

S. 3569. A bill to establish a Federal multi-agency task force to combat illegal importation, distribution, and sale of e-cigarettes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3569

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Task Force Operations to Prevent Illicit Vapes Act” or the “S.T.O.P. Illicit Vapes Act”.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL MULTI-AGENCY TASK FORCE TO COMBAT ILLEGAL IMPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND SALE OF E-CIGARETTES.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—On the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, there shall be established (or reestablished) a multi-agency task force to combat the illegal importation, distribution, and sale of e-cigarettes (in this section referred to as the “Task Force”).

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The Task Force shall develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for reducing the number of unauthorized e-cigarettes in the market, including setting goals, sharing information, and coordinating efforts where appropriate.

(c) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Task Force shall be composed of each of the following members:

(1) The Attorney General, who shall serve as co-chair.

(2) The Secretary of Health and Human Services, who shall serve as co-chair.

(3) At least one representative of the Food and Drug Administration, appointed by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

(4) At least one representative of the Department of Justice, appointed by the Attorney General.

(5) A representative of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, appointed by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(6) A representative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

(7) A representative of the United States Marshals Service, appointed by the Director of the United States Marshals Service.

(8) A representative of the United States Postal Inspection Service, appointed by the Chief Postal Inspector.

(9) A representative of the Federal Trade Commission, appointed by the Chair of the Federal Trade Commission.

(10) A representative of Homeland Security Investigations, appointed by the Executive Associate Director of Homeland Security Investigations.

(11) A representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, appointed by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(12) Representatives of such other Federal agencies that have roles or responsibilities related to e-cigarette enforcement, as appointed by the co-chairs of the Task Force, acting jointly.

(d) **MEETINGS.**—The Task Force shall meet not less frequently than once every 30 days.

(e) **SEMIANNUAL REPORTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than April 30 and October 31 of each year, the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing—

(A) the authorities of each agency represented on the Task Force to combat the illegal importation, distribution, and sale of e-cigarettes;

(B) all actions taken by each agency represented on the Task Force to combat the illegal importation, distribution, and sale of e-

cigarettes, including the investigation and prosecution of criminal, civil, seizure, and forfeiture actions, including enforcement actions against unauthorized e-cigarette manufacturers, importers, and distributors, during the 6-month period—

(i) with respect to a report due on April 30, ending on the immediately preceding March 31; or

(ii) with respect to a report due on October 31, ending on the immediately preceding September 30;

(C) recommendations for additional criminal or civil authorities that may be necessary to address the public health threat of the illegal importation, distribution, and sale of e-cigarettes; and

(D) areas for improvement with respect to collaboration among the agencies represented on the Task Force.

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—In this subsection, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(f) **SUNSET.**—The Task Force shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 568—RECOGNIZING THE SCHOOLS SELECTED AS NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS FOR 2025 AND CELEBRATING THE HISTORY OF THE BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 568

Whereas the Blue Ribbon Schools program was created by the Reagan Administration in 1982 to provide nationwide recognition of schools for academic excellence and progress in closing achievement gaps;

Whereas the Blue Ribbon Schools program has been considered the highest Federal honor for schools in the United States and has honored more than 9,000 public (including charter) and private (including parochial) schools since its inception;

Whereas the Blue Ribbon Schools program validates the work of the educators of the United States, models the best teaching practices across the United States, and inspires schools to adopt similarly rigorous practices;

Whereas the Blue Ribbon Schools program plays an important role in uplifting best practices in closing achievement gaps, especially as the 2024 National Assessment of Educational Progress, commonly referred to as the “Nation’s Report Card”, showed that average reading and mathematics scores for high school seniors fell to their lowest levels in 2 decades;

Whereas the decision made August 29, 2025, by the Department of Education to discontinue the Blue Ribbon Schools program has eliminated a national spotlight on what works in education;

Whereas despite the decision by the Department of Education, States and commu-

nities continue the legacy of the Blue Ribbon Schools program by leading initiatives to recognize their own exemplary schools at the State and local level;

Whereas, before the Department of Education discontinued the Blue Ribbon Schools program in 2025, the schools from the State of Illinois selected for the 2025 Blue Ribbon Schools designation included—

