

pregnancy journey. While being a mom is the most rewarding experience, I think I can speak for most moms when I say that it is a challenging one as well.

When I was pregnant with my first child, I felt like I had no idea what I was doing. I remember actually being in the hospital room, them waiting, you know, to discharge me, and me thinking, You are going to send me home with her? What do I do next?

Fortunately, I had the support of my friends and my family that helped me through this exciting journey of bringing new life into the world and bringing that baby home. However, I know that many moms may not have the incredible support that I did.

That is why the MOMS Act is so important. This would help the most vulnerable, the most isolated women the most. Resources available to moms would include: mentorship opportunities, including pregnancy and parenting health; health and well-being services, including women's medical services like OB/GYN services, primary care, dental care, and mental health services.

Financial assistance, work opportunities, childcare resources, foster care resources, adoption services, and educational opportunities for parents would be included. I could go on and on and on.

It also includes material or legal support. So when you think of what material support would be, it is transportation, food, nutrition, clothing, household goods, baby supplies, housing, shelters, maternity homes, help with tax preparation, and more.

When you think about legal services, what it would include is child support, family leave, breastfeeding protections, and custody issues.

Next, I want to talk about the grant portion of the bill. This part would actually be separated into two different grant programs. The first one would help purchase necessary tools for prenatal and postnatal telehealth appointments, including medical equipment and technologies for those in rural areas and others in medically underserved communities.

And the second program would establish a grant program for nonprofit entities to support, encourage, and to assist women through their pregnancies and to care for their babies after birth. This grant program would be funding many of the resources that I just named for mental health services, other medical care, childcare, housing assistance, education and employment assistance, and nutritional assistance.

Finally, the third part of my bill is Senator KEVIN CRAMER's Unborn Child Support Act. It would require States to apply child support obligations to the time period during pregnancy if requested by the mother. This could be requested retroactively, and State level requirements involving proof of paternity would still apply.

When I think about what this bill means to me, I immediately think of

my own two children. They are why I am here today. They are why I chose to step up and run for the Senate. Their future and the future of the next generation is absolutely what I am fighting for.

As parents, our children are at the heart of every decision we make. We want them to have the greatest opportunity to succeed and to thrive. As a Senator, I want that for children across our Nation, from coast to coast. They are at the heart of this common-sense legislation.

Building a comprehensive culture of life starts with building blocks just like the MOMS Act. To all moms across my great State of Alabama and across our incredible country, I could not be more proud to stand with you. I am committed to growing and strengthening families and ensuring parents have the opportunities and resources needed so that they and their children can thrive and live their American dream.

I am committed to getting the MOMS Act signed into law so that we can ensure that the comprehensive culture of life, that the next generation is ready, is prepared, and that women, as they go through their pregnancy journey, all the phases of it, are supported as they work to bring life into this world.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 205—CONDEMNING RECENT ATTACKS ON THE FREE PRESS BY PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP AND REAFFIRMING THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING AND PROTECTING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AS A CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 205

Whereas a free and independent press is fundamental to the preservation of democracy, ensuring government accountability, an informed citizenry, and the protection of fundamental rights;

Whereas President Donald J. Trump has taken direct action to harm and restrict press freedoms and has repeatedly attacked the press through inflammatory rhetoric in his speeches and on social media, including—

(1) accusing, without evidence, media outlets such as The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, MSNBC, CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC of “illegal” behavior during a speech at the Department of Justice;

(2) claiming CNN and MSNBC networks are “political arms of the Democrat Party” during a speech at the Department of Justice;

(3) excluding the Associated Press from the White House press pool access due to disputes over naming conventions, leading to legal challenges concerning First Amendment violations;

(4) filing a lawsuit against CBS News over a “60 Minutes” interview with Vice President Kamala Harris, alleging biased editing and calling for CBS to lose broadcast licenses;

(5) seeking to defund National Public Radio and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), including launching a Federal Communications Commission probe and issuing an Executive order instructing the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to cease providing direct and indirect funds to both broadcasters;

(6) refusing to take questions from NBC News reporters, claiming the network is “discredited”;

(7) seeking to impose the Administration's policy preferences on independent news organizations by forcing PBS to eliminate its diversity, equity, and inclusion office using threats of government funding cuts and ignoring reporters who list pronouns in their email signatures; and

(8) rescinding a Department of Justice policy against subpoenaing journalists, exposing journalists' sources to the threat of possible identification and punishment;

Whereas President Trump has used executive action to significantly reduce the United States Agency for Global Media (USAGM), leading to the placement of Voice of America journalists on administrative leave and the attempted termination of grants for Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and Middle East Broadcasting Network, which broadcast news to regions lacking free press;

Whereas these actions demonstrate disdain for the fundamental rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the press specifically protected in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution;

Whereas these actions set a dangerous precedent, emboldening authoritarian regimes abroad to suppress free expression and silence dissent, and endangering the lives of journalists working in or broadcasting in authoritarian countries;

