

(ii) the number of 24-hour periods during which the Government shutdown is in effect which occur during the pay period; and

(B) deposit in an escrow account all amounts withheld under subparagraph (A).

(2) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this subsection is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the compensation of Senators in violation of the 27th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Secretary of the Senate shall release for payments to Senators any amounts remaining in any escrow account under this subsection on the pay reduction effective date.

(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall apply with respect to days during the period beginning on the date of adoption of this resolution and ending on the pay reduction effective date.

SENATE RESOLUTION 494—OBSERVING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE SS EDMUND FITZGERALD SANK IN LAKE SUPERIOR, AND REMEMBERING THE 29 LIVES LOST IN ONE OF THE WORST STORMS EVER RECORDED ON THE GREAT LAKES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. SLOTKIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 494

Whereas, on November 9, 1975, the *Fitzgerald* left the port of Superior, Wisconsin, captained by Ernest McSorley with a crew of 28 men;

Whereas Captain McSorley had 44 years of experience and a crew of men from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, and California;

Whereas the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald* measured 729 feet long and, at the time of construction, was the largest ore freighter on the Great Lakes, earning it the nicknames "The Pride of the American Side," "The Mighty Fitz," and "The Titanic of the Great Lakes";

Whereas the *Fitzgerald* set multiple records, often beating its own records for the most cargo carried in a single shipping season and was the first ship to carry 1,000,000 tons of iron ore through the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan;

Whereas the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald* hauled 26,116 tons of iron ore pellets destined for steel mills to be used in the production of automobiles;

Whereas the storm on November 10, 1975, was named "the storm of the century," with gales of 100 miles per hour and 50-foot waves;

Whereas the Great Lakes region is the third largest economy in the world, and its maritime system is the backbone of the region's economy, supporting the livelihoods of farmers, fishers, iron ore miners, steelworkers, shippers, and manufacturers;

Whereas the investigation of the wreck by the Coast Guard led to policy changes that continue to improve the safety of shipping on the Great Lakes, including the deployment of buoys to monitor lake conditions, an effort which later grew into the Coastal-Marine Automated Network; and

Whereas the final voyage of the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald* was immortalized in Gordon Lightfoot's famed ballad "The Wreck of the *Edmund Fitzgerald*," helping to ensure that the ship and its crew are never forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of the wreck of the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald*;

(2) expresses its support to the families of those who lost their lives;

(3) commends the courageous work of the rescue crews, the Coast Guard, and the commercial vessels and their crews that assisted in the initial search for survivors;

(4) recognizes Gordon Lightfoot and all those who reside in the Great Lakes region who carry on the legacy of the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald* every day; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to ensuring safe shipping on the Great Lakes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 495—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND HONORING THE UNITED STATES VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING THE CONFLICT

Mr. MORAN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. GALLEG0) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 495

Whereas, between October 1955 and May 7, 1975, the Armed Forces of the United States supported the cause of freedom in South Vietnam, beginning with the commencement of the Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam;

Whereas, on January 12, 1962, the United States carried out its first combat mission in Vietnam, in support of the Republic of Vietnam against the communist forces of North Vietnam and the Viet Cong;

Whereas, in 1965, ground combat units of the Armed Forces of the United States arrived in the Republic of Vietnam to join approximately 23,000 personnel of the Armed Forces who were already present there;

Whereas, by 1969, the number of such troops reached a peak of approximately 549,500, including members of the Armed Forces in the region who were supporting the combat operations;

Whereas more than 10,000,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States served worldwide during the Vietnam War era;

Whereas the members of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in Vietnam included approximately 10,000 women, who served as nurses, physicians, air traffic controllers, in military intelligence, in administrative roles, and in many other capacities;

Whereas 58,281 members of the Armed Forces of the United States lost their lives in the Vietnam War, more than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam, and 771 endured the hardships of being prisoners of war, with 113 dying while in internment;

Whereas 1,545 members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in Vietnam remain missing and unaccounted for, and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) continues its diligent efforts to locate, identify, and repatriate their remains, providing closure to families and honoring the commitment to leave no one behind;

