

221), which provided that the wartime service of members of the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines and the new Philippine Scouts shall not be deemed to have been active service, and, therefore, those members did not qualify for certain benefits;

Whereas 26,000 Filipino World War II veterans were granted United States citizenship as a result of the Immigration Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-649; 104 Stat. 4978), which was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on November 29, 1990;

Whereas, in 1991, the Filipino American National Historical Society made efforts to recognize October as Filipino American History Month for the first time;

Whereas, in 2009, Congress first recognized October as Filipino American History Month (S. Res. 298; H. Res. 780);

Whereas, on February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 115), which established the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to compensate Filipino World War II veterans for their service to the United States;

Whereas, since June 8, 2016, the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program has allowed Filipino World War II veterans and certain family members to be reunited more expeditiously than the immigrant visa process allowed at that time;

Whereas, on December 14, 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-265; 130 Stat. 1376) to award Filipino veterans who fought alongside troops of the United States in World War II the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress;

Whereas, on October 25, 2017, the Congressional Gold Medal was presented to Filipino World War II veterans in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Building, a recognition for which the veterans had waited for more than 70 years;

Whereas Filipino Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that may be bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces, and continue to demonstrate a commendable sense of patriotism and honor in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Peter Aquino Aduja of Hawaii and the Thelma Garcia Buchholdt of Alaska became the first Filipino American elected to public office and the first Filipina American elected to a legislature in the United States, respectively, inspiring their fellow Filipino Americans to pursue public service in politics and government;

Whereas Filipino-American farmworkers and labor leaders, such as Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong, played an integral role in the multiethnic United Farm Workers movement, alongside Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and other Latino workers;

Whereas, on August 3, 1948, Victoria Manalo Draves became the first Filipino American and Asian American to win an Olympic Gold Medal;

Whereas, on April 25, 2012, President Barack Obama nominated Lorna G. Schofield to be a United States district judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and she was confirmed by the Senate on December 13, 2012, to be the first Filipina American in United States history to serve as an Article III Federal judge;

Whereas the Lahaina Filipino Fire Survivors Association found that Filipinos were the largest ethnic group affected by the 2023 Maui wildfires as they represented more than 40 percent of Lahaina's pre-fire population and continue to face challenges recov-

ering from the fire due in part to a lack of language accessible resources;

Whereas Filipino Americans play an integral role in the healthcare system of the United States as nurses, doctors, first responders, and other medical professionals, and approximately 1 in 4 working Filipino adults in the United States is a frontline healthcare worker;

Whereas Filipino Americans contribute greatly to music, dance, literature, education, business, hospitality, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, science, technology, the fine arts, and other fields that enrich the United States;

Whereas efforts should continue to promote the study of Filipino-American history and culture because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have largely been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of the history of the United States;

Whereas it is imperative for Filipino-American youth to have positive role models to instill—

(1) the significance of education, complemented by the richness of Filipino-American ethnicity; and

(2) the value of the Filipino-American legacy; and

Whereas it is essential to promote the understanding, education, and appreciation of the history and culture of Filipino Americans in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Filipino American History Month in October 2025 as—

(A) a testament to the advancement of Filipino Americans;

(B) a time to reflect on and remember the many notable contributions that Filipino Americans have made to the United States; and

(C) a time to renew efforts toward the research and examination of history and culture so as to provide an opportunity for all people of the United States to learn more about Filipino Americans and to appreciate the historic contributions of Filipino Americans to the United States; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe Filipino American History Month with appropriate programs and activities.

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SENATE RESOLUTION 424—AFFIRMING THE UNWAVERING COMMITMENT OF THE SENATE TO THE FIRST AMENDMENT AND TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND OF THE PRESS AS FOUNDATIONS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 424

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989), “If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.”;

Whereas the Supreme Court has held that government restrictions on viewpoint are presumptively unconstitutional;

Whereas, in *National Rifle Association of America v. Vullo*, 602 U.S. 175 (2024), the Supreme Court unanimously held that government officials cannot “use their regulatory powers to coerce individuals or entities into refraining from protected speech”;

Whereas, in the United States, the right to free speech is not conditioned on speech aligned with the Federal Government's views;

Whereas section 326 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 326) prohibits the Federal Communications Commission from engaging in censorship, providing that, “Nothing in this chapter shall be understood or construed to give the [Federal Communications] Commission the power of censorship. . . no regulation or condition shall be promulgated. . . which shall interfere with the right of free speech.”;

Whereas, in 2020, the Commission issued Free Press Emergency Petition for Inquiry Into Broadcast of False Information on COVID-19, Letter Order, 35 FCC Rcd. 3032, 3033 (MB & OGC 2020), in which it stated, “the Commission does not—and cannot and will not—act as a self-appointed, free-roving arbiter of truth in journalism”;

Whereas, on February 22, 2021, the Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr stated, “A newsroom's decision about what stories to cover and how to frame them should be beyond the reach of any government official, not targeted by them.”;

