

appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.”; and

Whereas the United States was founded on the belief in the sanctity of our democracy, undeniable freedoms, independence of each branch of government, and checks and balances on each branch, a belief to which the system of authoritarianism in all of its forms is fundamentally opposed: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate denounces authoritarianism in all its forms and opposes the implementation of authoritarian policies in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 549—URGING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO SEIZE SHADOW FLEET VESSELS TRANSPORTING SANCTIONED OIL FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 549

Whereas the Russian Federation is the world's third-largest oil producer, and income from the sale of oil has generated revenue to allow the Russian Federation to fund its war in Ukraine;

Whereas, despite Western sanctions, European Union sanctions, and price caps imposed by the G7, seaborne crude and product exports from the Russian Federation have averaged 5,700,000 barrels per day in 2025, a barely marginal decrease from the 5,800,000 barrels per day in 2022 when the Russian Federation began its illegal invasion of Ukraine;

Whereas, on October 22, 2025, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on the Russian Federation's two largest oil companies, Open Joint Stock Company Rosneft Oil Company (Rosneft) and Public Joint-Stock Company Oil Company Lukoil (Lukoil), “as a result of Russia's lack of serious commitment to a peace process to end the war in Ukraine”;

Whereas the shadow fleet of the Russian Federation comprises at least 561 ships, which have carried between 60 percent and 80 percent of Russian crude exports in recent quarters;

Whereas, in recent years, the United States Government has seized several shadow fleet vessels carrying sanctioned oil from other countries, including from the Islamic Republic of Iran;

Whereas, on December 10, 2025, the United States Government seized the shadow fleet vessel the M/T Skipper, which was previously subject to sanctions for serving as part of “an international oil smuggling network that facilitated oil trades and generated revenue” to support Hezbollah and the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, for transporting—

(1) sanctioned oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Syrian Arab Republic in 2024; and

(2) nearly 2,000,000 barrels of crude oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran to the People's Republic of China between February and July of 2025; and

Whereas the United States Government, using all authorities, including those inherent under article II of the Constitution of the United States, should seize shadow fleet vessels carrying sanctioned oil from the Russian Federation, whose proceeds in part will benefit designated foreign terrorist organizations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the use of shadow fleet vessels to transport sanctioned oil from the Russian Federation and views the transport of such oil as conduct that undermines United States national security interests and sanctions regimes;

(2) urges the Trump Administration to seize shadow fleet vessels transporting sanctioned oil from the Russian Federation;

(3) recognizes that seizing shadow fleet vessels engaged in such transport is a lawful and appropriate measure to take against the Russian Federation's evasion of sanctions and illicit financing of its war in Ukraine; and

(4) calls on allies and partners to also seize shadow fleet vessels transporting sanctioned oil from the Russian Federation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 550—RECOGNIZING THAT CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT A HOAX, BUT SOUND SCIENCE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 550

Whereas, 129 years ago, in 1896, Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius concluded that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities contribute to a global “greenhouse effect” driving global warming;

Whereas, in 1959, at a celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the fossil-fuel industry, physicist Edward Teller warned attending representatives of major oil companies that greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels cause a greenhouse gas effect and that increased use of fossil fuels would cause global warming and severe sea level rise;

Whereas, in 1968, Stanford researchers produced a report for the American Petroleum Institute, finding that atmospheric carbon dioxide levels were rising, that no explanation for this rise “seem[ed] to fit the presently observed situation as well as the fossil fuel emanation theory”, and that “potential damage to our environment” from this rise “could be severe”;

Whereas, from 1970 through 2003, Exxon scientists produced a series of reports and projections on greenhouse gas-driven climate change, predicting warming of 0.20 degrees Celsius per decade, which according to recent analysis by Harvard researchers, reflected “shocking skill and accuracy”;

Whereas, in 1988, a Shell working group produced a confidential report entitled “The Greenhouse Effect”, which quantified Shell's own contribution to global carbon dioxide emissions, predicted that global carbon dioxide levels could double by 2030, and described a series of climate change impacts, including rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and forced migration;

Whereas 99.99 percent of peer-reviewed scientific papers agree that climate change is happening and that human activity, and specifically the burning of fossil fuels, is the main cause of climate change;

Whereas, as reported by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), data from ice cores, rocks, tree rings, and satellites and other instruments “all show the signs of a changing climate”;

