

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5482. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13441 of August 1, 2007, with respect to Lebanon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5483. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the text of an amendment to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes of July 3, 1958, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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-164. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture to grant Louisiana a waiver to allow the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services to remove unhealthy foods from the list of approved foods that may be purchased with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 105

Whereas, the USDA allows unhealthy, high fat foods to be purchased with SNAP benefits contributing to the unhealthy lifestyle of our most vulnerable population; and

Whereas, in Louisiana, approximately forty percent of adults and twenty percent of students in grades nine through twelve are considered obese; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that obesity is associated with at least thirteen different types of cancer which make up forty percent of all cancers diagnosed; and

Whereas, children with obesity are more likely to have obesity as adults due to patterns of behavior learned at a young age; and

Whereas, adults with obesity have a higher risk of developing life-threatening illnesses such as heart disease, type-II diabetes, and cancer; and

Whereas, in 2019, annual obesity-related medical care costs in the United States were estimated to be nearly one hundred seventy-three billion dollars; and

Whereas, forty percent of all United States households do not live within one mile of healthy food retailers; and

Whereas, Louisiana has implemented Greaux the Good, a program that allows SNAP benefit recipients to receive a dollar-for-dollar match on their SNAP benefits, to encourage families to buy more fruits and vegetables while supporting small and local food producers; and

Whereas, in 2023, an average of nearly forty-three thousand individuals participated in the SNAP program nationwide at a cost of nearly one hundred thirteen billion dollars; and

Whereas, SNAP was established by federal law to be a cooperative endeavor between a state and the federal government where the program is administered by the state and financed by the federal government; and

Whereas, in Louisiana, SNAP is administered by the Department of Children and Family Services; and

Whereas, the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 defines "food" for the purposes of SNAP as any food or food product for home consumption except alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or hot foods ready for immediate consumption; and

Whereas, the USDA interprets the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow SNAP benefit recipients to purchase candy, cakes, potato chips, and other unhealthy foods; and

Whereas, due to the presence of federal law, the Department of Children and Family Services must seek approval from the federal government in the form of a waiver in order to alter the types of food that may be purchased with SNAP benefits. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture to grant Louisiana a waiver to allow the Department of Children and Family Services to remove unhealthy foods from the foods allowed to be purchased with SNAP benefits; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Children and Family Services shall present the rule waiver to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare prior to submitting the rule waiver the United States Department of Agriculture; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Children and Family Services shall work with medical professional and nutrition experts to determine which foods to remove from the list of approved foods to promote the health of children and families receiving SNAP benefits; and be it further

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

POM-165. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to protect consumers from government interference by opposing congressional efforts to prevent surcharges or an extra fee when a customer chooses to pay with a credit card; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

Whereas, Americans have developed an exceptionally advanced and innovative payments system through a steadfast focus on private sector leadership that respects the rights of individuals and companies to make their own informed choices about how they pay and are paid; and

Whereas, the market-based payments approach in this nation responds to the dynamic and diverse needs of American entrepreneurs and consumers rather than operating under static government mandates; and

Whereas, while other nations import payments technology to run their economy, American companies set the standard of the global payments ecosystem; and

Whereas, the importance of prioritizing the protection of consumers from government interference that would shift financial transactions to less secure, less innovative, and potentially risky providers who could place consumers and their financial data in a more vulnerable position; and

Whereas, states should oppose any governmental economic favoritism that would negatively impact consumers, provide less choice and access to popular consumer benefits such as cashback and rewards programs, threaten airline services, or undermine critical payment fraud protections while increasing national security risks; and

Whereas, the commandeering of the payments system by the government or the cen-

tral bank threatens personal privacy, innovation, and American economic leadership; and

Whereas, the United States has the most robust and secure financial system in the world, and a strong network supporting small businesses and protecting consumers; and

Whereas, more than four hundred eighty-six million credit cards are in use in the United States, with more than one hundred ninety-one million Americans holding at least one credit card; and

Whereas, states should protect consumers' right to choose their payment methods and pay transparent prices by preventing the addition of a surcharge or an extra fee when a customer chooses to pay with a credit card; and

Whereas, the credit card payments industry is a healthy and competitive space, and further legislation to impose government-mandated price controls in this area is both unnecessary and harmful to innovation and security; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge the United States Congress to protect consumers from government interference in the free market and any actions that would weaken our national security by opposing congressional efforts to overreach into the wallets of American consumers and small businesses; 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-166. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to provide a long-term solution for the housing crisis suffered by Louisiana residents displaced due to the devastation of Hurricane Ida; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57

Whereas, Hurricane Ida devastated Louisiana on August 29, 2021, destroying property throughout the state, causing many Louisianians to be displaced from their homes; and

Whereas, after Hurricane Ida, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established a program to reimburse the state for costs incurred by providing temporary shelters in the form of campers; and

Whereas, the federal aid expired in January of 2023; and

Whereas, the state absorbed the costs of over two million dollars per month after the FEMA benefits expired; and

Whereas, the state-sponsored Ida Shelters program ended on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, with five hundred fifty-two residents still participating in the program; and

