

size of the population within a State, within a political subdivision, or within a political subdivision that contains Indian lands, as the case may be, that consists of persons age 18 or older, as calculated by the Bureau of the Census under the most recent decennial census.”.

SEC. 115. ATTORNEYS' FEES.

Section 14(c) of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10310(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) The term ‘prevailing party’ means a party to an action that receives at least some of the benefit sought by such action, states a colorable claim, and can establish that the action was a significant cause of a change to the status quo.”.

SEC. 116. OTHER TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) ACTIONS COVERED UNDER SECTION 3.—Section 3(c) of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10302(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking “any proceeding instituted by the Attorney General or an aggrieved person under any statute to enforce” and inserting “any action under any statute in which a party (including the Attorney General) seeks to enforce”; and

(2) by striking “at the time the proceeding was commenced” and inserting “at the time the action was commenced”.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF LANGUAGE MINORITY GROUPS.—Section 4(f) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 10303(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking the second sentence; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4).

(c) PERIOD DURING WHICH CHANGES IN VOTING PRACTICES ARE SUBJECT TO PRECLEARANCE UNDER SECTION 5.—Section 5 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 10304) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “based upon determinations made under the first sentence of section 4(b) are in effect” and inserting “are in effect during a calendar year”; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “November 1, 1964” and all that follows through “November 1, 1972” and inserting “the applicable date of coverage”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) The term ‘applicable date of coverage’ means, with respect to a State or political subdivision—

“(1) June 25, 2013, if the most recent determination for such State or subdivision under section 4(b) was made on or before December 31, 2021; or

“(2) the date on which the most recent determination for such State or subdivision under section 4(b) was made, if such determination was made after December 31, 2021.”.

(d) REVIEW OF PRECLEARANCE SUBMISSION UNDER SECTION 5 DUE TO EXIGENCY.—Section 5 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 10304) is amended, in subsection (a), by inserting “An exigency, including a natural disaster, inclement weather, or other unforeseeable event, requiring such different qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice, or procedure within 30 days of a Federal, State, or local election shall constitute good cause requiring the Attorney General to expedite consideration of the submission.” after “will not be made.”.

SEC. 117. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2025 or any amendment made by this title, or the application of such a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional or is otherwise enjoined or unenforceable, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amend-

ments to any other person or circumstance, and any remaining provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), shall not be affected by the holding. In addition, if any provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), or any amendment to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, or the application of such a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional or is otherwise enjoined or unenforceable, the application of the provision and amendment to any other person or circumstance, and any remaining provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, shall not be affected by the holding.

SEC. 118. GRANTS TO ASSIST WITH NOTICE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall make grants each fiscal year to small jurisdictions who submit applications under subsection (b) for purposes of assisting such small jurisdictions with compliance with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to submit or publish notice of any change to a qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice or procedure affecting voting.

(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a small jurisdiction shall submit an application to the Attorney General in such form and containing such information as the Attorney General may require regarding the compliance of such small jurisdiction with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

(c) SMALL JURISDICTION DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term “small jurisdiction” means any political subdivision of a State with a population of 10,000 or less.

TITLE II—ELECTION WORKER AND POLLING PLACE PROTECTION

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Election Worker and Polling Place Protection Act”.

SEC. 202. PROHIBITION ON INTERFERENCE AND INTIMIDATION.

Section 11 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10307) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f)(1)(A) Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, by force or threat of force, or by violence or threat of violence to any person or property, willfully interferes with or attempts to interfere with, the ability of any person or any class of persons to vote or qualify to vote, or to qualify or act as a poll watcher or as any legally authorized election official, in any primary, special, or general election, or any person who is, or is employed by, an agent, contractor, or vendor of a legally authorized election official assisting in the administration of any primary, special, or general election to assist in that administration, shall be fined not more than \$2,500, or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

“(B) Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, by force or threat of force, or by violence or threat of violence to any person or property, willfully intimidates or attempts to intimidate, any person or any class of persons seeking to vote or qualify to vote, or to qualify or act as a poll watcher or as any legally authorized election official, in any primary, special, or general election, or any person who is, or is employed by, an agent, contractor, or vendor of a legally authorized election official assisting in the administration of any primary, special, or general election, shall be fined not more than \$2,500, or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