Whereas, as of August 5, 2025, NASA maintains that “there is unequivocal evidence that Earth is warming at an unprecedented

rate” and that “[h]uman activity is the principal cause” of this warming;

Whereas, in its Sixth Climate Assessment in 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change found that the “evidence is unequivocal: climate change is a grave and mounting threat to human wellbeing and the health of the planet;

Whereas the most comprehensive source of data on climate impacts in the United States can be found in the National Climate Assessments mandated by Congress under the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2921 et seq.) and coordinated under the United States Global Change Research Program (established under section 103 of the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2933)), comprising 15 Federal agencies and subject to “multiple rounds of expert and governmental review, including evaluation by Federal agencies, external experts, the public, and a National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine review committee” and published in 2000, 2009, 2014, 2017, 2018, and 2023;

Whereas a sixth National Climate Assessment was planned for 2028, but in 2025 the administration of President Donald Trump fired all the scientists and researchers working on the project, pulled the most recent National Climate Assessment offline, and shut down the United States Global Change Research Program website; and

Whereas greenhouse-gas driven climate change is driving extreme weather, sea-level rise, heat waves, catastrophic wildfires, and other disasters, which in turn are beginning to disrupt insurance, mortgage, and real estate markets: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) climate change caused by fossil fuel combustion is not a hoax;

(2) the reality of human-caused greenhouse gas-driven climate change is sound science; and

(3) Congress should protect legislatively mandated climate research programs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 551—RECOGNIZING THAT SEA LEVELS ARE RISING AT ACCELERATED RATES DUE TO HUMAN-CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 551

Whereas tide gauges along the coasts of the United States measure accelerating rates of sea-level rise;

Whereas the rate of sea-level rise per year has more than doubled in the past century;

Whereas thermal expansion, or the volume of the ocean that is expanding as seawater warms, is contributing to rising sea levels;

Whereas the thermal expansion of ocean water has caused approximately 56 percent of global sea-level rise since 2014;

Whereas the thermal expansion of seawater can cause greater sea-level variability and unpredictability, increasing the risks for coastal communities;

Whereas thermal expansion of our oceans will affect century-scale acceleration of sea-level rise on the global, regional, and local scales, increasing coastal risks for all people of the United States;

Whereas, depending on greenhouse gas emissions, average sea-level rise could range between 2 and 7.2 feet by 2100;

Whereas, if the Earth warms beyond tipping points or warming thresholds, the Greenland and West Antarctic ice sheets will be at risk of destabilization;

Whereas researchers believe that those tipping points could be triggered with as little as 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming;

Whereas the Earth has already warmed by at least 1.2 degrees Celsius, with Greenland warming 4 times faster than the average rate of warming across the globe;

Whereas sea levels are expected to raise by 20 to 25 feet with the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and by 10 to 17 feet with the melting of the West Antarctic ice sheet, and both could happen concurrently;

Whereas 30 percent of people in the United States live in coastal areas and are threatened by rising seas;

Whereas \$10,000,000,000,000 of goods and services are produced in coastal counties across the United States every year;

Whereas \$8,100,000,000 of the \$62,500,000,000 in damage from Hurricane Sandy was caused by increased sea levels;

Whereas 3,700,000 individuals in the contiguous United States live on land less than 3.3 feet above high tide, with most of those individuals residing in Florida, Louisiana, California, New York, and New Jersey;

Whereas high water levels that were once rare 1-in-100-year events are becoming 1-in-10-year events due to accelerated sea-level rise;

Whereas sea-level rise will shrink fresh drinking water sources in coastal areas;

Whereas sea-level rise will intensify the flooding effects of hurricanes and strong storms in the United States, costing lives and money, and such effects are already disrupting insurance, mortgage, and real estate markets;

Whereas up to 13,000,000 individuals in the United States could face displacement from rising seas by 2100; and

Whereas sea levels are rising due to fossil fuel emissions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the reality of anthropogenic climate change and the role it plays in dangerously raising sea levels.

