

CORNYN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 236, a resolution calling for the return of abducted Ukrainian children before finalizing any peace agreement to end the war against Ukraine.

S. RES. 463

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 463, a resolution expressing condemnation of the Chinese Communist Party's persecution of religious minority groups, including Christians, Muslims, and Buddhists and the detention of Pastor "Ezra" Jin Mingri and leaders of the Zion Church, and reaffirming the United States' global commitment to promote religious freedom and tolerance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 3145. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test a comprehensive alternative response for emergencies model under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague from Vermont, Senator WELCH, to introduce the Comprehensive Alternative Response to Emergencies Act, or the CARE Act. Our bipartisan legislation would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to test a 5 year treatment-in-place model for Medicare. This model, also known as TIP, is the practice of treating patients in their homes or where a medical emergency occurs. The pilot program in our bill would reimburse EMS for the care they administer to seniors in emergencies outside of the hospital, such as for minor medical incidents. This program would expand access to health services for seniors, especially in rural communities, while reducing unnecessary emergency room visits and expenses.

Emergency room doctors throughout Maine often tell me about the frequent backlogs and long wait times that patients experience in waiting rooms. One way to address this problem is to reduce the number of nonessential emergency room visits. By creating a pathway to reimburse EMS for treating certain patients at home, the CARE Act will help decrease the number of emergency room visits and lengthy wait times.

When EMS arrives after a 9-1-1 call, they usually transport patients to the emergency department immediately. Many patients, however, may not need emergency services from a hospital and could be better served by receiving treatment "in place." EMS is capable of providing a host of interventions,

such as treating hypoglycemia for a patient with a diabetic emergency or responding to routine, chronic seizures.

Most insurance plans, including Medicare, do not reimburse emergency medical services unless the patient is transported to the hospital. The current payment model can thus incentivize transportation to the hospital even when a less expensive level of care is appropriate.

The CARE Act will also help support EMS providers' long-term financial viability. According to the Maine Ambulance Association, approximately 35 percent of EMS calls conclude without transport. Without reimbursement, EMS providers must absorb the costs of these calls, further challenging the sustainability of their operations. The treatment-in-place pilot program proposed by our legislation offers a solution to this financial burden by reimbursing EMS for this kind of care.

This model also saves Medicare money. When CMS implemented a trial version of TIP during the COVID-19 pandemic, the program demonstrated more than \$500 net savings to Medicare per patient encounter.

This commonsense bill builds on the past success of TIP. TIP increases communities at a time when EMS is facing historic staffing and financial challenges, by removing the need for time-consuming transport. The reimbursement of a TIP encounter is only a fraction of the cost of ambulance transport and a hospital emergency department visit.

Reducing unnecessary emergency room visits, lowering costs, and easing the strain on our hospital and EMS workforce will help improve care overall. The CARE Act presents an opportunity to further test the TIP model and improve patient care, while supporting the brave first responders who save countless lives in our communities. Our bill is supported by the

American Ambulance Association, the Maine Ambulance Association, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, the National Rural Healthcare Association, the National EMS Quality Alliance, and many other local EMS organizations around the country. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 486—CONDEMNING THE SUGGESTION BY PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP THAT CRITICISM OF HIM IS "ILLEGAL," REAFFIRMING THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF FREE SPEECH, AND DECLARING THAT CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT ONLY LAWFUL BUT ESSENTIAL TO DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 486

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.":

Whereas robust public debate and criticism of those who hold public office lie at the core of democratic governance, which includes the proposition that the right to speak, publish, and dissent is fundamental to a self-governing people;

Whereas the institution of the presidency, like all offices of government in the United States, is subject to public scrutiny, criticism, and accountability;

Whereas, on November 1, 2025, President Donald J. Trump posted on social media that commentary by comedian Seth Meyers was "100% ANTI TRUMP" and therefore "PROBABLY ILLEGAL";

Whereas President Trump has previously attacked late-night comedians and urged the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission to punish broadcasters that air the comedians' political commentary by revoking their broadcast licenses;

