S. Res. 473. A resolution commemorating the seventh anniversary of the murder of Jamal Khashoggi and calling for accountability; to the Committee on Foreign Relations

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. KAINE):

S. Res. 474. A resolution designating October 2025 as "National Country Music Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. Heinrich, Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Barrasso, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Booker, Mr. Boozman, Mr. Coons, Mr. Cramer, Ms. Duckworth, Mr. Hickenlooper, Mrs. Hyde-Smith, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Luján, Ms. Lummis, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Moran, Mr. Mullin, Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Rounds, Mr. Scott of Florida, Ms. Smith, Mr. Sheehy, Mr. Thune, Ms. Warren, and Mr. White-House):

S. Res. 475. A resolution designating November 1, 2025, as "National Bison Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 752

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines.

S. 1173

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1173, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify and preserve the breadth of the protections under the Medicare Secondary Payer Act.

S. 1220

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Luján) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1220, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a Savings Opportunity and Affordable Repayment plan as an income contingent repayment plan.

S. 1370

At the request of Mr. Heinrich, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. Alsobrooks) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1370, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1538

At the request of Mr. Blumenthal, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. Schatz) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1538, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 1677

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1677, a bill to provide health insurance benefits for outpatient and inpatient items and services related to the diagnosis and treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 1716

At the request of Mr. Cramer, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. Capito) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1716, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1795

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. Britt) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1795, a bill to modify the program of grants to support high-quality charter schools.

S. 1802

At the request of Mr. Scott of Florida, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. McCormick) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1802, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit the National Institutes of Health from awarding any support for an activity or program that uses live animals in research unless the research occurs in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1866

At the request of Ms. Baldwin, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1866, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and improve the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program for fiscal years 2026 through 2030, and for other purposes.

S. 2663

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2663, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 to generally permit holding merchant banking investments of up to 15 years.

S. 2742

At the request of Mr. Lee, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2742, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the reallocation of applicable volumes for small refineries under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes.

S. 2858

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2858, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 2961

At the request of Mr. Banks, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Scott) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2961, a bill to direct the United States Postal Service to designate single, unique ZIP Codes for certain communities, and for other purposes.

S. 3024

At the request of Mr. Sanders, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3024, a bill to appropriate funds to ensure uninterrupted benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

At the request of Ms. Klobuchar, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3024, supra.

At the request of Mr. Luján, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3024, supra.

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Gallego), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Heinrich), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 3024, supra.

S. 3030

At the request of Mr. Sullivan, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Gallego) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3030, a bill making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown, and for other purposes.

S. 3031

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3031, a bill making continuing appropriations for essential Federal Aviation Administration and Transportation Security Administration pay and operations in the event of a Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes.

S. 3062

At the request of Mr. Hawley, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Gallego) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3062, a bill to require artificial intelligence chatbots to implement age verification measures and make certain disclosures, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 374

At the request of Ms. ALSOBROOKS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 374, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert Fitzgerald Kennedy, Jr. does not have the confidence of the Senate or of the American people to faithfully carry out the duties of his office and should be removed from his position.

S. RES. 470

At the request of Ms. Rosen, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Cortez Masto) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 470, a resolution condemning any financial compensation from the Department of Justice to President Donald Trump tied to previous Federal investigations into his unlawful actions.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 472—SUP-PORTING THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 30 AS THE "INTER-NATIONAL DAY OF POLITICAL PRISONERS"

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. WHITE-HOUSE, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 472

Whereas there are an estimated 1,000,000 political prisoners throughout the world, including journalists, academics, political opposition activists, dissidents, anti-war campaigners, and human rights defenders, who have been detained, arrested, imprisoned, convicted, and otherwise punished for political motives without connection to any credible offense:

Whereas authoritarian and repressive regimes around the world, including the Republic of Belarus, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, have engaged in systematic imprisonment of independent voices;

Whereas, in 2024 and 2025, the United States Government, through bilateral and multilateral negotiations, secured the release of several dozen political prisoners from the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela:

Whereas, on October 30, 1974, Ukrainian and Russian prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Gulag initiated the tradition of marking an annual "Day of Political Prisoners" in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (referred to in this Preamble as "USSR") to draw public attention to the plight of those imprisoned for their political or religious beliefs and to express solidarity with them; and

Whereas, in subsequent years, the Day of Political Prisoners, was marked on October 30 by hunger strikes by prisoners inside the Soviet Gulag and by public demonstrations of solidarity in cities across the USSR: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate-

- (1) deplores all forms of political repression and imprisonment;
- (2) conveys its unwavering solidarity with all those who are imprisoned around the world for peacefully expressing their political or religious beliefs:
- (3) supports efforts by the United States Government—
- (A) to condemn political imprisonment;
- (B) to hold accountable any regime that is responsible for persecuting and imprisoning dissenters;
- (C) to raise international awareness of political prisoners; and
- (D) to secure the release of such political prisoners through bilateral and multilateral negotiations with other countries;
- (4) urges the United States Government to continue such efforts in the future; and
- (5) supports the annual designation of October 30 in the United States as the "International Day of Political Prisoners".

