

forms, often manifesting as physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, and social media abuse;

Whereas elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation have no boundaries and cross all racial, social, class, gender, and geographic lines, according to the Elder Justice Coalition;

Whereas about 1 in 10 adults over the age of 60 are subjected to abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation each year, according to the National Institute on Aging;

Whereas the annual loss by victims of financial abuse over the age of 60 is estimated to be at least \$28,300,000,000, according to the National Council on Aging;

Whereas for older adults over the age of 60, the Department of Justice reported the following scam-related financial losses for 2023—

- (1) \$1,200,000,000 from investment scams;
- (2) \$590,000,000 from tech support scams;
- (3) \$382,000,000 from business email compromise scams;
- (4) \$356,000,000 from romance scams; and
- (5) \$179,000,000 from government impersonation scams;

Whereas older adults reported losses of \$4,885,000,000 related to internet scams and fraud in 2024, and filed over 147,000 complaints related to internet crimes, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

Whereas adults over the age of 60 are less likely than younger adults to report losing money to fraud according to the Federal Trade Commission;

Whereas most reported cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults take place within private homes, and approximately 90 percent of the perpetrators in elder financial exploitation cases are family members or other trusted individuals, according to the National Adult Protective Services Association;

Whereas research suggests that elderly individuals in the United States who experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation are more likely to become the victims of abuse than those who do not experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation;

Whereas other risk factors for elder abuse can include low social support, poor physical health, and experience of previous traumatic events, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse;

Whereas close to half of elderly individuals who suffer from dementia will experience abuse during their lifetime, according to the Department of Justice;

Whereas only 1 in 24 cases of elder abuse is reported, and only 1 in 44 cases of elder financial exploitation is reported, according to the New York State Office of Children and Family Services;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the emergence of new scams against older adults, including those related to vaccines;

Whereas more than 1 in 5 older persons reported elder abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic, an over 80 percent increase from previous years, according to the National Institute of Health;

Whereas, during the last 5 years, Congress passed and the President signed 2 measures that make nearly \$400,000,000 available for implementation of the initiatives under the Elder Justice Act of 2009 (subtitle H of title VI of Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 783), the largest funding stream related to such initiatives in the history of the Act; and

Whereas Congress, in passing the Elder Justice Act of 2009 (subtitle H of title VI of Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 783), the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.), the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2;

135 Stat. 4), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182), recognized the importance of protecting older people of the United States against abuse and exploitation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2025, as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” and the month of June 2025 as “Elder Abuse Awareness Month”;

(2) recognizes—

(A) judges, lawyers, adult protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, social workers, health care providers, advocates for victims, and other professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse;

(B) the important work of the Elder Justice Coordinating Council, which has continued through the previous 3 Presidential administrations and involves 15 different Federal agencies;

(C) the essential work done by adult protective services personnel, who regularly come to the assistance of victims, investigate reports of abuse, and actively prevent future victimization of older people in the United States, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic as the social isolation of elderly individuals, due to stay-at-home orders, only increased the risk of abuse and neglect; and

(D) the importance of supporting State long-term care ombudsman programs, which help prevent elder abuse and neglect in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, where infection prevention and control deficiencies pose persistent challenges;

(3) applauds the work of the Elder Justice Coalition and its members, whose efforts to increase public awareness of elder abuse have the potential to increase the identification and reporting of this crime by the public, professionals, and victims, and can act as a catalyst to promote issue-based education and long-term prevention; and

(4) encourages—

(A) members of the public and professionals who work with older adults to act as catalysts to promote awareness and long-term prevention of elder abuse—

(i) by reaching out to local adult protective services agencies, State long-term care ombudsman programs, and the National Center on Elder Abuse; and

(ii) by learning to recognize, detect, report, and respond to elder abuse;

(B) private individuals and public agencies in the United States to continue work together at the Federal, State, and local levels to combat abuse, neglect, exploitation, crime, and violence against vulnerable adults, including vulnerable older adults, particularly in light of limited resources for vital protective services; and

(C) those Federal agencies with responsibility for preventing elder abuse to fully exercise such responsibilities to protect older adults, whether such older adults are living in the community or in long-term care facilities.

ferred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 301

Whereas, on June 14, 2025, a gunman entered the home of Minnesota State Senator John Hoffman and shot and critically injured him and his wife, Yvette Hoffman;

Whereas the gunman then entered the home of Minnesota State House Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and assassinated her and her husband, Mark Hortman;

Whereas the gunman had documents that listed dozens of lawmakers targeted for assassination;

Whereas the law enforcement officers of Brooklyn Park and Champlin saved additional lives by intervening with their bravery and rapid response to the attack;

Whereas Speaker Emerita Hortman was a formidable public servant who served her community and the people of Minnesota with deep devotion, compassion, and strength;

Whereas acts of political violence have no place in the United States and represent a grave threat;