Whereas, as of the date of the introduction of this resolution, 11 USAGM reporters are behind bars abroad, and international employees of USAGM in both Washington, D.C. and abroad are on work visas and risk deportation to hostile countries without the support and protection of the United States; and

Whereas the United States has historically been a global leader in championing press freedom and condemning censorship and must reaffirm that commitment: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns President Donald J. Trump's attacks on the press, including efforts to delegitimize and restrict journalistic institutions;

(2) reaffirms the essential role of a free press in preserving democracy and ensuring governmental accountability;

(3) urges the executive branch to respect the rights of journalists and allow them to perform their duties without fear of retaliation;

(4) calls for continued efforts to secure the release of the 11 USAGM journalists imprisoned abroad; and

(5) expresses solidarity with journalists who face threats, harassment, or violence as a result of their commitment to truth and public service.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 206—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL NURSES WEEK, TO BE OBSERVED FROM MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 12, 2025**

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 206

Whereas, beginning in 1991, National Nurses Week has been celebrated annually from May 6, also known as "National Recognition Day for Nurses" through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing;

Whereas National Nurses Week is a time of year to reflect on the important contributions that nurses make in providing safe, high-quality health care;

Whereas nurses serve on the front lines, risking their lives to treat the injured and sick during wartime, natural disasters, and public health emergencies;

Whereas nurses are known to be patient advocates, acting to protect the lives of individuals under their care;

Whereas nurses represent the largest single component of the health care profession, with an estimated population of more than 4,900,000 registered nurses in the United States;

Whereas nurses are leading in the delivery of quality care in a transformed health care system that improves patient outcomes and safety;

Whereas the Future of Nursing reports of the Institute of Medicine and National Academy of Medicine have highlighted the need for the nursing profession to meet the call for leadership in a team-based delivery model;

Whereas, when nurse staffing levels increase, the risk of patient complications and lengthy hospital stays decrease, resulting in cost savings;

Whereas nurses are experienced researchers, and the work of nurses encompasses a wide scope of scientific inquiry, including clinical research, health systems and outcomes research, and nursing education research;

Whereas nurses provide care to all individuals across the United States;

Whereas nurses are well-positioned to provide leadership, increase access to nursing care throughout the United States, and improve health outcomes for all patients;

Whereas nurses are the cornerstone of the public health infrastructure, promoting healthy lifestyles and educating communities on disease prevention and health promotion;

Whereas nurses help inform, educate, and work closely with legislators to improve—

(1) the education, retention, recruitment, and practice of all nurses; and

(2) the health and safety of the patients for whom the nurses care;

Whereas there is a need to—

(1) strengthen nursing workforce development programs at all levels, including the number of doctorally prepared faculty members; and

(2) provide education to the nurse research scientists who can develop new nursing care models to improve the health status of all populations of the United States;

Whereas nurses impact the lives of the people of the United States through every stage of life; and

Whereas nursing has been voted the most honest and ethical profession in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, as founded by the American Nurses Association;

(2) recognizes the significant contributions of nurses to the health care system of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Nurses Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of nurses to the everyday lives of patients.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13—RECOGNIZING THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES COMMUNITY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SOF WEEK**

Ms. ERNST submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 13

Whereas Special Operations Forces (hereinafter referred to as "SOF") encompass highly trained, specialized military units within the Department of Defense, including the Army Special Forces, Psychological Operations Units, Civil Affairs Soldiers, 75th Ranger Regiment, the 160th Aviation Regiment (Night Stalkers), Navy SEALs, Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewman, Air Force Special Operations Aviators, Special Tactics Teams, Marine Special Operations (Raiders), and other affiliated units, which embody the highest standards of courage, resilience, and professionalism;

Whereas the SOF community plays a vital role in defending the United States national security interests and is responsible for conducting missions that require unique skills, tactics, and equipment, including campaigning, unconventional warfare, counterterrorism, hostage rescue, and direct action;

Whereas SOF personnel operate under the most challenging and dangerous conditions and conduct military operations in some of the harshest and most volatile environments throughout the world;

Whereas SOF receive specialized training in advanced weapons, language, demolitions, combat medicine, military free-fall, and advanced combat tactics to ensure discrete, precise, and scalable operations;

Whereas the United States must continue to invest in the equipment, training, health, well-being, and transition of SOF members to maintain readiness and honor their valiant service;

Whereas the families of SOF members carry a unique burden, providing steadfast support amid frequent deployments, high operational tempo, and inherent risks; and

Whereas SOF Week, an annual conference for the international SOF community, will convene May 5 through May 8, 2025: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) recognizes the critical importance of the United States Special Operations Forces community to the defense and security of the United States;

(2) commits to honoring the skill, dedication, bravery, and selfless service of SOF personnel and their families; and

(3) supports the designation of "SOF Week" in appreciation of the courage, commitment, and contributions of the SOF community.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. THUNE. 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY**

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct an open hearing on nominations.

**COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 9:45 a.m., to consider nominations.

**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, May 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 11:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.