- (1) Ascension Catholic School;
- (2) Clarendon Hills Middle School;
- (3) Glen Oaks Elementary School;
- (4) Highlands Elementary School;
- (5) Kennedy Junior High School;
- (6) Liberty Intermediate School;
- (7) Lincoln-Way East High School;
- (8) Lyons Township High School;
- (9) Mascoutah Middle School;
- (10) Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy;
- (11) Pleasantdale Middle School;
- (12) Prescott Elementary School;
- (13) Regina Dominican High School;
- (14) Sarah Adams Elementary School;
- (15) St. Anne Catholic School;
- (16) St. Giles School;
- (17) St. John of the Cross Parish School;
- (18) St. Matthias School;
- (19) St. Norbert School;
- (20) St. Therese Chinese Catholic School;
- (21) Sunset Ridge Elementary School;
- (22) The Academy at St. Joan of Arc;
- (23) Timothy Christian P-8;
- (24) Walker Elementary School;
- (25) Warren Elementary School;
- (26) Wheaton Academy;
- (27) William Fremd High School; and
- (28) Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart; and

Whereas it is imperative that the Senate honors the schools selected to be Blue Ribbon Schools in 2025 from every State and the legacy of the Blue Ribbon Schools program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and celebrates—

(A) the schools selected to be 2025 National Blue Ribbon Schools before the Blue Ribbon Schools program was discontinued; and

(B) the history of the Blue Ribbon Schools program;

(2) commends the educators, school administrators, and communities of such schools for their hard work that led to this achievement; and

(3) calls upon the Secretary of Education to immediately reinstate the Blue Ribbon Schools program.

SENATE RESOLUTION 569—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DECLARING 2026 THE “YEAR OF MATH” IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 569

Whereas research in the mathematical sciences is an exciting and active area of intellectual pursuit;

Whereas education in the mathematical sciences is foundational and serves as a connecting fabric for all advances in science and engineering;

Whereas advances in mathematical and statistical sciences enable understanding of complex systems and design of new technology, with implications for societal challenges in health, defense, energy, transportation, and other areas;

Whereas mathematical research yields applications every day in fields such as medicine, cybersecurity, manufacturing, artificial intelligence, energy, biotechnology, agriculture, weather prediction and disaster preparedness, and business;

Whereas the national mathematics community is working together to maintain the global preeminence of the United States in the mathematics sciences;

Whereas many, if not most, people in the United States have developed a negative relationship with math because math can be tough, but math is also fascinating, rewarding, and incredibly useful;

Whereas the national mathematics community is working together to engage young students, parents, and educators in hands-on activities that will inspire future generations of talent in mathematics and all sciences;

Whereas the International Congress of Mathematicians (referred to in this preamble as the “ICM”) 2026 will be held in Philadelphia, from July 23 to July 30, 2026;

Whereas the first ICM was held in 1897, and since 1900, ICMs have taken place every 4 years;

Whereas only twice before has the United States been chosen as the host country for an ICM, the 11th in 1950 and the 20th in 1986, and hosting one is a source of pride for host country mathematicians and politicians;

Whereas an ICM showcases what is going on in contemporary mathematics;

Whereas the scientific prizes awarded by the International Mathematical Union are the highest distinctions in the mathematical world and are awarded every 4 years at the opening ceremony of the ICM, and the most famous is the Fields Medal, which was first awarded in 1936 and is considered the “Nobel Prize” of mathematics; and

Whereas hosting the ICM 2026 provides a platform for the United States to declare 2026 the “Year of Math”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the declaration of a “Year of Math” in the United States;

(2) celebrates the United States being selected as host of the International Congress of Mathematicians 2026 and using this platform to increase the visibility of mathematical sciences as fields of study and to communicate the myriad benefits of education in mathematics and statistics;

(3) recognizes that mathematics underpins all of the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines, which are critical to the national security and economic prosperity of the United States; and

(4) celebrates the role that mathematics and statistics play in the everyday lives of all people of the United States, including in technology, news, games, literature, and music.

SENATE RESOLUTION 570—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2025 AS “NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH” AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF LUNG CANCER

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 570

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death among individuals in the United States, accounting for more deaths than colorectal, breast, and prostate cancer combined;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 226,650 individuals in the United States will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and 124,730 individuals (approximately 340 individuals per day) will die from the disease;

Whereas 1 in 16 men and 1 in 17 women in the United States will develop lung cancer during their lifetimes;

Whereas each year more women die from lung cancer than breast, ovarian, and cervical cancer combined;

Whereas, in 2025, cigarette smoking directly caused approximately 109,100 of the 124,730 lung cancer deaths, and exposure to secondhand smoke causes over 7,300 lung cancer deaths each year in adults who do not smoke;

Whereas approximately 10 to 20 percent of lung cancer diagnoses occur in people who have never smoked, and the proportion of lung cancer diagnoses in individuals who have never smoked is increasing in the United States;

Whereas women who never smoked are more likely than men who never smoked to get lung cancer;

Whereas Black men have the highest incidence of lung cancer and the highest mortality rate from lung cancer in the United States, and nonwhite individuals are 13 to 18 percent less likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer early in their lives;

Whereas veterans are 25 percent more likely to develop lung cancer compared to the general public, and although approximately 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 veterans have an elevated risk of lung cancer and are eligible for screening, less than 3 percent of veterans get screened;

Whereas lung cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in veterans;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate is 67 percent for those diagnosed with localized lung cancer and 12 percent for those diagnosed at a stage when the cancer has spread to distant parts of the body;

Whereas the number of individuals in the United States recommended to receive lung cancer screening was estimated to be 14,500,000 as of 2021;

Whereas only 16 percent of individuals in the United States at high risk for lung cancer undergo lung cancer screening;

Whereas limited geographic availability of facilities and transportation barriers are persistent challenges to lung cancer screening;

Whereas 62 percent of adults are not familiar with lung cancer screening and the low-dose computed tomography scan;

Whereas the stigma surrounding lung cancer—

(1) creates barriers to early diagnosis, treatment, and research; and

(2) has a detrimental impact on the quality of life of lung cancer patients;

Whereas lung cancer research is leading to breakthroughs in biomarker identification and the development of immunotherapies and targeted therapies that are improving survival and quality of life for those with lung cancer;

Whereas access to biomarker testing and cutting-edge diagnostics is challenging across populations and geographic areas; and

Whereas educational efforts can increase awareness of lung cancer and lung cancer screening among the general public, patients and their families, and health care workers and increase the early detection of lung cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2025 as “National Lung Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) designates the first week of November 2025 as “National Women’s Lung Cancer Awareness Week”;

(3) designates the second Saturday of November 2025 as “National Lung Cancer Screening Day”;

(4) supports the purposes and ideals of National Lung Cancer Awareness Month;

(5) promotes efforts to increase awareness of, education about, and research on—

(A) mitigation of risk factors for lung cancer;

(B) lung cancer screening;

(C) treatment of lung cancer; and

(D) lung cancer affecting minorities and individuals who have never smoked; and

(6) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Lung Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate awareness and educational activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 571—REMEMBERING THE DECEMBER 6, 2019, TERRORIST ATTACK AT NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA AND COMMEMORATING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, AND THOSE WHO WERE INJURED, IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 571

Whereas December 6, 2025, the 6-year anniversary of the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this preamble as the “terrorist attack”), is a day of commemoration for those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, during the terrorist attack, including—

(1) Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson of Enterprise, Alabama;

(2) Petty Officer Third Class Mohammed Sameh Haitham of St. Petersburg, Florida; and

(3) Petty Officer Third Class Cameron Scott Walters of Richmond Hill, Georgia;

Whereas the 3 servicemembers who died in the terrorist attack were posthumously awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal and the Purple Heart;

Whereas the terrorist who committed the terrorist attack was a Saudi Arabian foreign military student who had been radicalized and established contact with Al Qaeda operatives prior to attending flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola;

Whereas Naval Air Station Pensacola security forces and Escambia County, Florida, law enforcement officers took decisive action to end the terrorist attack and have rightly earned the praises and awards bestowed upon them;

Whereas 2 civilians were awarded the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Medal for Valor for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 individuals were awarded the Purple Heart, or the law enforcement equivalent, for injuries sustained during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 9 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 law enforcement officers were awarded the Medal of Valor for their actions taken during the terrorist attack; and

Whereas December 6, 2025, marks 6 years since the lives of 3 military personnel were tragically cut short by the egregious act of terrorism at Naval Air Station Pensacola: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this resolution as the “terrorist attack”);

(2) commemorates in sorrow the servicemembers and civilians who lost their