objectively futile or in subjective bad faith a cause for