

which renamed St. Andrews Library the Cynthia Graham Hurd St. Andrews Regional Library;

Whereas Reverend Sharonda Coleman-Singleton was a member of the ministerial staff at Mother Emanuel AME Church, spent her life making a long-lasting difference in the lives of those around her, was a speech and language pathologist, and was a girls' track and field coach for Goose Creek High School;

Whereas Tywanza Sanders, who was only 26 years old when his young life was taken, earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Allen University, played instruments such as the keyboard and was in the process of writing his own book of poetry, and in his last moment, stepped in front of Susie Jackson, giving his life in an attempt to save his great-aunt;

Whereas both Tywanza Sanders and Susie Jackson were celebrated in a joint funeral attended by hundreds of mourners;

Whereas Ethel Lance, whose favorite gospel song was "One Day at a Time", was born in Charleston, where she and her husband, Nathaniel Lance, raised their family, and she was a lifelong member of Mother Emanuel AME Church, where she worked as a custodian to help keep the facilities clean for 5 years;

Whereas Susie Jackson, a longtime member of the Mother Emanuel AME Church, served as a trustee and an usher at her church, sang in the adult choir for many years, and was 87 years old when she was killed on that tragic day;

Whereas Reverend DePayne Middleton-Doctor earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Columbia College in 1989, and a master's degree in organizational management from Southern Wesleyan University in 1994, served as a minister at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in North Charleston before joining Mother Emanuel AME as a minister in March 2015, and was the loving mother of 4 daughters—Gracyn, Kaylin, Hali, and Czana;

Whereas Reverend Daniel Simmons, Sr. was a fourth-generation preacher who assisted Reverend Pinckney with pastoral duties, was nicknamed "Super Simmons from the Super Seventh", earned a bachelor's degree in education administration from Allen University, a master's degree in social work from the University of South Carolina, and a master of divinity degree with a concentration in leadership and theology from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, was a loving husband to his wife, Annie Graham Simmons, and was a devoted father to his 2 children, Daniel L. Simmons, Jr. and Rose Ann Simmons;

Whereas Myra Thompson was a Charleston native and longtime member of the Mother Emanuel AME Church, earned a bachelor's degree in English education from Benedict College, received a master of education degree in reading and a second degree of master of education in school counseling from the Citadel Military College of Charleston, was married to Reverend Anthony B. Thompson, Vicar of Holy Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church in Charleston, and was a loving mother to her 2 children, Kevin and Denise, and her 2 grandchildren;

Whereas, on December 15, 2016, Roof was convicted in Federal court of all 33 Federal charges against him (including hate crimes) that stemmed from the shooting;

Whereas, on January 11, 2017, he was sentenced to death for those crimes;

Whereas, on March 31, 2017, Roof agreed to plead guilty in South Carolina State court to all state charges pending against him—9 counts of murder, 3 counts of attempted murder, and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony—to avoid a second death sentence;

Whereas, as part of the plea agreement, Roof accepted a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole;

Whereas, on April 10, 2017, Roof was sentenced to 9 consecutive sentences of life without the possibility of parole after formally pleading guilty to the state charges; and

Whereas Roof is currently on death row at United States Penitentiary, Terre Haute, awaiting execution for the Federal convictions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates June 17, 2025, as the tenth anniversary of the Mother Emanuel AME Church shooting;

(2) remembers that in the face of unimaginable pain, the church stood firm in faith, a living reminder that—

(A) as Romans 8:28 says, "in all things God works for the good of those who love him"; and

(B) as Matthew 18:21-22 teaches, "Peter came up and said to him, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' [and] Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times'";

(3) honors the victims' memory, their legacy, and the enduring hope that evil never has the final word; and

(4) remembers each victim of the shooting—

(A) Reverend Clementa Pinckney;

(B) Reverend Sharonda Coleman-Singleton;

(C) Cynthia Hurd;

(D) Susie Jackson;

(E) Ethel Lance;

(F) Reverend DePayne Middleton-Doctor;

(G) Tywanza Sanders;

(H) Reverend Daniel Simmons Sr.;

(I) Myra Thompson;

(J) Polly Sheppard;

(K) Jennifer Pinckney;

(L) Felicia Sanders; and

(M) two minor children.

SENATE RESOLUTION 283—COMMEMORATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA ON JULY 6, 2025, AS "A DAY OF COMPASSION" AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DISTINCT RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL, LINGUISTIC, AND HISTORICAL IDENTITY OF THE TIBETAN PEOPLE

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 283

Whereas July 6, 2025, marks the 90th birthday of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama;

Whereas the 14th Dalai Lama was born in northeastern Tibet in 1935, was enthroned as the 14th incarnation in 1940, and was called upon to assume temporal leadership of Tibet in 1950 in response to a tumultuous time as the newly established People's Republic of China sent its military to seize control of Tibet;