Whereas, on December 30, 2023, Chairman Carr posted on X, “Free speech is the counterweight—it is the check on government control. That is why censorship is the authoritarian's dream.”; and

Whereas President Donald J. Trump in his inaugural address for his second term stated, “Never again will the immense power of the state be weaponized to persecute political opponents.”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the President to commit to free speech, consistent with the Constitution of the United States;

(2) reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the First Amendment and to freedom of speech and of the press as foundations of the democratic republic of the United States;

(3) declares that media independence must be protected and licensing, regulatory authority, or other governmental powers must not be used to punish or intimidate media organizations for editorial content;

(4) condemns any threats to revoke, suspend, or penalize media licenses solely based on content or viewpoints;

(5) calls on the Federal Communications Commission Chairman, and the head of any other relevant Federal agency, to uphold constitutionally protected free speech and, as aligned with the duties of the agencies, affirm that they will not use licensing or regulations as a tool of repression; and

(6) rebukes the use of political violence against people exercising their protected free speech rights.

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SENATE RESOLUTION 425—HONORING THE LIFE OF HAYS, KANSAS POLICE SERGEANT SCOTT HEIMANN

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 425

Whereas Sergeant Scott Heimann served Hays, Kansas, with honor, courage, and dedication since 2016;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann was a constant presence in the community and frequently

went above and beyond as a positive role model to all that knew him;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann was a Hays, Kansas, resident who graduated from Thomas More Prep-Marian High School and attended the University of Kansas for 2 years before returning to Hays, Kansas;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann graduated from the 241st basic training class at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in 2016;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann received the Outstanding Eagle Scout in the Community award from the Coronado Area Council in 2019;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann was well received by local children during his 2021 reading sessions at Hays Public Library;

Whereas Sergeant Heimann is survived by his wife, Beth, his children, Patrick and Victoria, his parents, Bill and Teresa Heimann, and many other family members and friends; and

Whereas Sergeant Heimann was killed in the line of duty while responding to a domestic violence incident on September 27, 2025: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) highly appreciates and respects all that Sergeant Scott Heimann did to protect and serve his Kansas community;

(2) offers condolences to the family of Sergeant Scott Heimann;

(3) pays tribute to Sergeant Scott Heimann's noble sacrifice in the line of duty; and

(4) calls on all levels of government to support the family of this fallen officer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 426—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2025, THROUGH OCTOBER 11, 2025, AS “RELIGIOUS EDUCATION WEEK” TO CELEBRATE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. CURTIS, and Mrs. MOODY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 426

Whereas the free exercise of religion is an inherent, fundamental, and inalienable right protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas the United States has long recognized that the free exercise of religion is important to the intellectual, ethical, moral, and civic development of individuals in the United States, as evidenced by the Founders of the United States, such as—

(1) Benjamin Franklin, who believed religion to be “uniquely capable of educating a citizenry for democracy”; and

(2) George Washington, who said in his farewell address, “Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports.”;

Whereas religious education is useful for self-development because it asks students to consider and respond to questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life, engages stu-

dents in questions about morality and justice, and enables students to identify their values;

Whereas studies like the one published by the International Journal of Mental Health Systems in 2019 have shown that religious education can be “instrumental to improving adolescent mental health” by helping children learn how to make decisions based on morals, promoting less risky choices, and encouraging connectedness within a community, which can enhance self-esteem and well-being;

Whereas religious education fosters respect for other religious groups and individuals generally by acknowledging a source for human dignity and worth;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States found in *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925), that the State does not have power “to standardize its children by forcing them to accept instruction from public teachers only. The child is not the mere creature of the state; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations.”;

Whereas religious instruction can come from a variety of sources, including sectarian schools and released time programs;

Whereas, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2015, 4,350,000 children in the United States attended sectarian elementary and secondary schools where those children received religious education; and

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306 (1952), that State statutes providing for the release of public school students from school to attend religious classes are constitutional, and, as a result, an estimated 540,000 public school students in the United States take advantage of released time programs each year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms the importance of religious education in the civic and moral development of the people of the United States;

(2) celebrates the schools and organizations that are engaged in religious instruction of the children of the United States to aid those children in intellectual, ethical, moral, and civic development;

(3) calls on each of the 50 States, each territory of the United States, and the District of Columbia to accommodate individuals who wish to be released from public school attendance to attend religious classes; and

(4) designates the week of October 5, 2025, through October 11, 2025, as “Religious Education Week”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 427—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2025, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 427

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant element in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories,

and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, safe, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, trains, military vehicles, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide businesses and other energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can mimic the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year;

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen; and

Whereas the ingenuity of the people of the United States is essential to paving the way for the future use of hydrogen technologies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates October 8, 2025, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 428—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REED, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KING, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WARNER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MOODY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: