

from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 525, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of the Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3403. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require the President to provide assistance for predisaster hazard mitigation measures and adjust the Federal cost share for certain building resilient infrastructure and communities projects, and for other projects; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the Building Resilience and Stronger Communities Act, along with Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska. Our bipartisan bill would reinstate the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, BRIC Program at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, and protect it against elimination in the future. It would also make it easier for smaller communities to access funding by increasing the Federal cost-share for small projects and for projects that protect critical facilities, and it would ensure that Tribes will be able to access funding under the program.

Established by Congress in the Disaster Recovery Reform Act and signed into law by President Trump in 2018, BRIC serves as FEMA's primary predisaster mitigation program. Since 2020, FEMA has awarded more than \$4.5 billion in BRIC funding to help communities across the country strengthen their resilience efforts. Through BRIC, local governments have been able to carry out essential projects such as elevating at-risk infrastructure, reinforcing bridges, or improving drainage systems. These projects not only protect vital infrastructure and in turn, homes and businesses but also create jobs and ensure that communities can continue to function in the aftermath of natural disasters.

Rather than waiting for costly recovery efforts after a disaster, the BRIC Program helps communities prepare in advance—reducing disaster impacts, promoting long-term safety, and saving taxpayer dollars through proactive investment. Indeed, various studies have found that for every \$1 spent on resilience and preparedness, communities save between \$13 and \$18 in damages, cleanup costs, and economic impact.

Despite the BRIC Program's demonstrated benefits under both Democratic and Republican administrations, the Trump administration abruptly canceled the program in April 2025, claiming it was "wasteful and ineffective." Regrettably, FEMA did not take

steps to improve the program or reinstate funding. Our bill addresses these issues by reestablishing the program, opening it to a broader array of mitigation projects in smaller and Tribal communities, and making it easier to access funds to protect critical facilities—including healthcare facilities, police and fire stations, schools, and power stations. These are common-sense reforms that will help improve BRIC and save taxpayers billions of dollars in disaster recovery payments in the future.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 537—HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST SARAH BECKSTROM AND UNITED STATES AIR FORCE STAFF SERGEANT ANDREW WOLFE, WHO WERE TRAGICALLY SHOT IN WASHINGTON, D.C., IN A TARGETED ASSAULT AGAINST UNITED STATES SERVICE MEMBERS ON NOVEMBER 26, 2025

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

S. RES. 537

Whereas, on the afternoon of November 26, 2025, members of the National Guard on patrol in Washington, D.C. as part of the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force were violently assaulted with gunfire in a vicious, targeted attack;

Whereas United States Army Specialist Sarah Beckstrom and United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe, both members of the West Virginia National Guard, sustained severe gunshot wounds during the attack;

Whereas Specialist Beckstrom succumbed to her injuries and passed away surrounded by her loved ones on November 27, 2025, making the ultimate sacrifice in service to her country;

Whereas Staff Sergeant Wolfe remains hospitalized in critical condition;

Whereas United States Army Specialist Sarah Beckstrom, who was 20 years old at the time of her passing, was from Summersville, West Virginia, enlisted on June 26, 2023, weeks after graduating with honors from Webster County High School, and was assigned to the 863rd Military Police Company, 111th Engineer Brigade of the West Virginia Army National Guard;

Whereas Specialist Beckstrom worked a civilian job as a community engagement specialist at a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center in Summersville, West Virginia that provides mental health and substance use disorder treatment;

Whereas United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe, age 24, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, a graduate of Musselman High School in Inwood, West Virginia, enlisted on February 5, 2019, while still in high school, and was assigned to the Force Support Squadron, 167th Airlift Wing of the West Virginia Air National Guard;

Whereas, in his civilian job, Staff Sergeant Wolfe has worked as a lineman with Frontier

Communications since 2023, which has benefited his community by bringing connectivity to more homes and businesses in West Virginia;

Whereas Specialist Beckstrom and Staff Sergeant Wolfe have both received an outpouring of support and praise from their communities and from around the country as individuals who served with distinction, earned the admiration and respect of their communities, and acted selflessly and courageously on behalf of others; and

Whereas Specialist Beckstrom and Staff Sergeant Wolfe had both recently volunteered to extend their deployments in Washington, D.C. and continue their service to help keep the Capital of the United States safe: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the memory, service and sacrifice of United States Army Specialist Sarah Beckstrom for her dedicated service to her State and to her country as a member of the West Virginia National Guard;

(2) honors the service and sacrifice of United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe for his dedicated service to his State and to his country as a member of the West Virginia National Guard;

(3) extends its sympathies, gratitude, and support for the Beckstrom and Wolfe families for all they have endured and will face because of this attack, as their love and support have been the foundation of the service of Specialist Beckstrom and Staff Sergeant Wolfe to their State and the United States;

(4) honors the bravery of National Guard members on the scene who displayed courage and strength while under attack;

(5) expresses gratitude for the swift action of National Guard members and first responders on the scene who responded to the attack and apprehended the attacker;

(6) condemns in the strongest terms the horrific, violent assault on United States service members in the Capital of the United States; and

(7) recognizes that the men and women who volunteer to serve their communities and their country as members of the National Guard represent the very best of the United States of America.