Whereas Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr has demonstrated a willingness to weaponize the Commission's authority over broadcasters for political purposes, including, in September 2025, in response to a monologue delivered by comedian Jimmy Kimmel, by publicly threatening ABC and its parent company Disney, stating that "we can do this the easy way or the hard way," in clear reference to the Commission's regulatory power;

Whereas President Trump's social media post and the repeated actions of the Trump administration suggest that they view criticism of President Trump as illegal and subject to regulatory punishment;

Whereas such episodes serve as a reminder that when government officials treat criticism—especially of themselves—as unlawful, they undermine the basic premise of free and open political discourse; and

Whereas the right to criticize the president is not only lawfully protected but politically essential, and the ability of citizens, the press, and elected representatives to question, challenge, and hold the executive branch to account is foundational to the health of democracy in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns any suggestion by President Donald J. Trump or his administration that criticism of President Trump is illegal or that governmental power may lawfully be used to punish, censor, or intimidate dissenting views;

(2) affirms that the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States protects the right to criticize public officials, including the President of the United States, and to engage in vigorous public debate without fear of governmental retaliation; and

(3) urges all officials of the Trump administration to refrain from using regulatory, licensing, investigative, or enforcement authorities to penalize or suppress speech that criticizes President Trump or the policies of his administration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 487—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 3, 2025, AS "NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WEEK"

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred

to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 487

Whereas all children and youth learn best when they are healthy, supported, and receive an education that meets their individual needs;

Whereas schools can more effectively ensure that all students are ready and able to learn if schools meet all the needs of each student;

Whereas learning and development are directly linked to the mental health of children, and a supportive learning environment is an optimal place to promote mental health;

Whereas sound psychological principles are critical to proper instruction and learning, social and emotional development, prevention and early intervention, and support for a culturally diverse student population;

Whereas school psychologists are specially trained to deliver academic support and mental health services that lower barriers to learning and allow teachers to teach more effectively;

Whereas school psychologists facilitate collaboration that helps parents and educators to identify and reduce risk factors, promote protective factors, create safe schools, and access community resources;

Whereas school psychologists are trained to assess barriers to learning, utilize data-based decisionmaking, implement research-driven prevention and intervention strategies, evaluate outcomes, and improve accountability;

Whereas State educational agencies and other State entities credential more than 44,000 school psychologists who practice in schools in the United States as key professionals that promote the learning and mental health of all children;

Whereas professional organizations, such as the National Association of School Psychologists and the American Psychological Association, help establish standards for the training and practice of school psychologists;

Whereas the people of the United States should recognize the vital role school psychologists play in the personal and academic development of children in the United States; and

Whereas the week beginning on November 3, 2025, would be an appropriate week to designate as “National School Psychology Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week beginning on November 3, 2025, as “National School Psychology Week”;

(2) honors and recognizes the contributions of school psychologists to the success of students in schools across the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the vital role school psychologists play in schools, in the community, and in helping students develop into successful and productive members of society.

SENATE RESOLUTION 488—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE EUROPEAN UNION'S ACTIONS TO DIVERSIFY FROM RUSSIAN ENERGY SOURCES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. KAINE, Mr.

CURTIS, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 488

Whereas the Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has demonstrated the strategic risks of Europe's dependence on the Russian Federation for energy, specifically oil and gas;

Whereas, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the United States, the European Union, and their partners imposed a broad, punitive sanctions on Russia that limited Russia's income sources from energy;

Whereas, in May 2022, the European Commission launched the REPowerEU initiative to phase out dependence on Russian energy sources before 2028, with milestones to stop existing spot contracts of Russian gas by the end of 2025 and to stop all imports of Russian liquefied natural gas by the end of 2027;

Whereas, since February 2022, the European Union has subsequently reduced its dependence on Russian fossil fuels by approximately 90 percent by cutting oil imports by more than 90 percent and reducing pipeline gas deliveries by roughly 80 percent;

