

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 188—RECOGNIZING APRIL 4, 2025, AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MINE AWARENESS AND ASSISTANCE IN MINE ACTION, AND REAFFIRMING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES IN ELIMINATING LANDMINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE

Ms. BALDWIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 188

Whereas landmines and unexploded ordnance threaten the safety, health, and lives of civilian populations and create humanitarian and development challenges that have serious and lasting social, economic, and security consequences for affected populations;

Whereas demining and clearance of unexploded ordnance enables displaced people to return to their homes and has a direct impact on development outcomes such as food security, school attendance, and economic development;

Whereas people in at least 60 countries and other areas are at risk from mines and unexploded ordnance in their communities;

Whereas more than 141,500 deaths and injuries resulting from anti-personnel or anti-vehicle mines and other explosive remnants of war have been recorded in the Landmine Monitor database since 2001, and thousands more individuals around the world are killed and injured by such mines and remnants each year;

Whereas demining programs make the United States safer, stronger, and more prosperous by removing explosive hazards that pose a risk to United States service members and Americans abroad, by strengthening relationships with governments and communities, and by supporting agricultural production and the creation of new markets;

Whereas, over the past 3 decades, the United States has been the global leader in supporting conventional weapons destruction, providing more than \$5,090,000,000 in assistance to more than 125 countries and areas since 1993;

Whereas, since 1989, the United States Agency for International Development has allocated more than \$350,000,000 through the Leahy War Victims Fund in more than 50 countries to provide artificial limbs, wheelchairs, rehabilitation, vocational training, and other assistance to survivors of accidents caused by landmines and unexploded ordnance;

Whereas the United States Government expressed its support for the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, which established the goal “to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines and clear all mined areas as soon as possible”;

Whereas there are 165 States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, done at Oslo September 18, 1997;

Whereas there are 111 States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, done at Dublin May 30, 2008;

Whereas the recent use of landmines, cluster bombs, and other munitions, particularly in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Burma, and Ukraine, has created new humanitarian priorities and funding requirements for demining, while legacy mine contamination remains an urgent challenge impacting millions of people globally;

Whereas Russia's aggression in Ukraine has resulted in an estimated one-third of the territory being contaminated with landmines and unexploded ordnance, creating a massive need for clearance operations as a prerequisite for Ukraine's recovery;

Whereas these needs in Ukraine do not diminish the similarly urgent need for humanitarian demining in other parts of the world;

Whereas additional resources for demining will be needed to achieve a world free of the threat of landmines and other explosive hazards;

Whereas the Senate recognizes the communities from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, including the many Hmong, Cham, Cambodian, Iu-Mien, Khmu, Lao, Montagnard, and Vietnamese people who supported and defended the United States Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia during the 1960s and 1970s;

Whereas the Senate remembers the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War on April 30, 2025, and the sacrifices of the members of the United States Armed Forces that served in the conflict;

Whereas, since the end of the Vietnam War, more than 40,000 people in Vietnam have been killed by unexploded ordnance and 60,000 have been injured;

Whereas, since 1979, more than 25,000 people in Laos and 65,000 people in Cambodia have been killed or injured by landmines or unexploded ordnance; and

Whereas, on December 8, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly declared that April 4th of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to support international humanitarian efforts to eliminate landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(2) recognizes those individuals in numerous countries who, at great risk to their personal safety, work to locate and remove anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(3) affirms its support for the goal, as expressed by the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, to intensify efforts to clear mined areas to the fullest extent possible by 2025;

(4) calls upon the United States Government—

(A) to continue providing the funding necessary to support international humanitarian demining activities;

(B) to maintain its international leadership role in seeking to rid the world of areas contaminated by landmines and unexploded ordnance; and

(C) to rededicate itself to addressing legacy mine contamination as an urgent humanitarian priority; and

(5) reaffirms the goals of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.

SENATE RESOLUTION 189—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 1, 2025, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2025, AS “FAIR CHANCE JOBS MONTH”

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. KIM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 189

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) nearly 80,000,000 people have a record of arrest or conviction;

(2) an estimated 19,000,000 people have felony convictions;

(3) nearly 13,000,000 people are charged each year with misdemeanor offenses;

(4) 600,000 people are released each year from Federal and State prisons;

(5) Black, Indigenous, and Latino people are 5, 4.2, and 2.4 times more likely than White people to be incarcerated, respectively, and also face higher rates of arrest; and

(6) LGBTQ+ individuals are 3 times more likely to be incarcerated and also face higher rates of arrest;

Whereas people who have been convicted of a crime and served their sentence continue to face consequences after release due to systemic biases and stigmas against formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas recidivism rates in the United States are among the highest in the world, with almost 44 percent of people who are released returning to incarceration within 1 year;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly ⅓ of the formerly incarcerated population is jobless at any given time;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly 14,000 laws and regulations and 48,000 collateral consequences restrict formerly incarcerated individuals from getting professional licenses needed to work in some jobs;

Whereas 20 States and the District of Columbia allow occupational licensing boards to categorically reject applicants with prior convictions;

Whereas obstacles to employment, such as difficulty obtaining identification needed for employment, add undue burdens on returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas formerly incarcerated individuals earn nearly \$100 less per week than the average worker;

Whereas fair-chance employers can leverage financial incentives, such as the work opportunity tax credit, to benefit from hiring formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas employing returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals will result in a robust, vibrant, diverse, and resilient workforce;

Whereas having jobs that pay living wages, are conducive to health, provide opportunities for skillset development, provide opportunities for promotion, and provide benefits will facilitate stable employment and reduce recidivism;