SENATE RESOLUTION 538—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2025 AS "NATIONAL HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH"

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

S. RES. 538

Whereas, in the United States, public schools identified nearly 1,400,000 enrolled children and youth who were homeless during the 2022 to 2023 school year, a 14 percent increase from the previous school year;

Whereas every year an estimated 1,200,000 children younger than 6 years of age, and approximately 4,200,000 youth and young adults, experience homelessness as part of the general population, with many of those children, youth, and young adults staying on couches, in motels, in shelters, or outside;

Whereas the Department of Housing and Urban Development reported a 39 percent increase in families staying in homeless shelters or visibly on the streets in 2024, which was the highest of any population and the second consecutive year of increase;

Whereas infants experiencing homelessness are at a higher risk for certain illnesses and health conditions;

Whereas families experiencing homelessness are more likely to experience involvement in the child welfare system and difficulty with school attendance;

Whereas more than 48 percent of students that experienced homelessness during the 2022 to 2023 school year were chronically absent, a rate 22 percent higher than that of other students;

Whereas, in 2021, high school students experiencing homelessness were nearly twice as likely to have seriously considered suicide or made a suicide plan, and such students were more than 3 times as likely to have made a suicide attempt within the past year;

Whereas individuals without a high school degree or general educational development certificate are over 4½ times more likely to report homelessness than their peers who completed high school, making the lack of education and diminished opportunities for financial stability key risk factors for young adult homelessness;

Whereas, in 2022, the high school graduation rate for students experiencing homelessness was 68 percent, compared to 80 percent for low-income students and 85½ percent for all students;

Whereas the rate of unaccompanied youth homelessness is the same in rural, suburban, and urban areas;

Whereas 29 percent of unaccompanied homeless youth between 13 and 25 years of age have spent time in foster care, compared to approximately 6 percent of all children;

Whereas youths transitioning out of the juvenile justice system or foster care system often do so without reliable social, educational, financial, employment, or housing opportunities, putting them at increased risk of homelessness;

Whereas homelessness among children and youth is a complex issue that may be correlated with deep poverty, low education and employment levels, substance use disorders, mental health disorders, lack of affordable housing, and family conflict; and

Whereas awareness of child and youth homelessness must be heightened to encourage greater support for effective programs that help children and youth overcome homelessness: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the efforts of businesses, governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers dedicated to meeting the needs of homeless children and youth;

(2) applauds the initiatives of businesses, governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers that—

(A) use time and resources to raise awareness of child and youth homelessness, the causes of child and youth homelessness, and potential solutions; and

(B) work to prevent homelessness among children and youth;

(3) designates November 2025 as “National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month”; and

(4) encourages businesses, governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers to continue to intensify their efforts to address homelessness among children and youth during November 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 539—RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS OF STARS AND STRIPES IN THE PACIFIC AND THE INVALUABLE SERVICE OF THE STARS AND STRIPES AS THE “HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER” FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, AND FAMILY MEMBERS STATIONED AROUND THE WORLD

Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 539

Whereas May 14, 2025, marked the 80th anniversary of the commencement of continuous operations, in service to the military community of the United States, of *Stars and Stripes* in the Pacific, a military newspaper established in Honolulu to provide an independent, uncensored news source for members of the Armed Forces fighting in World War II;

Whereas *Stars and Stripes* was heralded for indispensable service when it was initially established during the Civil War and again during World War I, when General John J. Pershing reestablished *Stars and Stripes* to provide news and information as an important morale-building force for soldiers serving in the American Expeditionary Forces;

Whereas after its permanent formation during World War II, *Stars and Stripes* excelled in its mission across every theater of war, leading President Harry S. Truman to state, “In Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, *Stars and Stripes* has established itself as a cherished and important soldier’s institution.”;

Whereas *Stars and Stripes* commenced printing in Tokyo on October 3, 1945, working in requisitioned space formally occupied by the *Japan Times*;

Whereas *Stars and Stripes* has continuously covered news, not only for military service members and Department of Defense civilian employees, but to United States veterans, families of veterans, current service members, and contractor personnel, particularly those serving overseas, in conflicts since World War II, including conflicts taking place in Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan;

Whereas while readership of print newspapers has declined in recent years as technology has evolved, *Stars and Stripes* has innovated in finding new ways and products to deliver the “hometown news” to the broadest portion of military community; and

Whereas through internet versions of the newspaper, social media, and other media products, *Stars and Stripes* is now reaching 1,400,000 readers every day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the commencement of continuous operations of *Stars and Stripes* in the Pacific—

(1) commemorates this important milestone in the history of an important institution of the United States; and

(2) congratulates and honors the men and women of *Stars and Stripes*, past and present, who have so diligently served the United States military community.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I have four requests for committees to

meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to grant floor privileges to my intern Jeremy Zwick for his shadow day on December 10, 2025.

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

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 537, S. Res. 538, and S. Res. 539.

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

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that 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 (S. Res. 537, S. Res. 538, and S. Res. 539) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE, LEADERSHIP, AND LEGACY OF DR. JANE GOODALL

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 483.