

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 451—CON-DEMNING ATTACKS ON FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 451

Whereas the Constitution of the United States establishes and assigns to the Federal Government the exclusive authority to regulate immigration and naturalization;

Whereas Immigration and Customs Enforcement (referred to in this preamble as “ICE”) is authorized under Federal law to execute the lawful deportation and removal of criminal aliens who have violated the immigration laws of the United States;

Whereas State and local policies that seek to nullify or obstruct Federal immigration enforcement violate the Constitution and the principles of federalism;

Whereas the situation in the State of Illinois, particularly in and around the city of Chicago, has deteriorated to a point where Federal facilities and personnel can no longer operate without significant protection and public safety has collapsed;

Whereas the city of Chicago has experienced catastrophic levels of violent crime, with 5,220 homicides between 2017 and 2024, an average of 652 per year, exceeding the annual combat deaths of United States forces in Iraq (435 per year from 2003 through 2010) and Afghanistan (141 per year from 2001 through 2014);

Whereas Chicago has become what can only be described as a combat zone, with certain police districts experiencing homicide rates exceeding 70 per 100,000 residents;

Whereas the Cook County State Attorney’s office implemented pro-criminal policies from 2017 through 2022 that have caused a dramatic increase in violent crime, including an increase in average annual homicides from 510 homicides from 2011 through 2016 to 652 homicides from 2017 through 2024, and an increase in reported rapes from an average of 1,486 per year from 2014 through 2016 to 1,804 per year from 2017 through 2022;

Whereas these prosecutorial policies included releasing violent criminals without appropriate bail and consequences, as well as undermining Illinois felony retail theft statutes by unilaterally raising the prosecution threshold from \$300 to \$1,000 in 2017, resulting in a dramatic increase in retail theft across the city;

Whereas such negligent criminal justice policies have created an environment in which violent criminals, including criminal aliens subject to deportation, operate with impunity;

Whereas Federal facilities in Illinois, including those directly supporting ICE, have come under coordinated assault by violent groups intent on obstructing Federal law enforcement activities;

Whereas these groups have sought to impede the deportation and removal of criminal aliens through violent demonstrations, intimidation, and sabotage of Federal operations;

Whereas these violent activities are increasing in frequency and intensity, threatening the safety of Federal law enforcement and personnel and compromising the integrity of Federal operations;

Whereas, while peaceful protest and political activism are protected rights under the

Constitution, such rights do not extend to violent assaults on Federal facilities, intimidation of Federal law enforcement, or sabotage of lawful operations;

Whereas acts of lawlessness and anarchy cannot be disguised as activism and political violence cannot be legitimized;

Whereas certain far-left State and local governments operate under a distorted understanding of federalism that runs only 1 way, demanding and expecting Federal funding and assistance while rejecting any reciprocal obligation to cooperate with Federal law enforcement agencies to ensure public safety and protect the lives of their residents;

Whereas the success of Federal law enforcement operations in Washington, D.C., which resulted in a nearly 60 percent reduction in homicides and a 17 percent decrease in violent crime following enhanced Federal enforcement beginning August 7, 2025, demonstrates that dramatic crime reduction is possible when there is political will to enforce the law;

Whereas the Mayor of Chicago has signed an executive order preventing city cooperation with Federal immigration authorities and has repeatedly affirmed the city’s intent to resist lawful ICE operations;

Whereas the National Fraternal Order of Police, the largest police union in the country, has condemned orders that prevent Chicago officers from assisting ICE when agents face violent resistance, endangering both Federal officers and the public;

Whereas the Governor of Illinois has demonized brave Federal law enforcement agents, including by publicly calling them “jackbooted thugs”;

Whereas ICE is facing a 500 percent increase in assaults while carrying out enforcement operations;

Whereas these activities are not occurring in isolation but are similar to ongoing efforts in multiple other States and cities around the country to disrupt the faithful enforcement of Federal law;

Whereas such obstruction threatens public safety, particularly in disadvantaged communities that bear the brunt of violent crime; and

Whereas the Federal Government has both the authority and the obligation to ensure that Federal law enforcement personnel can execute their lawfully assigned duties without violent interference and that the residents of Illinois, particularly those in the most vulnerable communities, are protected from rampant violent crime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns all attacks on Federal law enforcement in the State of Illinois;