Whereas the leader of the People's Republic of China, Mao Zedong, assured the Dalai Lama that "the Tibetan people have the right of exercising national regional autonomy" under Chinese rule and conveyed to the Dalai Lama that Tibet's distinct religious and cultural traditions would be respected, as reflected in the Seventeen Point Agreement of 1951;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China, led by the Chinese Com-

munist Party, steadily eroded the Tibetan autonomy to which it committed in the Seventeen Point Agreement through repressive political and military actions, leading to tension, resistance, and ultimately the Dalai Lama's exile in 1959;

Whereas, in March 1959, the Dalai Lama fled Tibet after Chinese Communist forces began shelling Lhasa and has since been residing in India, along with tens of thousands of Tibetan refugees;

Whereas, for more than 7 decades, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama has significantly advanced greater understanding, tolerance, harmony, and respect among the religious faiths of the world;

Whereas the Dalai Lama has led the effort to preserve the rich and distinct cultural, religious, historical, and linguistic heritage of the people of Tibet while working to safeguard other endangered cultures throughout the world;

Whereas the Dalai Lama has been gravely concerned by the degraded state of the environment of Tibet and the unchecked exploitation of the natural resources of Tibet, including fresh water, because they have implications not only for Tibetans, but also for the whole of Asia;

Whereas, beginning in 1979, the Dalai Lama has visited various parts of the United States and subsequently gained the admiration of all levels of society in the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States have consistently expressed their appreciation for the culture and religion of Tibetan Buddhists, including through their support of its preservation, and political and diplomatic support for the Dalai Lama in his capacity as a spiritual leader;

Whereas there is strong bipartisan support from successive Congresses and Administrations for the Dalai Lama's vision for Tibet and the world and for a negotiated resolution that leads to meaningful autonomy for Tibetans that ensures they are able to freely practice their religion, culture, and language;

Whereas, on October 17, 2007, Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the Dalai Lama, finding in the Fourteenth Dalai Lama Congressional Gold Medal Act (Public Law 109-287; 120 Stat. 1231) that he is recognized around the world as "a leading figure of moral and religious authority" and is "the unrivaled spiritual and cultural leader of the Tibetan people";

Whereas, wherever followers of Tibetan Buddhism reside, including Tibet, the United States, Bhutan, India, Mongolia, Nepal, the Russian Federation, and other countries around the world, those followers look to the Dalai Lama for religious leadership and spiritual guidance;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights holds that "[e]veryone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion," including the freedom to change religion or belief and to practice it in private or public;

Whereas at least 159 Tibetans in Tibet are known to have self-immolated, with statements or records left by many of them calling for freedom for Tibet and the return of the Dalai Lama;

Whereas, in 1991, section 355 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (Public Law 102-138; 105 Stat. 713) expressed the sense of Congress that Tibet "is an occupied country under the established principles of international law" and that "Tibet's true representatives are the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government in exile as recognized by the Tibetan people";

Whereas, in 1961, with the support of the United States, United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1723 called for “the cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination”;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China has interfered in the identification and installation of reincarnated leaders of Tibetan Buddhism as part of its efforts to maintain control over Tibet, including, in 1995, arbitrarily detaining the then-recently identified 11th Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, then a 6-year-old boy, and installing China's own candidate, Gyaltzen Norbu, as Panchen Lama;

Whereas, in 2011, the 14th Dalai Lama declared that the responsibility for identifying a future 15th Dalai Lama will “primarily rest” with officials of Gaden Phodrang, the Dalai Lama's office, and that “apart from the reincarnation recognized through such legitimate methods, no recognition or acceptance should be given to a candidate chosen for political ends by anyone, including those in the People's Republic of China”;

Whereas, in 2011, the 14th Dalai Lama initiated a historic devolution of power to the Central Tibetan Administration, in which he formally renounced his political role, transferring full democratic governance to an elected Tibetan leadership, thereby ensuring a democratic and secular political system for Tibet;

Whereas, on December 21, 2020, the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division K of Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 3119) was passed, strengthening the landmark Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note), including by—

(1) addressing the issue of water security and environmental destruction in Tibet;

(2) providing humanitarian assistance and support for Tibetans in Tibet and in exile;

(3) stipulating that the objectives of the United States Special Coordinator for Tibet include promoting “substantive dialogue without preconditions, between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community”;

(4) stating that it is the policy of the United States that “decisions regarding the selection, education, and veneration of Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders are exclusively spiritual matters that should be made by the appropriate religious authorities within the Tibetan Buddhist tradition and in the context of the will of practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism” and that the wishes of the 14th Dalai Lama “should play a key role” in the selection, education, and veneration of a future 15th Dalai Lama; and

(5) stating that it is the policy of the United States to hold accountable, including through the imposition of sanctions, any officials of the People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party who directly interfere with the identification and installation of a future Dalai Lama;

Whereas, on July 12, 2024, the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act (Public Law 118-70; 138 Stat. 1488) was signed into law, with the Act affirming that it is the policy of the United States that the Tibet issue must be resolved in accordance with international law by peaceful means, through dialogue without preconditions, and that the People's Republic of China should cease propagating disinformation about Tibet's history, and stating that it is the sense of Congress that the People's Republic of China's claims that Tibet has been part of the People's Republic of China since “ancient times” are “historically inaccurate”;

