

Whereas structural racism, gender oppression, and the social determinants of health inequities experienced by Black women in the United States significantly contribute to the disproportionately high rates of maternal mortality and morbidity among Black women;

Whereas racism and discrimination play a consequential role in maternal health care experiences and outcomes of Black birthing people;

Whereas the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), impacts Black women and birthing people's right to reproductive health care and bodily autonomy and further perpetuates reproductive oppression as a tool to control women's bodies;

Whereas a fair and wide distribution of economic resources and birth options, especially regarding reproductive health care services and maternal health programming, including prenatal, postpartum, family planning, and education programs, is critical to addressing inequities in maternal health outcomes;

Whereas communities of color are disproportionately affected by maternity care deserts, where there are no or limited hospitals or birth centers offering obstetric care and no or limited obstetric providers, and have diminishing access to reproductive health care due to low Medicaid reimbursements, rising costs, and persistent health care workforce shortages;

Whereas Black midwives, doulas, perinatal health workers, and community-based organizations provide holistic maternal health care, but face systemic, structural, economic, and legal barriers to licensure, reimbursement, and provision of care;

Whereas Black women and birthing people experience increased structural and financial barriers to accessing prenatal and postpartum care, including maternal mental health care;

Whereas COVID-19, which has disproportionately harmed Black Americans, is associated with an increased risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes and maternal and neonatal complications;

Whereas data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has indicated that since the COVID-19 pandemic, the maternal mortality rate for Black women has increased by 26 percent;

Whereas Black pregnant women have historically low rates of vaccinations, which is associated with higher disparities in maternal health outcomes;

Whereas, even as there is growing concern about improving access to mental health services, Black women are least likely to have access to mental health screenings, treatment, and support before, during, and after pregnancy;

Whereas Black pregnant and postpartum workers are disproportionately denied reasonable accommodations in the workplace, leading to adverse pregnancy outcomes;

Whereas Black pregnant people disproportionately experience surveillance and punishment, including shackling incarcerated people in labor, drug testing mothers and infants without informed consent, separating mothers from their newborns, and criminalizing pregnancy outcomes such as miscarriage;

Whereas Black women and birthing people experience pervasive racial injustice in the criminal justice, social, and health care systems;

Whereas justice-informed, culturally congruent models of care are beneficial to Black women; and

Whereas an investment must be made in—

(1) maternity care for Black women and birthing people, including care led by the

communities most affected by the maternal health crisis in the United States;

(2) continuous health insurance coverage to support Black women and birthing people for the full postpartum period at least 1 year after giving birth; and

(3) policies that support and promote affordable, comprehensive, and holistic maternal health care that is free from gender and racial discrimination, regardless of incarceration: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that—

(1) Black women are experiencing high, disproportionate rates of maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States;

(2) the alarmingly high rates of maternal mortality among Black women are unacceptable and unjust;

(3) in order to better mitigate the effects of systemic and structural racism, Congress must work toward ensuring that the Black community has—

(A) safe and affordable housing;

(B) transportation equity;

(C) nutritious food;

(D) clean air and water;

(E) environments free from toxins;

(F) decriminalization, removal of civil penalties, end of surveillance, and end of mandatory reporting within the criminal and family regulation system;

(G) safety and freedom from violence, especially violence perpetrated by government actors;

(H) a living wage;

(I) equal economic opportunity;

(J) a sustained and expansive workforce pipeline for diverse perinatal professionals; and

(K) comprehensive, high-quality, and affordable health care including access to the full spectrum of reproductive care;

(4) in order to improve maternal health outcomes, Congress must fully support and encourage policies grounded in the human rights, reproductive justice, and birth justice frameworks that address maternal health inequities;

(5) Black women and birthing people must be active participants in the policy decisions that impact their lives;

(6) in order to ensure access to safe and respectful maternal health care for Black birthing people, Congress must pass legislation intended to end preventable maternal mortality, severe maternal morbidity, and maternal health disparities in the United States and other legislation rooted in human rights that seek to improve maternal care and outcomes; and

(7) “Black Maternal Health Week” is an opportunity to—

(A) deepen the national conversation about Black maternal health in the United States;

(B) amplify and invest in community-driven policy, research, and quality care solutions;

(C) center the voices of Black Mamas Matter Alliance, Inc., women, families, and stakeholders;

(D) provide a national platform for Black-led entities and efforts on maternal and mental health, birth equity, and reproductive justice;

(E) enhance community organizing on Black maternal health; and

(F) support efforts to increase funding and advance policies for Black-led and centered community-based organizations and perinatal birth workers that provide the full spectrum of reproductive, maternal, and sexual health care.

SENATE RESOLUTION 676—RECOGNIZING AND HONORING NATIONAL MUSHROOM DAY AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHESTER AND BERKS COUNTIES TO THE NATIONAL MUSHROOM INDUSTRY AND TO HEALTHY DIETS

Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself and Mr. McCORMICK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 676

Whereas June 1 is National Mushroom Day;

Whereas, since the cultivation of mushrooms began in France in 1651, the cultivation of mushrooms has been developed and advanced through the hard work of mushroom growers;

Whereas, in 1885, a successful florist in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, conceived the idea of growing mushrooms beneath his greenhouse benches, leading to the first dedicated mushroom growing operation in the area;

Whereas over 60 percent of United States mushrooms are now grown in Chester and Berks Counties, Pennsylvania;

Whereas the mushroom farms in Chester County include both large and small farms, including multigeneration family farms, demonstrating the region's support for small businesses and local producers;

Whereas the local mushroom growers meet and collaborate, leading to the innovation that distinguishes the region and its mushroom industry;

Whereas the mushroom growers and the farmworker community contribute substantially to the local economy, employing nearly 10,000 workers and bringing an estimated \$2,700,000,000 into Chester County;

Whereas the year-round production of mushrooms and the associated industries support continuous employment, stable farm operations, and sustained economic activity by providing reliable jobs and supporting agricultural supply chains;

Whereas mushroom production represents one of agriculture's most successful examples of a circular economy, utilizing agricultural byproducts that reduce inputs and environmental impacts and using innovative practices that protect local ecosystems;

Whereas mushrooms are celebrated by home cooks and chefs because of their versatility, affordability, savory umami flavor, and nutritional qualities;

Whereas mushrooms are a dietary staple due to their nutritional value; and

Whereas mushrooms are fat-free, cholesterol-free, low in calories, low in sodium, and an important part of a diet rich in whole foods: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the recognition of National Mushroom Day;

(2) honors the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for its unparalleled contributions to the national mushroom industry; and

(3) recognizes the role mushrooms play in a healthy diet that is rich in whole foods.

SENATE RESOLUTION 677—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD PRIORITIZE SECURING THE RELEASE OF PASTOR JIN MINGRI, PASTOR GAO QUANFU AND HIS WIFE PANG YU, DR. GULSHAN ABBAS, AND JIMMY LAI DETAINED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA DURING FUTURE ENGAGEMENTS WITH CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KAINE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. CURTIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 677

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China has arrested Chinese, American, and British citizens for the peaceful expression of speech or religion, or such acts by family members;

Whereas such arrests have been widely condemned by the international community and human rights organizations, with repeated calls for the release of the detainees;

Whereas, on May 17, 2025, Pastor Gao Quanfu of the Light of Zion Church in Xi'an Province was detained and is being held on charges of "using superstitious activities to undermine the implementation of law" and "fraud";

Whereas Pastor Gao's wife, Pang Yu, who was subsequently detained on June 7, 2025, remains held despite holding no official position in the church, and has been denied access to critical prescription medication;

Whereas, on or about October 10, 2025, authorities of the People's Republic of China detained Pastor Jin Mingri, founder of Zion Church, along with other church leaders, on equally dubious charges of "illegal use of information networks";

Whereas Pastor Jin continues to be detained without access to critical medications to treat diabetes or contact with family members in the People's Republic of China and the United States;

Whereas, on November 7, 2025, the Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 463, calling for the "immediate and unconditional release of all detained members of Zion Church, including Pastor Jin" and for the Government of the People's Republic of China to end "harassment and intimidation of the relatives of Zion church members and their relatives";

Whereas Gulshan Abbas, a retired medical doctor and grandmother, was forcibly disappeared on September 11, 2018, shortly after her sister, a United States citizen, publicly criticized the treatment of Uyghurs by the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas Dr. Abbas was later sentenced to 20 years following secret proceedings on charges that independent observers and human rights organizations have characterized as politically motivated;

