

approval of the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 95—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF FEBRUARY 23, 2025, TO MARCH 1, 2025, AS “NATIONAL FENTANYL AWARENESS WEEK” AND RAISING AWARENESS OF THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF FENTANYL IN THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 95

Whereas, as of August 2024, drug overdoses during the previous 12 months claimed a reported 86,678 lives in the United States;

Whereas countless families in the United States are now facing the unimaginable pain of losing a child, mother, father, sibling or loved one taken by deadly, illegal fentanyl;

Whereas the life expectancy in the United States remains impacted by the opioid crisis, with people born in 2023 estimated to live 78.4 years;

Whereas social isolation and poor support systems contribute to increased overdose risk among older adults;

Whereas, from 2022 to 2023, adults aged 65 and older experienced the largest percentage increase in the rate of drug overdose deaths, with an increase of 11.4 percent;

Whereas fentanyl is 50 times more potent than heroin, and is considered the deadliest drug threat in the United States;

Whereas drug traffickers use illicit fentanyl to produce fake or counterfeit pills; Whereas drug traffickers are using fentanyl-laced fake or counterfeit pills to exploit the opioid crisis in the United States;

Whereas, without laboratory testing, there is no safe way to know how much fentanyl is concentrated in a pill or powder;

Whereas those illicit drugs are primarily made in secret factories in Mexico with chemicals mostly from China;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Agency has issued warnings about brightly-colored fentanyl-laced pills being used to target young individuals in the United States;

Whereas less than 2 milligrams is considered a deadly dose of fentanyl;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Agency announced that in 2024 alone, the Drug Enforcement Agency seized over 367,000,000 doses of potentially deadly fentanyl, enough to kill every individual in the United States, which included—

- (1) more than 55,000,000 fentanyl-laced pills; and
- (2) 7,800 pounds of fentanyl powder;

Whereas U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized more than 21,889 pounds of fentanyl in fiscal year 2024;

Whereas fentanyl has also been found in street drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine; and

Whereas, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fentanyl-related poisonings are currently the leading cause of death for individuals in the United States ages 18 to 45: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the work of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies for their work in combating the fentanyl crisis;

(2) applauds the work of treatment and recovery organizations that help individuals with substance use disorder;

(3) encourages all individuals to only use medication prescribed through their physician;

(4) encourages anyone suffering from substance use disorder to seek assistance; and

(5) designates February 23, 2025, through March 1, 2025, as “National Fentanyl Awareness Week”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 96—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2025, AS “PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 96

Whereas public education is a significant institution in a 21st-century democracy;

Whereas public schools in the United States educate students about the values and beliefs that hold the individuals of the United States together as a nation;

Whereas public schools prepare young individuals of the United States to contribute to the society, economy, and citizenry of the country;

Whereas 87 percent of children in the United States attend public schools;

Whereas Federal, State, and local lawmakers should—

(1) prioritize support for strengthening the public schools of the United States;

(2) empower superintendents, principals, and other school leaders to implement, manage, and lead school districts and schools in partnership with educators, parents, and other local education stakeholders; and

(3) support services and programs that are critical to helping students engage in learning, including counseling, extracurricular activities, and mental health support;

Whereas public schools should foster inclusive, safe, and high-quality environments in which children can learn to think critically, problem solve, and build relationships;

Whereas public schools should provide environments in which all students have the opportunity to succeed beginning in their earliest years, regardless of who a student is or where a student lives;

Whereas Congress should support—

(1) efforts to advance equal opportunity and excellence in public education;

(2) efforts to implement evidence-based practices in public education; and

(3) continuous improvements to public education;

Whereas every child should—

(1) receive an education that helps the child reach the full potential of the child; and

(2) attend a school that offers a high-quality educational experience;

Whereas Federal funding, in addition to State and local funds, supports the access of students to inviting classrooms, well-prepared educators, and services to support healthy students, including nutrition and afterschool programs;

Whereas teachers, paraprofessionals, and principals should provide students with a well-rounded education and strive to create joy in learning;