SENATE RESOLUTION 552—RECOGNIZING THAT OCEANS ARE WARMING DUE TO HUMAN-CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 552

Whereas climate change is causing the oceans to absorb roughly 14 zettajoules of excess heat every year;

Whereas the top 2,000 meters of the global ocean have been significantly warming, gaining approximately 372 zettajoules of excess heat since 1955;

Whereas, by 2100, it is projected that the rate of ocean warming in the top 2,000 meters will be 2 to 6 times greater than the rate of warming at the time of the introduction of this resolution;

Whereas ocean warming can have deleterious effects on biodiversity and sea life, including the health of coral reefs, which contribute \$3,400,000,000 annually to the United States economy;

Whereas ocean warming will cause United States fish populations to move across inter-

national boundaries or into the high seas, causing economic uncertainty for fishermen;

Whereas climate change is acidifying the oceans, threatening the environmental health and biodiversity of the United States;

Whereas ocean warming and acidification can cause numerous harms to ocean life, including to species with calcium carbonate shells, which are key components of the ocean's food webs;

Whereas warming sea surface temperatures will shrink populations of the world's most abundant phytoplankton, significantly damaging the ocean food web;

Whereas warmer oceans will increase the risk and severity of harmful algal blooms, especially in the spring and summer months, which at the time of the introduction of this resolution cost between \$10,000,000 and \$100,000,000 annually on average and harm ecosystems, fisheries, drinking water, public health, recreation, and tourism;

Whereas increased ocean temperatures have expanded *Vibrio* concentrations in the United States, a bacterial pathogen that can cause severe illness, infection, and death in humans;

Whereas warmer oceans increase evaporation rates, increasing atmospheric humidity, which fuels stronger hurricanes and extreme precipitation events;

Whereas ocean warming caused North Atlantic hurricanes at the time of the introduction of this resolution to be, on average, a category more intense, with wind speeds averaging 18.6 miles per hour faster, wreaking more damage; and

Whereas our oceans are warming rapidly each year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that climate change is imposing serious harms on our oceans and on coastal communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 553—RECOGNIZING THAT CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 553

Whereas changes in the climate caused by fossil fuel emissions are proven by decades of sound science and are not a hoax: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that climate change is real.

SENATE RESOLUTION 554—RECOGNIZING THE STRONG LINK BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND SKYROCKETING INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. RES. 554

Whereas, at the time of the introduction of this resolution, insured losses from natural disasters in the United States exceed \$100,000,000,000 annually, up from \$8,400,000,000 in 2000, an increase of 1000 percent;

Whereas, from 2013 to 2022, insurance costs more than doubled, and by 2022, these costs accounted for more than 20 percent of mortgage payments;

Whereas insurance premiums have increased 40 percent faster than inflation;

Whereas premiums are projected to increase another 8 percent in 2025, reaching a national average of more than \$3,500 annually;

Whereas annual premiums in 2024 averaged more than \$14,000 in Florida, almost \$11,000 in Louisiana, almost \$8,000 in Oklahoma, \$6,000 in Texas and Colorado, and around \$5,000 in Alabama, Mississippi, and Nebraska; and

Whereas most lenders will not approve a mortgage unless the borrower also purchases insurance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that climate change and the increased risk in frequency and intensity of natural disasters are driving up insurance costs for home owners in the United States, and that a failure to address climate change will make housing even more unaffordable.

SENATE RESOLUTION 555—RECOGNIZING THAT CLIMATE CHANGE POSES A THREAT TO THE MORTGAGE MARKET AND TO HOME VALUES

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. RES. 555

Whereas a home is the largest asset of most individuals in the United States;

Whereas analysts have found that sea-level rise is directly to blame for a loss in coastal home value, and that between 2005 and 2017, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia together lost \$7,400,000,000 in home value due to sea-level rise related flooding;

Whereas economists have found that housing loses substantial value following a weather disaster, in part because of the market's expectation of future disasters in the same ZIP Code;

Whereas researchers have found that sea-level rise puts more than 300,000 homes and commercial properties in the United States at risk of chronic, disruptive flooding in the next 30 years, with a cumulative value of properties at risk of \$136,000,000,000 by 2045;

Whereas, by the end of the 21st century, researchers predict that nearly 2,500,000 homes and commercial properties collectively valued at \$1,070,000,000,000 today, will be at risk of chronic flooding;

Whereas The Economist predicts that, over the next 25 years, climate change will cause a \$25,000,000,000,000 loss to the value of housing stocks worldwide;

Whereas researchers have found that United States residential property will likely lose nearly \$1,500,000,000,000 in value over the next 30 years due to increasingly expensive and unavailable insurance;

Whereas, in April of 2024, the Federal Housing Finance Agency "recognize[d] the emerging and increasing threat to all stakeholders in the housing system due to climate risk and the increased frequency and intensity of major natural disasters";

Whereas the Financial Stability Board has warned of cascading risks from climate