Whereas the prolonged detention of Dr. Abbas raises grave concerns regarding her health, wellbeing, and access to due process, as she suffers from severe high blood pressure and osteoporosis, among other conditions;

Whereas, on July 25, 2024, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate unanimously passed an amendment to Senate Bill 4797, 118th Congress, restricting United States visas for "Government officials of the

People's Republic of China about whom the Secretary of State has credible information have been involved in the wrongful detention of Gulshan Abbas";

Whereas, in 1995, Jimmy Lai founded the Apple Daily newspaper in Hong Kong and subsequently faced repeated harassment and arrest, including a 69 month sentence in 2022, on dubious fraud charges and a subsequent 20 year sentence in February 2026, on equally dubious national security charges;

Whereas, in December 2025, President Donald Trump said he had asked Chinese President Xi Jinping to consider releasing Jimmy Lai;

Whereas, on December 4, 2025, House Resolution 930 was introduced commemorating Jimmy Lai and calling on authorities of the People's Republic of China to "immediately and unconditionally release Jimmy Lai and all other Hong Kong pro-democracy advocates unjustly imprisoned"; and

Whereas addressing individual cases of wrongful detention has historically been an important component of United States diplomacy, reflects longstanding bipartisan commitments to political and religious freedoms, and is an important factor in United States bilateral relations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the President to prioritize securing the humanitarian release of Pastor Jin Mingri, Pastor Gao Quanfu and his wife Pang Yu, Dr. Gulshan Abbas, Jimmy Lai, and other wrongly detained individuals on the agenda for engagements with President Xi Jinping, including the anticipated May 2026 summit;

(2) urges the President to seek verifiable proof of life and access to independent legal counsel, family communication, and medical care for such detainees; and

(3) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to defend political and religious freedom and advocate for the release of those wrongfully detained for exercising such fundamental freedoms.

SENATE RESOLUTION 678—PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS FOR TRAVEL BY SENATORS TO OR FROM THEIR RESIDENCE DURING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

Mrs. MOODY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 678

Resolved,

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR TRAVEL BY SENATORS TO OR FROM THEIR RESIDENCE DURING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS.

Amounts made available to a Senator from the Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account may not be obligated or expended to directly pay for, or reimburse a Senator for, the cost of travel by the Senator between the seat of Government and the primary residence of the Senator during a period during which there is a lapse in appropriations for 1 or more Federal agencies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 679—RECOGNIZING APRIL 14, 2026, AS "WORLD QUANTUM DAY", AND COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF WORLD QUANTUM DAY

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. COLLINS)

submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 679

Whereas quantum physics describes nature at the scale of atoms and subatomic particles;

Whereas "World Quantum Day" is celebrated by scientists in more than 70 countries to promote public understanding of quantum science and technology around the world;

Whereas the United States has recognized quantum information science, engineering, and technology as a key technology area for economic competition;

Whereas quantum information science, engineering, and technology can solve problems that current technologies and computing methods cannot;

Whereas quantum physics helps us to understand and develop technologies critical to everyday life, such as GPS, semiconductors, and lasers;

Whereas quantum information science, engineering, and technology may be able to make transformative breakthroughs in fields as varied as logistics, material sciences, and life sciences;

Whereas quantum information science is a multidisciplinary field, bridging science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as "STEM");

Whereas STEM is a critical part of education for children, and aptitude in STEM is essential for a knowledge-based society and for economic competition;

Whereas the United States needs to reinforce STEM education for all students in order to better prepare children for future careers in emerging technologies, including quantum, to succeed in a 21st-century economy;

Whereas STEM can be a fun and interesting part of education for children, and learning about quantum principles of superposition and entanglement can be an engaging way to teach children and attract children to study STEM;

Whereas the Planck constant is a fundamental constant governing quantum physics, which is used to define universal measurements such as the kilogram; and

Whereas the rounded first significant digits of the Planck constant are 4.14, and thus April 14 of each year is internationally recognized as "World Quantum Day": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes April 14, 2026, as "World Quantum Day";

(2) supports the goals of World Quantum Day to recognize and celebrate the role that quantum physics plays in our daily lives; and

(3) encourages schools and educators to observe World Quantum Day with appropriate activities that teach students about quantum physics and engage students in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I have two 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the