Whereas swift condemnation of political violence by elected officials is necessary to preserve and protect the democracy of the United States;

Whereas, when these violent acts expose division, the people of the United States must persevere in the pursuit of democratic principles, resolving their differences through debate and civil discourse; and

Whereas political violence not only attacks the life and liberty of the representatives of the people of the United States, it also attacks the right of the people to be represented: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate, in this moment of tragic loss—

(1) strongly condemns and denounces the attacks on Minnesota State legislators in Brooklyn Park and Champlin, Minnesota on June 14, 2025;

(2) honors the life of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman for her devotion to public service and her tireless efforts to serve the people of Minnesota and the life of her husband, Mark Hortman;

(3) honors Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette Hoffman, who were shot and critically injured, and wishes for their full and speedy recovery;

(4) honors the courageous law enforcement officers who saved additional lives with their rapid response to the attack and successfully apprehended and charged the suspected perpetrator on June 15, 2025;

(5) calls on all community leaders and elected officials to publicly and unequivocally denounce acts of political violence; and

(6) calls on all people of the United States to unite in this moment of pain and tragedy and reaffirm the commitment of the people of the United States to a safe, civil, and peaceful democracy in which violent rhetoric and acts are not tolerated.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2356. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 2356.** Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 301—CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS ON MINNESOTA LAWMAKERS IN BROOKLYN PARK AND CHAMPLIN, MINNESOTA AND CALLING FOR UNITY AND THE REJECTION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN MINNESOTA AND ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. BALDWIN) submitted the following resolution; which was re-

him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations; as follows:

On page 2, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

(5) Members of the United States Armed Forces and intelligence community, and all those involved in the planning and successful execution of Operation Midnight Hammer on June 21, 2025, including President Donald J. Trump, should be commended for their efforts in a successful mission.

On page 2, line 15, strike "(5)" and insert "(6)".

On page 2, line 21, strike "(6)" and insert "(7)".

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I have four 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:

##### COMMITTEES ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to consider nominations in open session.

##### COMMITTEES ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON DIGITAL ASSETS

The Subcommittee on Digital Assets of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing in open session.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until June 25, 2025: Ava O'Neal and Alan Lam.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following summer associates in my office be granted floor privileges until June 25, 2025: Parker Zito, Cole Carmouche, Camille Morrison, and Curtis Laurent.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to grant floor privileges to my interns on their shadow

days as follows: Vincent Sheoships for June 24, 2025; and Emma Singleton for July 24, 2025.

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

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 298, S. Res. 299, and S. Res. 300.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stands in recess until 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Calendar No. 140, Paul Dabbar, and the Senate vote on confirmation at 4:15 p.m.; and that following disposition of the Dabbar nomination, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Calendar No. 93, Kenneth Kies; and if cloture is invoked on the Kies nomination, the Senate vote on confirmation at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, on Thursday June 26; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MERKLEY.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

#### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to talk about debt, and more precisely, how the Republican party has been driving massive increases in debt over the last couple decades, both in two ways. The first way is by particular legislative acts, primarily tax bills that have created enormous debt; and the second is by steadily eroding the framework for budgeting and controlling our difference between our revenues and our expenditures that was created in 1974.

If we want to think about the big factors that have been driving up deficits and, therefore, debt, well, the big factors in recent history—war in Afghanistan, massive; war in Iraq, massive; the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003; the Trump tax cuts of 2017—these were huge factors in vastly reducing revenue, primarily by giving enormous giveaways to the very richest Americans.

Well, that is not all the Republican party has been up to in terms of driving massive increases in deficit and debt. They have also been hard at work destroying the infrastructure that all hundred Senators agreed to back in 1974 to get a handle on debt.

Now let's return to the deficits of 1971, 1972, 1973. Those deficits were, on average, \$20 billion—\$20 billion compared to \$2 trillion now. And yet that \$20 billion in deficit, average deficit, over those 3 years was enough to have the Members of the Senate and the Members of the House say: We have to get this under control. If we don't get this under control, we are going to undermine the ability of our work to provide a good foundation for families to thrive in the future through good, strong programs for housing and healthcare and education, good strong programs to create good-paying jobs, and good programs for the security of the United States of America. We are going to undermine all of that—the future for the next generation—if we run up these deficits.

So they created that 1974 act. That 1974 act had a couple of different visions. One was a regular budgeting process. That regular budgeting process was laid out—this is the way that you can, at the front end of each fiscal year or preparing for each fiscal year, you can lay out a vision for how much you are going to spend and how much revenue you are going to create. Those expenditures will be laid out committee by committee, and then we will hold people to it, and we can basically do what a family does—have control over our income and our outgo, our revenue and our expenditures, and therefore control over deficits. That was the vision.

That bill also created something completely separate from that, and that was called reconciliation. Reconciliation is a special fast-track, filibuster-free path—for one reason it was created; all 100 Senators agreed—to reduce the deficit.