Whereas superintendents, principals, other school leaders, teachers, paraprofessionals,

and parents make public schools vital components of communities and are working hard to improve educational outcomes for children across the country; and

Whereas the week of February 24 through February 28, 2025, is an appropriate period to designate as “Public Schools Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the week of February 24 through February 28, 2025 as “Public Schools Week”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 97—HONORING THE LIFE OF NEBRASKA COMMUNITY LEADER HOWARD L. HAWKS

Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 97

Whereas, in 1935, Howard L. Hawks (referred to in this preamble as “Hawks”) was born in Carleton, Nebraska;

Whereas, in 1987, Hawks co-founded Tenaska Energy, where Hawks served as—

- (1) Chairman and CEO until 2010; and
- (2) Chairman until 2022;

Whereas Hawks grew Tenaska Energy from a small business out of Omaha, Nebraska, to 1 of the largest private companies in the United States;

Whereas Hawks remained active in Tenaska Energy even after transitioning to Chairman Emeritus in 2022;

Whereas, through his dedication to the community around him, Hawks served as—

- (1) a Regent at the University of Nebraska for 18 years; and
- (2) a Board Member of Creighton University for 12 years;

Whereas, among his many philanthropic efforts, Hawks transformed the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in both athletics and academics and, in 2023, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln honored Hawks and his wife with the Regents Medal to recognize their contributions;

Whereas Hawks supported various efforts and projects across the University of Nebraska system, including—

- (1) Howard L. Hawks Hall;
- (2) a business ethics and leadership chair for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Business;

(3) Kiewit Hall for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Engineering;

(4) the Hawks Championship Center and Hawks Field at Haymarket Park for University of Nebraska-Lincoln athletics;

(5) Baxter Arena and the baseball and softball complex for University of Nebraska-Omaha Athletics;

(6) the renovation to the Durham Science Center for University of Nebraska-Omaha;

(7) the Tim Hawks Chair in Cancer Prevention and Population Science in the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health;

(8) the Rhonda and Howard Hawks Movement Disorders Fellowship in the University of Nebraska Medical Center Department of Neurological Sciences;

(9) the Sharing Clinic, a University of Nebraska Medical Center student-run clinic; and

(10) student scholarships;

Whereas Hawks served on the executive committee for “Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities”, a fundraising campaign conducted from 2005 to 2014 that raised \$1,800,000,000 in private support for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and

Whereas Hawks’ philanthropic commitment extended well beyond the University of

Nebraska system, supporting initiatives addressing homelessness and mental health, and supporting education and the arts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of Howard L. Hawks;

(2) honors the life and legacy of Howard L. Hawks for his unwavering dedication to Nebraska as a civic leader and philanthropist; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Howard L. Hawks.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 2 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a joint hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY

The Subcommittee on Cybersecurity of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 4 p.m. to receive a briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until February 26, 2025: Jazmine Wildcat and Karli Woodruff.

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

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to the following member of my staff: Jack K. Uhl for today.

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

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the privileges of the floor be granted to the following members of my staff: Durva Trivedi, during the pendency of her legal fellowship, until September 12, 2025; and Zachary Rosenfeld and Rachelle Domond, during the pendency of their legal clerkships until April 23, 2025.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 119th Congress: the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN of Arkansas.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 119th Congress: the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE of Rhode Island.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, 276d-276g, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 119th Congress: the Honorable AMY KLOBUCHAR of Minnesota.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NEBRASKA COMMUNITY LEADER HOWARD L. HAWKS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 97, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 97) honoring the life of Nebraska community leader Howard L. Hawks.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 97) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 96, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 96) designating the week of February 24 through February 28, 2025, as "Public Schools Week".

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

Mr. KENNEDY. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 96) was agreed to.

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 26; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the order of February 18 in relation to S.J. Res. 10 be executed; further, I ask unanimous consent that at 12 noon the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on confirmation of the Greer nomination, as provided under the previous order, and that following disposition of the Greer nomination, the Senate resume consideration of S.J. Res. 10.

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