

Whereas, Despite the many obstacles, there have been many great efforts to help discharged military members. Most of the work has been done through legal service providers, which have been working with unfairly discharged veterans to provide free or low-cost services to upgrade their discharge; and

Whereas, For the last 70 years, much harm was caused to the thousands of veterans unfairly discharged under DADT and previous policies. For many, the damage and the trauma can be permanent. Discharged members have struggled with feelings of shame and anxiety. The true cure must be addressed with more effective policies to restore their dignity; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly,* That the Legislature denounces the obstacles and harm that members of the military discharged before, under, and even after the DADT policy have undergone and suffered; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature urges the President and Congress of the United States to address the issue with effective policies to unify efforts to upgrade the “less than honorable” discharges issued under DADT and predecessor policies. The federal government should address the obstacles veterans and organizations have encountered to create a streamlined, simple, and immediate option to upgrade an “other than honorable” discharge and restore benefits to veterans who have served our country honorably are entitled to; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

#### 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. MERKLEY:

S. 2. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to prohibit political election or contest agreements, contracts, transactions, and swaps; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive cost-sharing for advance care planning services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KIM, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 5639. A bill to extend the authority for the protection of certain facilities and assets from unmanned aircraft; considered and passed.

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

S. 5640. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect children's health by denying any deduction for advertising and marketing directed at children to promote the consumption of food of poor nutritional quality; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 5641. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for qualified conservation con-

tributions which include National Scenic Trails; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 5642. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and mitigate the potential for conflicts of interest following government service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5643. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Government of Turkiye, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 5644. A bill to establish a new visa category for high-skilled aliens seeking employment in slow-growing and shrinking counties in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 5645. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to increase amounts deposited in the Historic Preservation Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 5646. A bill making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 5647. A bill to require Federal agencies to impose in-person work requirements for employees of those agencies and to occupy a certain portion of the office space of those agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 5648. A bill to protect the national security of the United States by imposing sanctions with respect to certain persons of the People's Republic of China and prohibiting and requiring notifications with respect to certain investments by United States persons in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 5649. A bill to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. WARREN:

S. Res. 938. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that it is the duty of the Federal Government to dramatically expand and strengthen the care economy; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. Res. 939. A resolution commending and congratulating the Hutchinson Community College Blue Dragons football team for winning the 2024 National Junior College Athletic Association Football National Championship; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. Res. 940. A resolution honoring the lives and service of Natalie and Davy Lloyd and expressing condolences to the family of Natalie and Davy Lloyd; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. Res. 941. A resolution congratulating the University of Vermont men's soccer team on winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men's soccer national championship; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Res. 942. A resolution congratulating the Washington University in St. Louis Bears women's soccer team for winning the 2024 NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Championship; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 725

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 725, a bill to amend the Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act of 2016 to apply to members of the Coast Guard when the Coast Guard is not operating as a service in the Department of the Navy, and for other purposes.

S. 1631

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1631, a bill to enhance the authority granted to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice with respect to unmanned aircraft systems and unmanned aircraft, and for other purposes.

S. 2204

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2204, a bill to ensure that federally backed financing for the construction, rehabilitation, or purchase of manufactured home communities is available only for communities whose owner has implemented minimum consumer protections in the lease agreements with residents of all manufactured home communities owned by such owner, and for other purposes.

S. 2555

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2555, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 2570

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2570, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to provide technical assistance to improve infrastructure in foreign markets for United States agricultural commodities.

S. 2681

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2681, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide appropriate standards for the inclusion of a term of supervised release after imprisonment, and for other purposes.

S. 3740

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3740, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reauthorize the residential substance use disorder treatment program, and for other purposes.

S. 4110

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4110, a bill to reauthorize the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

S. 4297

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4297, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 5270

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 5270, a bill to amend the Office of National Drug Control Prevention Act of 1998 to include new requirements for assessments and reports, and for other purposes.

S. 5319

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5319, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an annual audit of the information systems and bulk data of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 5362

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5362, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 regarding the application of wage and hour provisions to minor league baseball players, and for other purposes.

S. 5408

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5408, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the life and legacy of Roberto Clemente.

S. 5463

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5463, a bill to establish the Department of Homeland Security Northern Border Mission Center.

S. 5622

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5622, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an energy efficient appliance rebate program to provide rebates for the manufacturing, distribution, contracting, installation, and servicing of certain building electrification products and industrial heat pumps, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 122

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 122, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems: Procedures for Facilitating Compliance, Including Netting and Exemptions".

### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 938—EX- PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT IT IS THE DUTY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DRAMATICALLY EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN THE CARE ECON- OMY

Ms. WARREN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 938

Whereas the preamble of the Constitution of the United States cites the duty to "promote the general Welfare", establishing care for the people of the United States as one of the pillars of our system of government;

Whereas, even before the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and the recession it triggered—

(1) the United States was experiencing profound crises of care and well-being; and

(2) critical public services and programs in the United States were under-resourced or nonexistent;

Whereas we are interdependent and, at various stages of life, everyone will give or receive care;

Whereas care work makes all other work possible, and the economy of the United States cannot thrive without a healthy and robust foundation of care for all people;

Whereas over 3,500,000 children are born every year in the United States, and about 11,000 people in the United States reach retirement age each day;

Whereas, in 2019, the number of adults over 60 requiring long-term care was around 8,000,000 and that number was expected to triple by 2050;

Whereas, in 2019, more than 1 out of 5 adults in the United States had been an unpaid caregiver for an adult family member or friend, or for a child with disabilities, in the preceding 12 months;

Whereas 60 percent of unpaid caregivers worked for pay outside the home, and most were women;

Whereas over 3,600,000 children and young people in the United States had also been caregivers for adults;

Whereas, in 2023, women in the United States performed nearly 296 hours per year of unpaid care work on average, amounting to

nearly two-thirds of all unpaid care work performed and about 102 annual hours of care more than men on average, and Asian women and Latinas spent about an hour a day providing unpaid care on average, more than any other group;

Whereas the estimated size of the care economy, including both unpaid and paid caregiving, is up to \$6 trillion, approaching a quarter of total United States gross domestic product (GDP);

Whereas just as our country's physical infrastructure is crumbling, the Federal and State programs constituting our care infrastructure are an outdated patchwork, and quality care is inaccessible for millions of people in the United States;

Whereas the United States does not guarantee paid time off to give and receive care, and is the only industrialized country in the world without a national paid family and medical leave program;

Whereas States throughout the country have created sustainable paid family and medical leave models that could meet the needs of all people in the United States;

Whereas, in 2023, only 27 percent of the United States private sector workforce had access to paid family leave through their employer, while only 6 percent of the lowest wage workers, who are predominantly women and workers of color, had access to paid family leave;

Whereas Federal law in the United States does not guarantee paid sick days for workers and, in 2023, 22 percent of workers in the private sector workforce did not have even a single paid sick day;

Whereas the ability for workers to use paid sick time during the COVID-19 pandemic prevented 400 confirmed cases of COVID-19 per State per day;

Whereas the median cost of a private room in a nursing home facility is \$120,304 per year;

Whereas Medicaid—

(1) covers long-term care needs, but with strict income and asset eligibility requirements; and

(2) has an institutional bias, requiring State programs to cover care in congregate facilities, while home and community-based services are optional or limited;

Whereas Medicare generally does not cover long-term services and supports;

Whereas only 7 percent of individuals in the United States aged 50 or older are covered by private long-term care insurance, which is often prohibitively expensive while providing inadequate coverage;

Whereas, in 2024, nearly 27,000,000 people, including 3,800,000 children, did not have health insurance in the United States, over half of them people of color, and tens of millions more people were underinsured;

Whereas childcare is one of the highest expenses for families in much of the United States, and public childcare assistance is limited;

Whereas, in 2020, 30 percent of all children under the age of 14 were potentially eligible to receive childcare assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) based on Federal income eligibility, but only 10 percent of these children had access to assistance;

Whereas the median annual pay of childcare and home care workers is \$30,370 and \$33,530, respectively, leading to high turnover and reliance on public assistance;

Whereas childcare workers are 95 percent women, and home care workers are 87 percent women, and both are disproportionately Black and Hispanic;

Whereas, in 2023, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, less than 8 percent of health care support workers and 4.3 percent