Whereas, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) has delayed eviction, while considering whether to donate the camper residences to the respective parishes or offering the residents an opportunity to purchase the campers at their appraised value; and

Whereas, while GOHSEP's plan may resolve the immediate needs of the displaced residents, a long-term solution rests with the federal government; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to provide a long-term solution for the housing crisis suffered by Louisiana residents displaced due to the devastation of Hurricane Ida; 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-167. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to require congressional, state, and county approval to alter Arizona federal land and to protect Arizona natural resource rights; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 2006

Whereas, Arizona's great strength lies in the value of its public lands and the public's ability to access and use those lands for a variety of recreational uses; and

Whereas, nearly 50% of all land in Arizona is already under federal management, and the majority of Arizona's lands are restricted from public access and recreation; and

Whereas, Arizona currently has 18 monument designations, the most of any state, and there are more than 285 million acres of land and marine areas in monument status; and

Whereas, these monument designations have negatively impacted the state's ability to promote access to public recreation and to develop and maintain critical water resources, manage wildlife, restore habitat and perform wildlife translocations; and

Whereas, the federal government is unable to financially support and maintain the existing national parks and monuments and often ends up closing or restricting the use of these lands; and

Whereas, the designation of national monuments and subsequent closure or restricted use of public lands significantly interferes with Arizona's economic well-being; and

Whereas, the designation of monuments and conservation areas interferes with Arizona's ability to mitigate the risk of wildfire by thinning overly dense forests and adversely affects grazing practices, water conservation and proper soil erosion controls and practices; and

Whereas, designating an area as a national monument or other special use designation adds additional use restrictions, prevents the multiple use of this land and curbs the use of the land's abundant natural resources; and

Whereas, the greatest threat to the lands of Arizona is the intrusion and overreach of the federal government.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress enact legislation to protect local economies and to preserve local customs, cultures and historical uses by prohibiting the federal government from establishing, authorizing or declaring any new national monument, national park, wildlife refuge, conservation area, area of critical environmental concern, wild and scenic river, wilderness, wilderness characteristic area or any other federal reservation or special use designation within Arizona's border and from withdrawing or reserving any additional federal mineral, land, water or other national resource rights within Arizona's border, unless with:

(a) The express authorization of Congress.

(b) The express authorization of the Arizona State Legislature, while in session.

(c) The express authorization of the members of the county board of supervisors in all the counties that would be impacted by the designation, withdrawal or reservation.

2. That a comprehensive economic impact study be completed that analyzes the cumulative, tangible and measurable impacts to the national, state and local economies by the removal of the additional land, water or

natural resources from economic production and that demonstrates the removal of these lands, water or natural resources represents the least burdensome and costly method to achieve the desired cultural, historical or environmental protections. The economic impact statement should include an analysis of the impacts to the state and local tax base, including property, income and sales tax.

3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-168. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the federal government to end its pause on pending approval of liquefied natural gas exports; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

Whereas, the oil and natural gas industry has historically provided thousands of high-paying jobs for Louisianans working in production or transportation of oil and natural gas, generating millions of dollars in annual revenue for state and local programs, and decreasing America's dependence on imported oil; and

Whereas, recent action by the federal government has temporarily paused pending approvals of liquefied natural gas exports; and

Whereas, a pause on approvals of liquefied natural gas exports will disrupt the global supply chain, causing national security and national defense problems; and

Whereas, the demand for fuel is not expected to decrease; and

Whereas, a decrease in world supply of liquefied natural gas would increase costs and hurt vulnerable populations the most; and

Whereas, contracts for the purchase of liquefied natural gas are long term, with there being a high importance to not interrupt or disrupt long-term contracts, as doing so could destabilize global markets; and

Whereas, Louisiana is home to the Haynesville Shale, a massive dry natural gas formation in Northwest Louisiana, and is well positioned to capitalize on the demand side of the industry; and

Whereas, in Louisiana alone, oil and natural gas activities represent twenty-six percent of Louisiana's gross domestic product, and the industry accounts for over \$4 billion in state and local tax revenue; and

Whereas, Louisiana is home to three of the top eight domestic LNG export terminals with at least three more projects approved and eight more in prefilling or proposed stages; and

Whereas, the oil and natural gas industry has invested over \$108 billion in greenhouse gas mitigating technologies, contributing to a sharp decline in emission of CO₂ in the United States; and

Whereas, from 2000 to 2018 emissions declined sixty-seven percent in the United States relative to oil and gas production; and

Whereas, in the same period of time, carbon dioxide emissions in the rest of the world increased by twenty-nine percent; and

Whereas, the 2020 Louisiana Emissions Analysis, published by the Consumer Energy Alliance, a leading voice for sensible energy policies for families and businesses, found that emissions declined by seventy-one percent across the state since 1990; and

Whereas, during that same period of emissions reduction, Louisiana's gross domestic product surged one hundred seventy-seven percent; and

Whereas, broad and predictable access to offshore oil and natural gas resources will help support and grow more jobs and activity in Louisiana and the Gulf region, reduce

America's reliance on overseas imports, and increase revenues to the state and its localities. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the administration of President Biden to end its pause on pending approval of liquefied natural gas exports; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana also expresses its support of America's liquefied natural gas production and exportation to the benefit of American consumers and American workers and allows the inherent economic benefits thereof to be fully realized; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the United States, each member of the president's cabinet, and to the members of the capitol press corps.