Whereas most countries have undertaken significant measures to reduce their Russian energy imports in accordance with the REPowerEU initiative, Hungary and Slovakia have requested exemptions to the timeline and Hungary has actually increased its dependence on Russian energy by an estimated 30 percent since February 2022, by providing approximately \$6,700,000,000 of substantial revenues to Russia between February 24, 2022 and December 31, 2024 for crude oil alone;

Whereas, on September 23, 2025, President Donald Trump said European member states had “to immediately cease all energy purchases from Russia”;

Whereas, on October 23, 2025, the Council of the European Union adopted the 19th package of restrictive measures against the Russian Federation, including—

(1) a ban on imports of Russian liquefied natural gas into the European Union;

(2) a full transaction ban on Rosneft and Gazprom Neft;

(3) measures against third country operators (which enable Russia's revenue streams), 2 Chinese refineries, and a Chinese oil trader; and

(4) strengthened enforcement against maritime circumvention and the “shadow fleet”;

Whereas, on October 22, 2025, the United States imposed secondary sanctions on Lukoil and Rosneft; and

Whereas European Union member states Bulgaria and Hungary purchase Russian fossil fuels through Lukoil: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes the European Union's commitment and actions—

(A) to end its dependence on Russian fossil fuels; and

(B) to deny Vladimir Putin a critical source of revenue to continue funding Russia's war campaign in Ukraine;

(2) welcomes the Trump Administration's recent decision to sanction Rosneft and Lukoil and calls on United States allies and partners to terminate all contracts associated with both companies to avoid potential exposure to secondary sanctions;

(3) encourages continued coordinated action among the United States and the Group of Seven countries, in addition to concerted action with the European Union and the United Kingdom to apply additional sanctions on Russian energy sources;

(4) expresses concern that Hungary has shown no sign of reducing its dependence on Russian fossil fuels;

(5) calls on Hungary and remaining consumers of Russian energy to fully adhere to the timeline agreed to in the REPowerEU initiative; and

(6) underscores continued bipartisan opposition to the Nord Stream I and II pipeline projects and any effort to revive them, regardless of the home country of individuals or entities involved.

SENATE RESOLUTION 489—COMMENDING DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY IN CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI, FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 489

Whereas, on February 19, 1924, Mississippi State Senator W.B. Roberts and Mississippi State Senator Arthur L. Marshall introduced Mississippi Senate Bill 263, and on April 9, 1924, Mississippi Governor Henry L. Whitfield signed Mississippi Senate Bill 263 into law, creating Delta State Teachers College;

Whereas Delta State Teachers College opened its doors officially on September 15, 1925, to 97 students and 11 faculty;

Whereas the first graduation at Delta State was held in June 1928, with 13 students receiving Bachelor of Science degrees;

Whereas the Delta Council was organized at Delta State on March 5, 1935, and Delta State President William M. Kethley served as its first president;

Whereas the Marshall Plan was first announced at Delta State by Under Secretary of State Dean Acheson on May 8, 1947;

Whereas Delta State Teachers College officially became Delta State College on February 16, 1955;

Whereas, in the summer of 1965, Delta State added a graduate program, which was a great step forward in providing additional training for the excellent teachers it had been educating since its establishment;

Whereas, on March 15, 1974, Delta State College became Delta State University;

Whereas Delta State University worked to create the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area, which was officially designated by Congress in 2009 and is 1 of 55 National Heritage Areas in the United States designated by Congress to tell nationally important stories, celebrating the diverse heritage of the United States through community-based partnerships and local collaboration;

Whereas Delta State University partnered with the local community to attract to Cleveland, Mississippi, the Grammy Museum Mississippi, which opened on March 5, 2016, to honor Mississippi's profound influence on music in the United States and inspire the next generation of creators;

Whereas the Delta State University Statesmen and Lady Statesmen are composed of the 15 intercollegiate varsity sports that represent Delta State University in the Gulf South Conference;

Whereas the Delta State University Statesmen and Lady Statesmen have a strong tradition of excellence in athletics, serving as charter members of the Gulf South Conference and boasting 14 national championships, including 6 in women's basketball, 1 in baseball, 1 in football, and 6 in swimming and diving;