“(C) If bodily injury results from an act committed in violation of this paragraph or if such act includes the use, attempted use, or threatened use of a dangerous weapon, an

explosive, or fire, then, in lieu of the remedy described in subparagraph (A) or (B), the violator shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

“(2)(A) Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, willfully physically damages or threatens to physically damage any physical property being used as a polling place or tabulation center or other election infrastructure, with the intent to interfere with the administration of a primary, general, or special election or the tabulation or certification of votes for such an election, shall be fined not more than \$2,500, or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

“(B) If bodily injury results from an act committed in violation of this paragraph or if such act includes the use, attempted use, or threatened use of a dangerous weapon, an explosive, or fire, then, in lieu of the remedy described in subparagraph (A), the violator shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

“(3) For purposes of this subsection, de minimus damage or a threat of de minimus damage to physical property shall not be considered a violation of this subsection.

“(4) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘election infrastructure’ means any office of a legally authorized election official, or a staffer, worker, or volunteer, assisting such an election official or any physical, mechanical, or electrical device, structure, or tangible item, used in the process of creating, distributing, voting, returning, counting, tabulating, auditing, storing, or other handling of voter registration or ballot information.

“(g) No prosecution of any offense described in subsection (f) may be undertaken by the United States, except under the certification in writing of the Attorney General, or a designee, that—

“(1) the State does not have jurisdiction;

“(2) the State has requested that the Federal Government assume jurisdiction; or

“(3) a prosecution by the United States is in the public interest and necessary to secure substantial justice.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 340—DESIGNATING JULY 30, 2025, AS “NATIONAL WHISTLEBLOWER APPRECIATION DAY”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 340

Whereas, in 1777, before the passage of the Bill of Rights, 10 sailors and marines blew the whistle on fraud and misconduct that was harmful to the United States;

Whereas the Founding Fathers unanimously supported the whistleblowers in words and deeds, including by releasing government records and providing monetary assistance for the reasonable legal expenses necessary to prevent retaliation against the whistleblowers;

Whereas, on July 30, 1778, in demonstration of their full support for whistleblowers, the members of the Continental Congress unanimously passed the first whistleblower legislation in the United States that read: “Resolved, That it is the duty of all persons in

the service of the United States, as well as all other the inhabitants thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge" (legislation of July 30, 1778, reprinted in *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, DC, 1904-37), 11:732);

Whereas whistleblowers risk their careers, jobs, and reputations by reporting waste, fraud, and abuse to the proper authorities;

Whereas, in providing the proper authorities with lawful disclosures, whistleblowers save the taxpayers of the United States billions of dollars each year and serve the public interest by ensuring that the United States remains an ethical and safe place; and

Whereas it is the public policy of the United States to encourage, in accordance with Federal law (including the Constitution of the United States, rules, and regulations) and consistent with the protection of classified information (including sources and methods of detection of classified information), honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, and other crimes to the appropriate authority at the earliest time possible: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 30, 2025, as "National Whistleblower Appreciation Day"; and

(2) ensures that the Federal Government implements the intent of the Founding Fathers, as reflected in the legislation passed on July 30, 1778 (relating to whistleblowers), by encouraging each executive agency to recognize National Whistleblower Appreciation Day by—

(A) informing employees, contractors working on behalf of the taxpayers of the United States, and members of the public about the legal right of a United States citizen to "blow the whistle" to the appropriate authority by honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, or other crimes; and

(B) acknowledging the contributions of whistleblowers to combating waste, fraud, abuse, and violations of laws and regulations of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 341—RE-AFFIRMING THAT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO ARREST, DETAIN, INTERROGATE, OR DEPORT UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND MUST IMPLEMENT STRONGER MEASURES TO PREVENT FUTURE WRONGFUL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AGAINST SUCH CITIZENS

Mr. GALLEG0 submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 341

Whereas the United States was founded on the axiom that all individuals possess natural rights, which cannot be taken away and must be protected by the Government;

Whereas the Framers of the United States Constitution codified this ethos in the Bill of Rights, including in the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, which—

