

Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2298. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to promulgate an occupational safety and health standard to protect workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Asunción Valdivia Heat Illness, Injury, and Fatality Prevention Act of 2025, which I introduced today.

I firmly believe that all workers, including our most vulnerable workers, such as Nation's farmworkers, construction workers, and day laborers, deserve to have their health and safety protected at work. It has been nearly 20 years since Asunción Valdivia tragically lost his life to heatstroke while picking grapes in 105-degree heat under the Central Valley Sun. Mr. Valdivia's death was completely preventable, yet his story is not unique.

Heat protections continue to be a matter of life and death for millions of workers across the country doing back-breaking labor amid increasingly extreme temperatures. This bill requires the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to establish an enforceable standard to protect indoor and outdoor workers at risk for hazardous heat stress with measures like paid breaks in cool spaces, access to water, limitations on time exposed to heat, and emergency response for workers with heat related illness. It also directs employers to provide training and hazard advisories to their employees about heat stress in the language their employees understand and in a format appropriate for their literacy and education levels. An interim final rule must be in place within 1 year of the bill's enactment.

This critical legislation will hold employers accountable and ensure commonsense, enforceable workplace protections are put in place to prevent workers from falling ill, collapsing on the job, or even losing their lives due to heat stress. As we continue to see increasingly extreme weather worldwide, workers across the country will be more at risk, but we can prevent these injuries with commonsense heat protections.

I would like to thank Senators CORTEZ MASTO and MARKEY for coleading this bill with me and Representatives CHU and SCOTT for leading this legislation in the House. I hope our colleagues will join us to urgently address the threats posed by extreme heat as the climate crisis becomes more severe.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 323—URGING THE UNITED STATES TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO HALT AND REVERSE THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 323

Whereas, since the height of the Cold War, the United States and the Russian Federation have dismantled more than 50,000 nuclear warheads, but approximately 12,000 nuclear weapons still exist and pose an intolerable risk to human survival;

Whereas the United States and the Russian Federation, which possess an estimated 95 percent of nuclear weapons, have a special responsibility to meet their obligations under Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968 (21 UST 483) to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control";

Whereas President Ronald Reagan said, in his January 1984 State of the Union Address, "A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. The only value in our two nations possessing nuclear weapons is to make sure they will never be used. But then would it not be better to do away with them entirely?";

Whereas, according to scientific studies and models, the use of even a tiny fraction of nuclear weapons could cause worldwide climate disruption and global famine by lofting millions of tons of soot into the upper atmosphere, which would cause climate disruption across the planet, cutting food production and putting hundreds of millions of people worldwide at risk of death due to famine;

Whereas, according to numerous scientific studies and models, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of millions of people directly and cause unimaginable physical destruction and environmental damage, including even more severe catastrophic climate disruption due to lower temperatures across the planet not seen since the last ice age;

Whereas, during the course of the nuclear age, there have been technical miscalculations, misinterpretations of adversary behavior, and crises that have caused numerous nuclear near-misses that could have led to nuclear war;

Whereas the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and the repeated explicit threats of the Kremlin to use nuclear weapons have significantly increased the risk of nuclear weapons use;

Whereas tensions elsewhere in the world, including between the United States and the People's Republic of China over Taiwan and the South China Sea, ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan, and the chronic security crisis on the Korean Peninsula, constitute other possible flashpoints for nuclear war;

Whereas, on October 6, 2022, President Biden said, "I don't think there's any such thing as an ability to easily [use] a tactical nuclear weapon and not end up with Armageddon.";

Whereas the United States retains a Cold War-era nuclear declaratory policy that al-

lows for the first use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear threats under "extreme" circumstances and retains a launch-under-attack posture that unnecessarily compresses Presidential decision time to launch nuclear weapons within minutes, thereby creating conditions that increase the risk of unintentional or accidental nuclear war;

Whereas, in 2023, the Congressional Budget Office (referred to in this preamble as the "CBO") estimated that current plans to modernize, upgrade, and maintain the nuclear forces of the United States, as described in the fiscal year 2023 budget and supporting documents, would cost \$756,000,000,000 over the 2023-2032 period, which was \$122,000,000,000 more than the 2021 CBO estimate for the 2021-2030 period;