Whereas the Central Tibetan Administration, the institution that represents and re-

flects to the greatest extent the aspirations of the Tibetan diaspora around the world, has officially decided to celebrate the 14th Dalai Lama's 90th birth year as the “Year of Compassion”;

Whereas the 14th Dalai Lama has highlighted the oneness of humanity and has dedicated his life to the promotion of compassion and human values and is considered a leader of compassion by the international community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes July 6, 2025, as a “Day of Compassion”;

(2) congratulates His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on his 90th birthday and affirms its recognition of his outstanding contributions to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and mutual respect within and across faiths;

(3) affirms the Tibetan people's human rights and fundamental freedoms, including their right to exercise regional autonomy and to protect the distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people;

(4) reiterates, as outlined in the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division K of Public Law 116-260), that the identification and installation of Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders, including a future 15th Dalai Lama, is a matter that should be determined by the present 14th Dalai Lama and within the Tibetan Buddhist faith community, in accordance with the inalienable right to religious freedom;

(5) reiterates that any attempt by the Government of the People's Republic of China or any other government to recognize a successor or reincarnation of the 14th Dalai Lama and any future Dalai Lamas not selected by the Tibetan people would represent a clear abuse of the right to religious freedom of Tibetan Buddhists and the Tibetan people; and

(6) requests that a copy of this resolution be presented to His Holiness the Dalai Lama as an expression of its esteem and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 284—DESIGNATING JUNE 10, 2025, AS “DACOR BACON HOUSE BICENTENNIAL DAY”

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

S. RES. 284

Whereas the DACOR Bacon House (in this preamble referred to as the “House”) rests upon land originally belonging to the Anacostian people, who lived in the area between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers for generations before European settlers arrived on their shores;

Whereas the House is built upon land previously owned by David Burnes, a Revolutionary War veteran who negotiated with President George Washington for the sale of his property to the Federal Government, which included the land upon which the White House and much of the National Mall are built;

Whereas the property was acquired in 1815 by Tobias Lear V, George Washington's personal secretary, who was the last person to whom President Washington spoke before passing and who was instrumental in ending the First Barbary War during his service as Consul General to Algiers;

Whereas Tench Ringgold, United States Marshal for the District of Columbia and Keeper of the Keys of the Capitol, who personally led President James Madison and several members of his Cabinet to safety during the 1814 British burning of the White

House, completed building the present-day DACOR Bacon House in 1825, through the use of enslaved people;

Whereas Chief Justice John Marshall, a previous Secretary of State, boarded at the House and was joined at times by Justices Joseph Story, Gabriel Duval, Smith Thompson, and Henry Baldwin;

Whereas former Maryland Governor Samuel Sprigg, who was instrumental in the completion of the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, purchased the House as a gift for his daughter Sally Sprigg and nephew William Thomas Carroll, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States and a member of the prominent Carroll family, which includes signers of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, United States Constitution, as well as numerous elected officials and the founder of Georgetown University;

Whereas William Thomas Carroll was also known for providing President Abraham Lincoln with the Bible that was used for his first inauguration, which has since become known as the “Lincoln Bible” and has been utilized by other presidents, including President Barack Obama and President Donald Trump, for their oaths of office;

Whereas the DACOR Bacon House served as the official residence of Russian Imperial Minister Nikolai Shishkin, the Russian Federation's top diplomatic representative to the United States, from 1875 to 1878 while he was dispatched to Washington, D.C.;

Whereas Chief Justice Melville Fuller and his family resided at the House from 1896 to 1910, during which time the House remained a fixture in Washington, D.C., high society and hosted President Grover Cleveland, President Theodore Roosevelt, and Secretary of War William Howard Taft;

Whereas, from 1911 to 1925, Alice Cornelia Copley Thaw owned the House and modernized its inner workings;

Whereas Illinois Senator Medill McCormick and his wife, the future Congresswoman Ruth Hanna McCormick, resided in the House during the 1920s when they entertained lawmakers and their spouses;

Whereas socialite Virginia Murray Bacon and her husband, 8-term New York Congressman Robert Low Bacon, owned the House from 1925 to 1980, during which period Virginia Murray Bacon's hosting abilities earned her the reputation of being one of Washington, D.C.'s last grandes dames;

Whereas the House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, paying homage to its nearly 150 years of contributions to American history and society;

Whereas Virginia Murray Bacon established the Bacon House Foundation, which worked hand in hand with the DACOR Education and Welfare Foundation to establish the DACOR Bacon House Foundation, which was charged with caring for the historic House in perpetuity;

Whereas, on May 23, 1986, Secretary of State George P. Shultz attended the dedication ceremony that marked the DACOR Bacon House Foundation's new ownership and charged those present to “protect and advance the interests and ideals of America”;

Whereas, since 1986, the House has served as the headquarters of the Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR) organization, a premier organization of foreign affairs professionals, whose members include ambassadors, foreign service officers, military and intelligence officials, political appointees from both major parties, Members of Congress and their staffs, Peace Corps and International Monetary Fund officials, global business leaders, and other professionals dedicated to promoting American interests and diplomatic relations;