POM-169. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw its proposed regulations on greenhouse gas emissions and urging the United States Congress to take action to prevent the regulations from taking effect; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 469

Whereas, The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has proposed new regulations governing greenhouse gas emissions from coal and natural gas-fired power plants; and

Whereas, The proposed regulations require unachievable and unrealistic timelines to reduce carbon emissions, which will negatively impact the economic viability of new and existing natural gas plants and all but ensure coal power plants will need to shut down by 2035; and

Whereas, The proposed regulations will require the adoption of new technologies, such as those related to clean hydrogen and carbon capture, that are not yet commercially available and have not been adequately demonstrated as required by the federal Clean Air Act; and

Whereas, Adoption of the proposed regulations will jeopardize energy reliability and result in more blackouts, higher costs, and greater uncertainty for American families and businesses; and

Whereas, The proposed regulations exceed USEPA's regulatory authority and grant USEPA vastly expanded powers with major economic and political significance without Congressional assent; and

Whereas, The proposed regulations disregard the "major questions doctrine" raised by recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings and are inconsistent with the text, structure, and context of Section 111 of the federal Clean Air Act; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the USEPA to halt its efforts to adopt the proposed regulations; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the United States Congress to enact clear legislation to prevent the USEPA from adopting the proposed regulations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, the Administrator of the USEPA, and the news media of Ohio.

POM-170. 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 preserve patient access to physician care by enacting systemic reform to the Medicare physician payment system and providing an annual inflationary update to physician fees based on the Medicare Economic Index for Medicare physician services; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 104

Whereas, elderly and disabled patients deserve access to physicians with specialized training and rely on Medicare to supplement the cost of specialized health care; and

Whereas, individuals who depend on Medicare are at serious risk of losing access to physician care; and

Whereas, physicians are the only healthcare provider type whose Medicare payments do not automatically receive an annual inflationary update; and

Whereas, Medicare payments to physicians have been steadily declining relative to inflation and have lagged behind the rate of inflation growth by twenty-six percent since 2001; and

Whereas, physicians are struggling to keep their practices open due to inflation and burnout from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, there have been three consecutive cuts to Medicare within the past three years totaling a ten percent cost reduction; and

Whereas, the lack of adequate reimbursement and rising practice costs may force physicians to stop treating Medicare patients or close their practices permanently; and

Whereas, current policies disproportionately impact small, independent, and rural physician practices, as well as those treating low-income or historically minoritized or marginalized patient communities; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to preserve patient access to physician care by enacting systemic reform to the Medicare physician payment system and providing an annual inflationary update to physician fees based on the Medicare Economic Index for Medicare physician services; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor, 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2025" (Rept. No. 118-203).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Coast Guard nomination of John C. Vann, to be Rear Admiral.

*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nomination of Chad M. Cary, to be Rear Admiral.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Coast Guard nomination of Andrew D. Ray, to be Lieutenant Commander.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Nicholas G. Derenzo and ending with Isaac Yates, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 23, 2024.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Douglas D. Graul and ending with Benedict S. Gullo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 23, 2024.

*Coast Guard nomination of Philip J. Granati, to be Captain.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Derek A. Williams and ending with Trent J. Lamun, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Shannon A. Estenez, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

By Mr. PETERS for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Sherri Malloy Beatty-Arthur, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Erin Camille Johnston, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Ray D. McKenzie, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Rahkel Bouchet, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*John Cuong Truong, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Ann C. Fisher, of South Dakota, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for a term expiring October 14, 2030.

*Ashley Jay Elizabeth Poling, of North Carolina, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for a term expiring November 22, 2030.

*Carmen G. Iguina Gonzalez, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for the term of fifteen years.

*Joseph Russell Palmore, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for the term of fifteen years.

*Nomination that was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. KING (for himself and Mr. CASIDY):

S. 4871. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for hazard mitigation projects in connection with certain working waterfront property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 4872. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt sports betting from the tax on authorized wagers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. CASIDY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 4873. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit allowance of the advanced manufacturing production credit for components produced by foreign entities of concern; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 4874. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the employer-provided child care credit and the dependent care assistance exclusion; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4875. A bill to protect intellectual property rights in the voice and visual likeness of individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4876. A bill to create a new Federal grant program that provides grants to State libraries to allow schools with summer lunch programs to keep their libraries open for student use during the summer months; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 4877. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements in the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 4878. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to approval of abbreviated new drug applications; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 4879. A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in biomedical research; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 4880. A bill to implement or strengthen programs that increase the supply of quality child care services by enhancing the wages of child care workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 4881. A bill to repeal the Military Selective Service Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 4882. A bill to establish a pilot program for tracking awards made through other transaction authority; to the Committee on Armed Services.