Whereas significant battles, including the Tet Offensive (1968), the Battle of Hue (1968), the Battle of Khe Sanh (1968), the Easter Offensive (1972), and the Battle of Hamburger Hill (1969), exemplify the courage and commitment to duty of members of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas, throughout the Vietnam War, indigenous forces such as the Hmong, Montagnard, and Lao guerrillas provided in-

valuable support to the Armed Forces of the United States, serving as scouts, fighters, and intelligence operatives, often at great personal risk to themselves and their families, and many of those allies and their families have since sought refuge in the United States;

Whereas, throughout much of the war, American Red Cross volunteers, including 627 young women who were part of the organization's Supplemental Recreation Activities Overseas (SRAO) program, known affectionately as the "Donut Dollies," volunteered to be sent to the front lines to support members of the Armed Forces of the United States directly engaged with the enemy, sharing with military personnel the hardships, privation, and dangers of life in a war zone;

Whereas the Donut Dollies, building on the legacies of the American Red Cross volunteers who provided moral support to members of the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II and the Korean War, traveled an average of 27,000 miles every month by jeep, truck, airplane, and helicopter to provide recreation programs for members of the Armed Forces at 28 SRAO unit locations throughout Vietnam;

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Paris Peace Accords were signed, officially ending hostilities between the United States and North Vietnam, leading to the withdrawal of United States combat forces and the increased return of American prisoners of war to the United States;

Whereas, from February 12, 1973, to March 29, 1973, Operation Homecoming transported 591 American military and civilian prisoners home to the United States;

Whereas, on April 30, 1975, the fall of Saigon marked the final chapter of the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War, culminating in the dramatic and heroic evacuation of United States personnel and thousands of South Vietnamese allies, a moment forever etched in history as a testament to the commitment of the United States to those who stood alongside its forces;

Whereas, in the years following the war, hundreds of thousands of refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos fled persecution and hardship under communist rule in search of freedom and safety, with many finding new homes and opportunities in the United States, enriching the Nation with their resilience and contributions to their new communities;

Whereas many returning Vietnam veterans faced mistreatment, discrimination, and a lack of recognition and appreciation for their service;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were repeatedly targeted with criticism and disparagement as the result of decisions that were beyond their control;

Whereas Vietnam Veterans of America, the only congressionally chartered national organization exclusively dedicated to Vietnam veterans and their families, was founded in 1978 by Vietnam veterans seeking recognition and advocacy for their unique needs, growing from modest beginnings into a respected national institution with more than 600 chapters worldwide, providing steadfast service, legal assistance, and legislative leadership to advance the welfare, rights, and dignity of Vietnam veterans and their communities;

Whereas many thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War were exposed to Agent Orange and other harmful herbicides during the course of their service, carrying home delayed wounds of toxic exposure such that Congress passed the Agent Orange Act of 1991

(Public Law 102-4), leading to the recognition of Agent Orange as a presumptive hazard and paving the way for benefits for affected veterans;

Whereas the Agent Orange Act of 1991, and research conducted pursuant to that law, yielded new presumptions of service connection related to herbicide exposure and provided a blueprint for Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs to address military toxic exposures encountered by succeeding generations of veterans, culminating in the passage of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-168) (commonly known as the "PACT Act");

Whereas the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, completed in 1982, stands as a lasting tribute to those who lost their lives in the conflict, with its black granite walls inscribed with the names of the fallen, offering a place of reflection and remembrance for their loved ones and fellow citizens;

Whereas the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, DC, dedicated in 1993 as the first national memorial to female veterans, honors the heroic service and sacrifices made by the many women who served in Vietnam, often as medical personnel rendering the final care and comfort to their dying comrades;

Whereas the thousands of Gold Star families that remember loved ones lost continue to maintain the legacy of Vietnam veterans who answered the Nation's call to defend freedom and made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; and

Whereas The Wall That Heals, a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and other community-based replica Walls across the country provide veterans and their families with opportunities to pay tribute and find solace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War;

(2) honors and expresses profound gratitude to the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served with bravery, courage, dedication, sacrifice, and selflessness in the Vietnam War;

(3) remembers and pays tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War and those who remain missing in action from that conflict;

(4) commends the work of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in its continued mission to bring home the 1,545 members of the Armed Forces of the United States who remain missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, and urges DPAA to redouble efforts to bring all of the United States' fallen sons and daughters home;

(5) acclaims the work of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration for its mission to recognize, thank, and honor Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice;