(2) recognizes that the State government of Illinois and the city government of Chicago have failed in their fundamental obligation to protect their residents from violent crime;

(3) commends the brave men and women of Federal law enforcement and all support personnel for their heroic work during this public safety crisis in Illinois;

(4) condemns any and all efforts by State or local governments, or by organized groups to obstruct, impede, or interfere with the lawful execution of Federal immigration law enforcement operations;

(5) condemns the implementation of pro-criminal prosecutorial policies that have contributed to the dramatic increase in violent crime in Chicago;

(6) condemns the prioritization of politics over the safety and well-being of Illinois residents, particularly those in vulnerable communities;

(7) reaffirms the exclusive authority of the Federal Government to regulate immigration and to enforce immigration laws;

(8) recognizes that the Federal Government has a responsibility to protect all people of the United States from violent crime, particularly when State and local governments have abdicated this fundamental obligation through the implementation of failed criminal justice policies;

(9) supports all necessary measures to protect Federal law enforcement personnel and Federal facilities in Illinois from violent assault, intimidation, and obstruction;

(10) supports the prosecution, to the fullest extent of Federal law, of all individuals and groups who engage in violence, intimidation, or sabotage against Federal law enforcement; and

(11) encourages all State and local governments to support and protect our brave Federal law enforcement officers and support staff.

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 19, 2025, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 452

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including from schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young individuals are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that individuals do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, institutions and individuals that influence youth must make conscientious efforts to help young individuals develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young individuals to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of the young individuals in the United States, to adopt the elements of character, which are intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 19, 2025, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe National Character Counts Week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 453—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 7, 2025, AS “NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 453

Whereas direct care workers, including direct support professionals, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are key to providing publicly funded, long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals provide essential services that ensure that all individuals with disabilities are—

(1) included as a valued part of the communities in which those individuals live;

(2) supported at home, at work, and in the communities of the United States; and

(3) empowered to live with the dignity that all people of the United States deserve;

Whereas, by fostering connections between individuals with disabilities and their families, friends, and communities, direct support professionals ensure that individuals with disabilities thrive and provide an alternative to institutional care;

Whereas direct support professionals build close, respectful, and trusting relationships with individuals with disabilities and provide a broad range of personalized support to those individuals, including—

(1) helping individuals make person-centered choices;

(2) assisting with personal care, meal preparation, medication management, and other aspects of daily living;

(3) assisting individuals in accessing the community and securing competitive, integrated employment;

(4) providing transportation to school, work, religious, and recreational activities;

(5) helping with general daily affairs, such as assisting with financial matters, medical appointments, and personal interests; and

(6) assisting individuals in the transition to living in the communities of their choice;

Whereas there is a critical shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States, a crisis that was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing uncertainty and risk to individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals do not have their own Standard Occupational Classification for the purposes of Federal data collection, including data produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor;

Whereas the Director of the Office of Management and Budget should, as part of the current revision of the Standard Occupational Classification system, consider establishing a separate code for direct support professionals as a healthcare support occupation;

Whereas the direct care workforce, including direct support professionals, is expected to be among the fastest growing occupations in the United States;

Whereas many direct support professionals—

(1) may be the primary financial providers for their families;

(2) are hardworking, taxpaying citizens who provide a critical service in the United States; and

(3) continue to earn low wages, receive inadequate benefits, and have limited opportunities for advancement, resulting in high turnover and vacancy rates that adversely affect the quality of support, safety, and health of individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999)—

(1) recognized the importance of the deinstitutionalization of, and community-based services for, individuals with disabilities; and

(2) held that, under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), a State must provide person-centered, community-based service options to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 7, 2025, as “National Direct Support Professionals Week”; and

(2) recognizes the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities;

(3) appreciates the contribution of direct support professionals in supporting individuals with disabilities in the United States and the families of those individuals;

(4) commends direct support professionals for being integral to the provision of long-term support and services for individuals with disabilities; and

(5) finds that the successful implementation of public policies affecting individuals with disabilities in the United States can depend on the dedication of direct support professionals.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3012

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3012) to appropriate funds for pay and allowances of excepted Federal employees for periods of work performed during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 449.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 449) designating the week beginning on October 12, 2025, as “National Wildlife Refuge Week”.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 449) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of October 9, 2025, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. THUNE. 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. 452 and S. Res. 453.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles agreed to, and 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.”)