(1) protects individuals from unreasonable searches and seizures; and

(2) therefore requires reasonable suspicion or probable cause of a violation of the law to detain or arrest any person;

Whereas U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other immigration officers under the direction of the Department of Homeland Security have no authority to arrest, detain, interrogate, or deport United States citizens when conducting civil immigration enforcement;

Whereas U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's internal guidance, designated as Policy Number 10074.2, states, "As a matter of law, ICE cannot assert its civil immigration enforcement authority to arrest and/or detain a U.S. citizen.";

Whereas despite this legal prohibition, there have been numerous recent reports of United States citizens, including children, veterans, and disabled individuals, being illegally arrested, detained, and interrogated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other immigration officers based on their occupation, physical appearance, or refusal to speak with officers, a right guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution;

Whereas such conduct violates the constitutional rights of United States citizens, erodes the rule of law, puts law enforcement officer safety at risk, and reduces trust in law enforcement; and

Whereas a government that unlawfully arrests, detains, and interrogates its own citizens is antithetical to an open and transparent society.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other immigration officers under the direction of the Department of Homeland Security—

(1) are not authorized to arrest, detain, interrogate, or deport United States citizens; and

(2) must implement stronger measures to prevent future wrongful enforcement actions against such citizens.

SENATE RESOLUTION 342—HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SMALL MANUFACTURERS OF FIREARMS TO THE ECONOMY, CULTURE, AND RECREATIONAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING AUGUST 2025 AS "NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS MONTH"

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LEE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 342

Whereas locally owned and operated small businesses that manufacture handguns, rifles, shotguns, ammunition, and accessories (referred to in this preamble as "small manufacturers of firearms"), are the backbone of the shooting sports community and a critical part of the manufacturing base of the United States;

Whereas small manufacturers of firearms serve as anchors in rural and small-town communities across the United States, preserving the craftsmanship, entrepreneurship, and innovation of the United States;

Whereas small manufacturers of firearms contribute significantly to the national and

local economy, forming an essential part of a broader industry that supports 380,000 jobs and generates more than \$91,000,000,000 in annual economic output;

Whereas small manufacturers of firearms are essential conduits for the exercise of Second Amendment rights by individuals in the United States and provide products, training, and community engagement to sportsmen in the United States;

Whereas shooting sports, including target shooting, hunting, and competitive marksmanship, are time-honored traditions in the United States and are enjoyed by millions of law-abiding citizens;

Whereas shooting sports promote safe and responsible firearm handling, outdoor stewardship, and civic engagement through local clubs, ranges, and competitions; and

Whereas small manufacturers of firearms in the United States play an indispensable role in preserving these recreational traditions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the role of small businesses that manufacture firearms in supporting domestic manufacturing and economic opportunity in communities across the United States;

(2) supports policies that strengthen the ability of such small businesses to innovate, grow, and preserve the recreational shooting traditions of the United States; and

(3) recognizes August 2025 as "National Shooting Sports Month".

SENATE RESOLUTION 343—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT WORK OF THE UNITED STATES PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE

Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 343

Whereas the United States Preventive Services Task Force (referred to in this preamble as the "Task Force") is a scientifically independent, statutorily authorized panel comprised of voluntary, non-Federal experts in disease prevention and evidence-based medicine;

Whereas, since 1984, the mission of the Task Force has been to improve the health of the people of the United States by making evidence-based recommendations about health promotion and the effectiveness of clinical primary and secondary preventive services;

Whereas steps to arrive at an official Task Force recommendation include—

(1) assessing the adequacy of evidence at the key question level;

(2) assessing the adequacy of evidence at the linkage level;

(3) estimating the magnitude of benefit and harm of the preventive service;

(4) evaluating the certainty of the evidence of net benefit for the preventive service;

(5) estimating the magnitude of the net benefit of the preventive service; and

(6) developing a recommendation grade for the preventive service in the relevant population, based on the parameters described in paragraphs (1) through (5);

Whereas the Task Force documents its methods in a procedure manual and other resources to ensure that the recommendations and evidence reviews are consistently of high quality, methodologically sound, scientifically defensible, reproducible, and unbiased;