Whereas, in October 2017, CBO estimated that implementing the Nuclear Modernization Plan, which intends to upgrade and enhance nearly every element of the nuclear arsenal of the United States, would result in costs of more than \$1,200,000,000,000 over the following 30 years, not adjusting for inflation;

Whereas Republican and Democratic administrations have negotiated multiple agreements with the Russian Federation that have reduced their total nuclear stockpiles by more than 80 percent since their Cold War peaks, but in recent years have withdrawn from other global treaties and agreements that have provided global stability and helped prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, including the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987 (commonly known as the "Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty");

Whereas the 2022 Nuclear Posture Review states that "[m]utual, verifiable nuclear arms control offers the most effective, durable[,] and responsible path to reduce the role of nuclear weapons in our strategy and prevent their use";

Whereas the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed at Prague April 8, 2010 (TIAS 11-205), which is the last remaining treaty limiting the size of the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Russian Federation, will expire on February 5, 2026, and in the absence of agreed following constraints, each side could significantly increase the number of deployed warheads, thereby accelerating an unconstrained, costly, and dangerous global nuclear arms race;

Whereas, on July 7, 2017, 122 nations voted to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which prohibits the possession, use, testing, stationing, or transfer of nuclear weapons and creates an important legal framework for the elimination of all nuclear weapons and entered into force on January 22, 2021; and

Whereas the United States suspended nuclear explosive testing in 1992, successfully led the negotiation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, done at New York September 10, 1999, which has been signed by 187 countries including the United States and the other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, and has effectively put an end to nuclear test explosions, which can be used by newer nuclear powers with the means to prove new warhead designs: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate calls on the President to—

(1) actively pursue a world free of nuclear weapons as a national security imperative; and

(2) lead a global effort to halt and reverse a global nuclear arms race and prevent nuclear war by—

(A) engaging in good faith negotiations with—

(i) the other 8 nuclear armed countries to—

(I) halt any further buildup of nuclear arsenals; and

(II) aggressively pursue a verifiable and irreversible agreement or agreements to verifiably reduce and eliminate their nuclear arsenals according to negotiated timetables;

(ii) the Russian Federation to pursue and conclude new nuclear arms control and disarmament arrangements with the Russian Federation to prevent a buildup of nuclear forces beyond current levels; and

(iii) the People's Republic of China on mutual nuclear risk reduction and arms control measures;

(B) leading the effort to have all nuclear-armed countries renounce the option of using nuclear weapons first;

(C) implementing effective checks and balances on the sole authority of the President, as Commander-in-Chief, to order the use of United States nuclear weapons;

(D) ending the Cold War-era "hair-trigger alert" posture, which increases the risk of catastrophic miscalculation in a crisis;

(E) ending plans to produce and deploy new nuclear warheads and delivery systems, which would reduce the burden on taxpayers in the United States;

(F) maintaining the de facto global moratorium on nuclear explosive testing;

(G) protecting communities and workers affected by nuclear weapons by—

(i) fully remediating the deadly legacy of environmental contamination from past and current nuclear weapons testing, development, production, storage, and maintenance activities; and

(ii) providing health monitoring, compensation, and medical care to those who have and will be harmed by nuclear weapons research, testing, and production, including through an expanded program under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (Public Law 101-426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note); and

(H) actively planning a just economic transition for the civilian and military workforce involved in the development, testing, production, management, and dismantlement of nuclear weapons and for the communities that are economically dependent on nuclear weapons laboratories, production facilities, and military bases.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 324—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE ACTIONS OF THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION THAT DRASTICALLY AND INDISCRIMINATELY REDUCE STAFF AT FEDERAL AGENCIES, FREEZE VAST SWATHS OF CRITICAL FEDERAL FUNDING, AND DISMANTLE FEDERAL AGENCIES ARE DESTRUCTIVE AND HARMFUL TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND HAVE RAISED COSTS FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES**

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Com-

mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 324

Whereas, while there is strong bipartisan support for rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government, the indiscriminate cuts by the Department of Government Efficiency are hurting hardworking families by taking away critical programs they rely on and are not addressing real waste, fraud, or abuse;

Whereas it is reckless and unconscionable for President Donald Trump to take away critical programs while pushing for more tax cuts for the ultra-wealthy;

Whereas the freezes on Federal funding, the elimination and dismantling of Federal agencies, and the firing of Federal staff have caused immediate and widespread harm to communities across the United States by disrupting critical programs that keep costs low for American families and support public health, education, small businesses, veterans, and economic stability;

Whereas these actions have directly and negatively affected—

(1) the ability of key programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid to provide critical benefits to seniors, children, and families, due to office closures and staffing cuts;

(2) Federally-qualified health centers, which provide high quality, affordable primary health, dental, and mental health care and low-cost prescription drugs to over 32,000,000 patients a year, including to 1 in every 8 children and 1 in every 15 seniors;

(3) medical research at universities that is critical for both patient care and the economy, including research funded by the National Institutes of Health on cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and other life-threatening diseases;

(4) nonprofit organizations that provide mental health and substance use disorder treatment, which do not have large financial reserves and are stretched thin when any freeze of funding goes into effect;

(5) housing programs that provide millions of Americans with access to affordable housing and which provide shelter and supportive services to homeless individuals, including children, families, and veterans;

(6) small business programs that provide support to entrepreneurs looking to start and grow their businesses, rebuild in the wake of a disaster, gain access to mentorship and counseling, and compete for Federal contracting opportunities;

(7) students with disabilities who count on funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) to get equal access to education;

(8) programs run by the Department of Agriculture that support local farmers and ranchers and strengthen regional food systems;

(9) veteran services, health care, and benefits, as well as veteran employment, with thousands of veterans fired by the Trump Administration so far;

(10) workforce development and job training programs, including the attempted closure of Job Corps centers across the country, which would cut off thousands of at-risk youth from the job training needed to gain employment;

(11) the influence of the United States in the world and the ability to compete with adversaries, like the People's Republic of China, that are filling the gaps left by the United States due to the elimination of the United States Agency for International Development and the severe reduction in United States foreign aid, which is critical to the national security of the United States; and

(12) many more vital programs with a significant impact on the daily lives of people in the United States; and

Whereas even short-term disruptions at Federal agencies and in Federal funding result in—

(1) financial instability for organizations providing critical services to their communities;

(2) reduced access to essential services for families in need of health care, child care, housing, and nutrition assistance;

(3) economic uncertainty for small businesses, nonprofit organizations, and local governments that depend on timely Federal support; and

(4) abrupt disruptions in critical work by experts in public health, transportation safety, water safety, in providing protection to students with disabilities, in providing technical assistance to States and localities, and in countless other critical functions: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) to date, the actions of the Trump Administration have created chaos, raised costs for consumers, made the United States less safe, put the health of Americans at risk, and jeopardized the privacy of individuals and businesses; and

(2) the focus of the Senate and the Trump Administration should be on—

(A) protecting families;

(B) lowering the cost of groceries, housing, and medical care;

(C) supporting veterans;

(D) protecting scientific research and the position of the United States as a leader in medical breakthroughs;

(E) preserving and expanding access to quality and affordable health care;

(F) supporting early education programs and child care for working families; and

(G) growing the United States economy by supporting small businesses and investing in technologies and industries that grow the middle class in the United States.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 18—RECOGNIZING A HEALTH AND SAFETY EMERGENCY DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTING THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN DUE TO THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S DIRECTIVES THAT UNLEASH FOSSIL FUELS AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, WHILE SUPPRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE**

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. CON. RES. 18

Whereas Congress approved the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970 and enacted the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) to exercise the United States' sovereign authority and duty to protect the air, water, lands, and seas of the United States from pollution that harms human health and welfare and the natural environment;

Whereas the administration of President Donald J. Trump exceeds its authority by directing Federal agencies, in violation of the