Whereas returning citizens who have received vocational training while incarcerated are 28 percent more likely to obtain employment within 1 year of reentry into society than those lacking such training; and

Whereas, in addition to employment insecurity, returning citizens and formerly incarcerated people face numerous other obstacles to reentry and societal reintegration, including—

(1) housing insecurity and homelessness rates that are 10 times higher than the general public;

(2) near total restrictions in 12 States on access to temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.); and

(3) greater prevalence of chronic health conditions, lower quality and coverage of health insurance, and mortality rates that are 13 times higher than the general public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 1, 2025, through April 30, 2025, as “Fair Chance Jobs Month”; and

(2) supports efforts to—

(A) ensure that people directly impacted by incarceration obtain stable and high-quality employment, housing, healthcare, and nutrition;

(B) dismantle structural barriers to fair-chance hiring and employment, such as licensing restrictions, employer liability, and insurance restrictions;

(C) expand workforce development programs for returning citizens, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration, including—

(i) pre-apprenticeship programs;

(ii) registered apprenticeship programs;

(iii) career coaching, résumé-building, technology literacy, and other skillset development programs; and

(iv) programs that educate employers on best practices for, and the benefits of, fair-chance hiring;

(D) match jobs providers with returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals seeking jobs;

(E) support efforts from labor unions and worker organizations to engage returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals who are seeking jobs;

(F) publicize work opportunities that are open to applicants with prior arrest or conviction records; and

(G) foster greater collaboration and dialogue between Federal, State, and local government agencies, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, employers, labor unions, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration to enhance fair-chance hiring and employment and help to heal communities impacted by mass incarceration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 190—SEEKING JUSTICE FOR THE JAPANESE CITIZENS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREA

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 190

Whereas the United States Government recognizes that North Korea was abducting Japanese citizens since the 1970s;

Whereas, in September 2002, North Korea admitted that it had abducted Japanese citizens and promised to prevent further recurrences;

Whereas, in October of 2002, only 5 abductees were returned to Japan after being held prisoner for 24 years, despite the explicit commitment of North Korea to investigate what had happened to all abductees;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the basic principles of liberty and freedom enshrined within the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights;

Whereas human rights awareness is essential to the realization of fundamental freedoms and contributes to promoting equality, preventing conflict and human rights violations, and enhancing participation in democratic processes;

Whereas these abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea directly conflict with the basic principle of liberty and freedom; and

Whereas there have been several attempts at dialogue between North Korea and Japa-

nese leaders in an effort to yield stable results: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on North Korea to release any abducted foreign nationals, including those from Japan;

(2) urges North Korea to return the remains and provide information on any deceased abductees;

(3) urges North Korea to make such reparations as are appropriate regarding abductees;

(4) urges North Korea to apologize and permanently cease such activities; and

(5) encourages the President to ensure that this matter is addressed in any future interaction with North Korea officials.

SENATE RESOLUTION 191—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2025 AS THE “MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 191

Whereas millions of brave United States servicemembers and veterans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving the Armed Forces of the United States of America in active-duty posts around the world;

Whereas there are more than 1,600,000 children connected to the military across the United States;

Whereas it is only fitting that the people of the United States take time to recognize the contributions of servicemembers and veterans, celebrate their spirit, and let the men and women of the United States in uniform know that while they are taking care of us, the people of the United States are taking care of their children;

Whereas the recognition of a “Month of the Military Child” will allow the people of the United States to pay tribute to military children for their commitment, struggles, and unconditional support of United States troops;

Whereas, when a servicemember joins the military, it is a family commitment to the United States, and military children are heroes in their own way; and

Whereas a month-long salute to military children will encourage the United States to provide direct support to military children and families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 2025 as the “Month of the Military Child”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe the Month of the Military Child with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support, and show appreciation for military children.

SENATE RESOLUTION 192—DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 2025, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY”

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

S. RES. 192

Whereas assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of an individual with a disability or an older adult;

Whereas an assistive technology service is any service that directly assists an indi-

vidual with a disability or an older adult in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device;

Whereas, in 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 1 in 4 individuals in the United States, or almost 70,000,000 individuals, have a disability;

Whereas, during the 2022–2023 school year, the Department of Education reported that there were more than 9,500,000 children with disabilities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, among adults 65 years of age and older, 2 in 5 have a disability;

Whereas assistive technology enables individuals with disabilities and older adults to be included in their communities, including by making their classrooms and workplaces more inclusive;

Whereas assistive technology devices and services are necessities, not luxury items, for millions of individuals with disabilities and older adults, without which they would be unable to live in their communities, access education, or obtain, retain, and advance gainful, competitive, and integrated employment;

Whereas the availability of assistive technology in the workplace promotes economic self-sufficiency, enhances work participation, and is critical to the employment of individuals with disabilities and older adults; and

Whereas State assistive technology programs support a continuum of services that include—

(1) the exchange, repair, recycling, and other reutilization of assistive technology devices;

(2) device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, and others;

(3) the demonstration of devices to inform decision making; and

(4) State financing to help individuals purchase or obtain assistive technology through a variety of initiatives, such as financial loan programs, leasing programs, and other financing alternatives that give individuals affordable, flexible options to purchase or obtain assistive technology: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 30, 2025, as “National Assistive Technology Awareness Day”; and

(2) commends—

(A) assistive technology specialists and program coordinators for their hard work and dedication in serving individuals with disabilities in finding the proper assistive technology to meet their individual needs; and

(B) professional organizations and researchers dedicated to facilitating the access and acquisition of assistive technology for individuals with disabilities and older adults in need of assistive technology devices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 193—DESIGNATING APRIL 2025 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KELLY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: