

S. RES. 661

Whereas the people of ancient Greece developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people;

Whereas the founding fathers of the United States, many of whom read Greek political philosophy in the original Greek language, drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming the representative democracy of the United States;

Whereas Petros Mavromichalis, the former Commander-in-Chief of Greece and a founder of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821, "It is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you.";

Whereas, in an October 21, 1823, letter to Greek scholar Adamantios Korais discussing the ongoing Greek struggle for independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote that "[n]o people sympathise more feelingly than ours with the sufferings of your countrymen, none offer more sincere and ardent prayers to heaven for their success";

Whereas, on January 19, 1824, in a speech in support of his resolution to send an American envoy to Greece amid its struggle for independence, then-Congressman Daniel Webster recognized "the struggle of an interesting and gallant people . . . contending against fearful odds, for being, and for the common privilege of human nature";

Whereas individual American Philhellenes, including future abolitionists Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe and Jonathan Peckham Miller, and George Jarvis, traveled to Greece to fight alongside and provide aid to the Greek people in their struggle for independence;

Whereas the people of the United States generously sent humanitarian assistance to the people of Greece during their struggle for independence, often through philhellene committees;

Whereas Greece heroically resisted Axis forces at a crucial moment in World War II, forcing Adolf Hitler to change his timeline and delaying the attack on the Soviet Union;

Whereas Winston Churchill said that "if there had not been the virtue and courage of the Greeks, we do not know which the outcome of World War II would have been" and "no longer will we say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes fight like Greeks";

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Greeks were killed during World War II;

Whereas Greece consistently allied with the United States in major international conflicts throughout its history as a modern state and has been a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization since 1952;

Whereas the United States has demonstrated its support for the trilateral partnership of Greece, Israel, and Cyprus by enacting into law the Eastern Mediterranean Security and Energy Partnership Act of 2019 (title II of division J of Public Law 116-94) and through joint engagement with Greece, Israel, and Cyprus in the "3+1" format;

Whereas this support was bolstered in the United States-Greece Defense and Interparliamentary Partnership Act of 2021 (subtitle B of title XIII of Public Law 117-81), establishing a 3+1 Interparliamentary Group to discuss the expansion of cooperation in areas of common concern;

Whereas the United States maintains close bilateral cooperation with Greece on security, energy, and other shared priorities, including the commitment to security cooperation that led to the conclusion of a Mutual Defense Cooperation Agreement, which was updated in 2019 and 2021, in order to enhance defense ties between the two countries and promote stability in the broader region;

Whereas the ongoing United States-Greece Strategic Dialogue reflects Greece's importance to the United States as a geostrategic partner, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean and Balkans, and as an important NATO ally;

Whereas, on November 13, 2023, the United States and Greece signed a memorandum of understanding to advance energy security and cooperation in the Western Balkans;

Whereas regular high-level engagement between the Governments of the United States and Greece continued through 2024 and into 2025, during which both governments reaffirmed the strategic importance of the United States-Greece relationship and pledged to continue and increase cooperation based on shared values and interests;

Whereas, in the framework of the fifth United States-Greece Strategic Dialogue, on February 9, 2024, Greece became the 35th country to sign onto the Artemis Accords, affirming its commitment to a peaceful, sustainable, and transparent cooperation in space;

Whereas the Government and people of Greece actively participate in peacekeeping and peace-building operations conducted by international organizations, including the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe;

Whereas Greece has shown a strong commitment to meeting NATO defense spending obligations, recognizing the need for a more robust European pillar within NATO;

Whereas Greece remains an integral part of the European Union and a current non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas the Greek-American community has greatly contributed to American society and has helped forge the strong ties between the United States and Greece;

Whereas the Governments and people of Greece and the United States are at the forefront of efforts to advance freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights;

Whereas those efforts and similar ideals have forged a close bond between the peoples of Greece and the United States; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable for the United States to celebrate March 25, 2026, Greek Independence Day, with the people of Greece and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which those two great countries were founded: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends sincere congratulations and best wishes to the people of Greece as they celebrate the 205th anniversary of the independence of Greece;

(2) expresses support for the principles of democratic governance to which the people of Greece are committed;

(3) commends the Greek-American community for its contributions to the United States and its role as a bridge between the two countries;

(4) notes the important role that Greece has played in the wider European region and in the community of nations since gaining its independence 205 years ago;

(5) appreciates the ever-stronger bilateral relationship, based on shared values and interests, including the important energy and security partnership that exists between the United States and Greece, and the important role that Greece plays in bolstering European energy security; and

(6) appreciates Greece as a valued NATO ally and its critical role in ensuring regional stability.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE RATEPAYER PROTECTION PLEDGE ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 4, 2026, REFLECTS SOUND NATIONAL POLICY TO PROTECT RATEPAYERS IN THE UNITED STATES, PROMOTE ELECTRICITY AFFORDABILITY, AND ENSURE THAT ALL PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING HOUSEHOLDS, SMALL BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, AND FARMS, HAVE ACCESS TO RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY AS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANDS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. CON. RES. 30

Whereas data centers consumed approximately 183 terawatt-hours of electricity in the United States in 2024, which is more than 4 percent of total national electricity consumption in the United States;

Whereas the Department of Energy projects that the share of total national electricity consumption in the United States that is consumed by data centers could reach up to 12 percent by 2028 as artificial intelligence workloads require continuously operating, high power density computing infrastructure at unprecedented scale;

Whereas, under the traditional utility regulatory model, the costs of building, upgrading, and maintaining the transmission and distribution infrastructure required to service new large industrial loads are socialized across all ratepayers through rate proceedings, meaning that households and small businesses in the United States effectively subsidize the electricity infrastructure of some of the most highly capitalized companies in history;

Whereas, because data centers cluster geographically rather than diffuse evenly across the electric grid, the impact of data centers on local electricity rates is acute and uneven; and

Whereas, on March 4, 2026, Amazon, Google, Meta, Microsoft, OpenAI, Oracle, and xAI signed the Ratepayer Protection Pledge at the White House, committing to negotiate separate rate structures with utilities and State governments wherever those signatories build data centers and to pay those rates for generation and delivery infrastructure whether or not the signatories consume the electricity, establishing a pay-whether-used obligation that, alongside protecting ratepayers from infrastructure cost-shifting, creates an incentive for the signatories to make their backup generation resources available to grid operators during scarcity events, thereby enhancing reliability for all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That—

(1) it is the Sense of Congress that—

(A) the Ratepayer Protection Pledge announced on March 4, 2026, reflects sound national policy founded on the principle that the people of the United States should not be required to foot the bill for private data center energy and infrastructure costs;

(B) the artificial intelligence data center boom in the United States should be leveraged to address electricity affordability and

benefit all households and businesses in the United States; and

(C) relevant Federal agencies, including the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, should support and facilitate the implementation of the commitments made in the Ratepayer Protection Pledge, including by working with private companies to expedite the permitting and interconnection of new energy generation resources; and

(2) Congress encourages additional artificial intelligence companies, hyperscalers, data center operators, and technology firms that have not yet signed the Ratepayer Protection Pledge to voluntarily adopt equivalent commitments without delay.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31—RECOGNIZING THE DUTY OF CONGRESS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF WORKING WOMEN

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas the Congress recognizes its obligation to guarantee equal protection of the law to all workers;

Whereas this obligation requires the Congress to safeguard workers from unequal treatment on the basis of real or perceived sex, gender, or nonconformity to norms or stereotypes thereof;

Whereas working families are working paycheck to paycheck and deserve a quality, affordable life, which can only be made possible by addressing the needs of the approximately 75,000,000 women in the workforce;

Whereas recent executive and administration actions have caused disproportionate harm to women in the broader rollback of workplace rights, freedoms, and protections;

Whereas women comprise nearly half of the Nation's workforce, and are essential to the economic stability, growth, and prosperity of the United States, and make indispensable contributions across every sector of the economy, serving as leaders in education, health care, public service, caregiving, and other vital industries;

Whereas persistent wage disparities, loopholes in section 6(d) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (commonly known as the "Equal Pay Act of 1963") (29 U.S.C. 206(d)), occupational segregation, workplace discrimination, and gender-based violence and harassment continue to disproportionately burden working women, particularly women of color;

Whereas recent progress toward pay parity and gender equity has been undermined by deliberate, coordinated opposition, including legislative, administrative, and judicial actions weakening civil rights enforcement, removing workplace protections, limiting access to essential health care, and destabilizing programs that support working families;

Whereas the administration has specifically targeted for elimination such Federal programs which advance gender equity in the Nation and abroad;

Whereas actions of the President have threatened to eliminate the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, which was established by Congress in 1920 and is the only Federal agency tasked with advancing economic opportunity for working women and

which, for more than 100 years, has concretely worked to improve the wages and working conditions for women across the Nation;

Whereas the targeted elimination of equal opportunity obligations under apprenticeship programs of the Department of Labor has undermined women's pathways to high-paid careers in the trades traditionally dominated by men;

Whereas the rescission of the "Enforcement Guidance on Harassment in the Workplace" of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has created intentional confusion and left women vulnerable to harassment in the workplace;

Whereas reductions in staffing, funding, and enforcement capacity at Federal agencies charged with protecting workers' rights and enforcing civil rights laws have weakened oversight of workplace discrimination, harassment, wage theft, and retaliation;

Whereas women are disproportionately represented in public sector employment, and cuts to public programs and services disproportionately threaten women's employment, wages, and retirement security;

Whereas the administration has undertaken reckless mass layoffs which gutted Federal agencies with majority-women workforces, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of the Treasury, and Department of Housing and Urban Development;

Whereas not only are women of color and immigrant women overrepresented in care work, but the critical caregiving services women provide are often otherwise taken on as unpaid labor by women;

Whereas the lack of Federal actions to create a robust, well-paid care industry harms women's economic opportunity and directly exploits some of the most vulnerable women;

Whereas the administration has unjustly sought to push Federal contractors, grant recipients, and even private employers to abandon efforts to promote gender and racial equity at work;

Whereas the administration has sought to erode workers' ability to form unions and collectively bargain for their rights, who organized as such have won a narrower gender pay gap;

Whereas, consequently—

(1) data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate volatility in women's labor force participation in 2025, with more than 455,000 women exiting the workforce in the United States and the steepest declines among mothers of young children, especially Black mothers;

(2) unemployment among women, especially Black women, has increased under the Administration, with Black women's unemployment greater than 7 percent; and

(3) the wage gap between women and men has increased for 2 consecutive years, highlighting the compounded effects of the policy failures described herein;

Whereas women continue to face barriers to economic advancement, and disproportionate caregiving responsibilities, all of which are exacerbated by the cost of living crisis and rising costs of housing, health care, childcare, food, and education; and

Whereas Congress, the first branch of the United States Government, has a duty to act decisively to advance the rights and freedoms of working women in face of these barriers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes an affirmative duty to ensure women have equal opportunity within the workforce, as a prerequisite for economic security, democratic participation, shared

prosperity, and full participation in public life;

(2) recognizes that the workforce of the Nation is stronger, more innovative, and more competitive when women are able to contribute and lead across all industries;

(3) affirms its commitment to economic prosperity for all, including—

(A) equal pay for equal work;

(B) pay transparency;

(C) workplaces free from discrimination;

(D) workplace safety standards and regulations designed to protect the health of the Nation's workers;

(E) comprehensive and accessible health care, including reproductive health care;

(F) affordable, high-quality childcare and early education;

(G) paid family and medical leave;

(H) paid sick days;

(I) predictable scheduling and fair labor standards; and

(J) access to affordable housing, education, and workforce development opportunities;

(4) affirms its commitment to ensuring that all women, regardless of race, immigration status, language, or occupation, are able to work with dignity, free from violence, harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and abuse;

(5) recognizes the value of all work, especially domestic and part-time work, and recognizes its obligation to ensure that such work is dignified with fair pay, benefits, protections, and working conditions;

(6) condemns actions and policies that weaken civil rights enforcement, undermine workplace protections, reduce access to health care and essential services, or otherwise threaten the economic security of working women;

(7) commits itself to restoring and strengthening Federal agencies that combat discrimination in the workplace, including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs;

(8) reaffirms its commitment to ensuring all people can live a life with dignity by raising wages, including by raising the Federal minimum wage, and eliminating tipped and subminimum wages;

(9) reaffirms its commitment to expanding access to high-paying jobs across gender lines by strengthening programs that dismantle occupational segregation;

(10) recognizes the right of every worker to join a union, free from interference and intimidation, and bargain collectively for fair wages and working conditions;

(11) calls upon Federal, State, and local governments, employers, labor organizations, and community institutions to work collaboratively to ensure that all working women have the opportunity to thrive and be free from harassment and discrimination; and

(12) declares that addressing the immediate needs of working women is essential to the prosperity of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4779. Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mr. PADILLA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1383, to establish the Veterans Advisory Committee on Equal Access, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4780. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4732 proposed by Mr. HUSTED to the amendment SA 4420 proposed by Mr. THUNE (for Mr. SCHMITT) to the bill S. 1383, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.