(6) acknowledges the challenges and hardships faced by Vietnam veterans upon their return home and reaffirms the Nation's respect and appreciation for their service;

(7) recognizes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, The Wall That Heals, and other tribute sites as enduring symbols of remembrance and national gratitude;

(8) commits to ensuring the well-being and support of Vietnam veterans, particularly those affected by Agent Orange and herbicide exposure;

(9) underscores the importance of a new spirit of 21st century cooperation and partnership between former enemies engaging in diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation;

(10) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29 and remember the commitment to duty demonstrated by Vietnam veterans;

(11) reaffirms the importance of educating future generations about the Vietnam War and the sacrifices made by those who served, ensuring their legacy is never forgotten; and

(12) lauds the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress, which continues to gather firsthand accounts and record the recollections of veterans who served in the Vietnam War, preserving their stories for future generations of Americans.

SENATE RESOLUTION 496—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 8, 2025, AS "NATIONAL FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE CELEBRATION DAY"

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LUJAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 496

Whereas a "first-generation college student" means an individual whose parents did not complete a baccalaureate degree, or in the case of any individual who regularly resided with and received support from only 1 parent, an individual whose parent did not complete a baccalaureate degree;

Whereas November 8 honors the anniversary of the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) by President Lyndon B. Johnson on November 8, 1965;

Whereas the Higher Education Act of 1965 was focused on increasing postsecondary education access and success for students, particularly low-income and first-generation college students;

Whereas the Higher Education Act of 1965 helped usher in programs necessary for low-income, first-generation college students to access, remain in, and complete postsecondary education, including the Federal TRIO programs under chapter 1 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 et seq.) and the Federal Pell Grant program under section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a);

Whereas the Federal TRIO programs are the primary national effort supporting underrepresented students in postsecondary education and are designed to identify individuals from low-income backgrounds that would be first-generation college students and prepare them for postsecondary education, provide them support services, and motivate and prepare them for doctoral programs;

Whereas the Federal Pell Grant program under section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) is the primary Federal investment in financial aid for low-income college students and is used by students at institutions of higher education of their choice;

Whereas first-generation college students may face additional academic, financial, and social challenges that their peers do not face in pursuing higher education;

Whereas 54 percent of all college students pursuing degrees at the time of the introduction of this resolution are first-generation college students;

Whereas the Council for Opportunity in Education and FirstGen Forward, formerly

the Center for First-generation Student Success, jointly launched the inaugural First-Generation College Celebration in 2017; and

Whereas the First-Generation College Celebration has continued to grow, and institutions of higher education, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and elementary and secondary schools now celebrate November 8 as "First-Generation College Celebration Day"; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of November 8, 2025, as "National First-Generation College Celebration Day"; and

(2) urges all people of the United States to—

(A) celebrate "National First-Generation College Celebration Day" throughout the United States;

(B) recognize the important role that first-generation college students play in helping to develop the future workforce; and

(C) celebrate the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) and its programs that help underrepresented students access higher education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 497—PERMITTING THE COLLECTION OF CLOTHING, TOYS, FOOD, AND HOUSEWARES DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN SENATE BUILDINGS

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 497

Resolved,

SECTION 1. COLLECTION OF CLOTHING, TOYS, FOOD, AND HOUSEWARES DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN SENATE BUILDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of the rules or regulations of the Senate—

(1) a Senator, officer of the Senate, or employee of the Senate may collect from another Senator, officer of the Senate, or employee of the Senate within a Senate building or other office secured for a Senator non-monetary donations of clothing, toys, food, and housewares for charitable purposes related to serving persons in need or members of the Armed Forces and the families of those members during the holiday season, if the charitable purposes do not otherwise violate any rule or regulation of the Senate or Federal law; and

(2) a Senator, officer of the Senate, or employee of the Senate may work with a nonprofit organization with respect to the delivery of donations described under paragraph (1).

(b) EXPIRATION.—The authority provided by this resolution shall expire at the end of the first session of the 119th Congress.

SENATE RESOLUTION 498—HONORING DR. JANE GOODALL AND HER LEGACY AS AN ETHOLOGIST, CONSERVATIONIST, AND ACTIVIST

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 498

Whereas Dr. Jane Goodall, born Valerie Jane Morris-Goodall on April 3, 1934, was a