SENATE RESOLUTION 473—COM-MEMORATING THE SEVENTH AN-NIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF JAMAL KHASHOGGI AND CALL-ING FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. Warner, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Booker, Mr. Coons, Ms. Duckworth, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Heinrich, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Kim, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Merkley, Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Van Hollen, Ms. Warren, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Wyden) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 473

Whereas Jamal Khashoggi was a Saudi journalist, author, and a former general manager and editor-in-chief of Al-Arab News Channel who fled Saudi Arabia in June 2017 and went into self-imposed exile in Virginia in the United States:

Whereas, on September 18, 2017, Jamal Khashoggi published his first article in the Washington Post, stating, "I have left my home, my family and my job, and I am raising my voice. To do otherwise would betray those who languish in prison. I can speak when so many cannot. I want you to know that Saudi Arabia has not always been as it is now. We Saudis deserve better.";

Whereas, on October 2, 2018, Jamal Khashoggi was brutally killed and dismembered by agents of the Government of Saudi Arabia in the consulate of Saudi Arabia in Istanbul, Turkey;

Whereas, in February 2021, the Government of the United States submitted an unclassified report to Congress, providing transparency on the killing and announced the Khashoggi Ban, a measure that allows the Department of State to impose visa restrictions on individuals who "directly engage in serious, extraterritorial counter-dissident activities, including those that suppress, harass, surveil, threaten, or harm journalists, activists, or other persons perceived to be dissidents";

Whereas the Office of the Director of National Intelligence found that the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Muhammad bin Salman, approved an operation in Istanbul, Turkey, to capture or kill Jamal Khashoggi;

Whereas, since the brutal murder of Jamal Khashoggi, the Government of Saudi Arabia continues to crack down on free expression through the use of enforced disappearances, unjust detentions, threats, intimidation, executions, and transnational repression;

Whereas Freedom House defines transnational repression as "governments reaching across borders to silence dissent among diasporas and exiles, including through assassinations, illegal deportations, abductions, digital threats, Interpol abuse, and family intimidation";

Whereas, according to Freedom House, the Governments of Iran, the People's Republic of China, Egypt, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, and other states are increasingly disregarding the laws of the United States to threaten, harass, surveil, stalk, and, in some cases, plot physical harm to individuals across the United States;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, governments that perpetrate tactics of transnational repression regularly reach beyond their borders to intimidate journalists and suppress truthful reporting;

Whereas, since 2014, 26 governments have carried out 124 incidents of transnational repression against exiled journalists;

Whereas, on June 17, 2025, the leaders of the G7 recognized transnational repression as a global threat to national security and democracy;

Whereas citizens of the United States Areej al-Sadhan, sister of detained humanitarian aid worker Abdulrahman al-Sadhan, and Abdullah Alaoudh of Virginia, son of detained scholar Salman Alodah, have been subject to intimidation and harassment in the United States:

Whereas, in August 2022, a former Twitter employee was found guilty of acting as an unregistered agent of the Government of Saudi Arabia, spying on Saudi dissidents and sharing their private information with Saudi leadership;

Whereas Saudi officials have continued to arrest, ban the travel of, and otherwise intimidate women and women human rights defenders, including Loujain Alhathloul, Manahel and Fouz al-Otaibi, Dr. Lina al-Sharif, Salma al-Shehab, and Nourah al-Qahtani:

Whereas Saudi border security systematically killed hundreds of Ethiopian migrants, including women and children, crossing the Saudi-Yemeni border between March 2022 and June 2023, subjecting others to brutal violence and sexual assault;

Whereas Saudi officials continue to unjustly imprison and ban individuals from the United States from travel, including Aziza Yousef and Saad Almadi;

Whereas Turki al-Jasser, a journalist and founder of the news blog Al-Mashhad Al-Saudi, was executed on June 14, 2025, after 7 years of arbitrary imprisonment in Saudi Arabia:

Whereas Saudi human rights abuses, including against individuals of the United States, place unnecessary strain on the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship, which is an essential element of regional stability; and

Whereas the United States has an important strategic relationship with Saudi Arabia, one based on a long history of cooperation on regional security issues and energy supply: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) acknowledges the Government of the United States has sanctioned 17 Saudi individuals under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) for their roles in the murder of Jamal Khashoggi; and
- (2) calls for the Government of Saudi Arabia to—
- (A) ensure appropriate accountability for all individuals responsible for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, including the individuals sanctioned by the United States;
- (B) release all individuals wrongfully detained, including Nourah al-Qahtani, Abdulrahman Alsadhan, Salman Alodah, Waleed Abu al-Khair, and Sarah and Omar Aljabri; and
- (C) respect the rights of Saudi citizens and ensure the protection of the freedoms of assembly, association, and the press.

SENATE RESOLUTION 474—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2025 AS "NATIONAL COUNTRY MUSIC MONTH"

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 474

Whereas country music, a uniquely American sound, echoes from the backroads of the United States to the streets of Nashville, Tennessee;