

Whereas, for nearly 25 years, both Republican and Democratic Presidents have affirmed the importance of language access through the implementation of Executive Order 13166, “Improving Access to English Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency”, which required Federal agencies and grantees to examine the services they provide and provide individuals with LEP “meaningful access” to agency services;

Whereas the California Department of Education recognizes April as National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month;

Whereas many States and local governments, including the States of New York and Hawaii, recognize April as Language Access Month; and

Whereas the purpose of Language Access Month is to increase awareness and celebrate the importance of language access to ensure equitable access to public services and programs for all Americans, including individuals with LEP: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the recognition of “National Language Access Month”;

(2) affirms the importance of meaningful language access in ensuring equitable participation in Federal programs and services;

(3) encourages Federal agencies, States, local governments, and community organizations to promote awareness of language access rights and resources; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Language Access Month with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 700—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 1, 2026, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2026, AS “FAIR CHANCE JOBS MONTH”**

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 700

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) nearly 80,000,000 people have a record of arrest or conviction;

(2) an estimated 19,000,000 people have felony convictions;

(3) nearly 13,000,000 people are charged each year with misdemeanor offenses;

(4) more than 600,000 people are released each year from Federal and State prisons;

(5) Black, Indigenous, and Latino people are 5, 4.2, and 2.4 times more likely than White people to be incarcerated, respectively, and also face higher rates of arrest; and

(6) LGBTQ+ individuals are 3 times more likely to be incarcerated and also face higher rates of arrest;

Whereas people who have been convicted of a crime and served their sentence continue to face consequences after release due to systemic biases and stigmas against formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas recidivism rates in the United States are among the highest in the world, with almost 44 percent of people who are released returning to incarceration within 1 year;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly ⅓ of the formerly incarcerated population is jobless at any given time;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly 14,000 laws and regulations and 48,000 collat-

eral consequences restrict formerly incarcerated individuals from getting professional licenses needed to work in some jobs;

Whereas 20 States and the District of Columbia allow occupational licensing boards to categorically reject applicants with prior convictions;

Whereas obstacles to employment, such as difficulty obtaining identification needed for employment, add undue burdens on returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas formerly incarcerated individuals earn nearly \$100 less per week than the average worker;

Whereas fair-chance employers can leverage financial incentives, such as the work opportunity tax credit, to benefit from hiring formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas employing returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals will result in a robust, vibrant, diverse, and resilient workforce;

Whereas having jobs that pay living wages, are conducive to health, provide opportunities for skillset development, provide opportunities for promotion, and provide benefits will facilitate stable employment and reduce recidivism;

Whereas returning citizens who have received vocational training while incarcerated are 28 percent more likely to obtain employment within 1 year of reentry into society than those lacking such training; and

Whereas, in addition to employment insecurity, returning citizens and formerly incarcerated people face numerous other obstacles to reentry and societal reintegration, including—

(1) housing insecurity and homelessness rates that are 10 times higher than the general public;

(2) near total restrictions in 12 States on access to temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.); and

(3) greater prevalence of chronic health conditions, lower quality and coverage of health insurance, and mortality rates that are 13 times higher than the general public: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 1, 2026, through April 30, 2026, as “Fair Chance Jobs Month”; and

(2) supports efforts to—

(A) ensure that people directly impacted by incarceration obtain stable and high-quality employment, housing, healthcare, and nutrition;

(B) dismantle structural barriers to fair-chance hiring and employment, such as licensing restrictions, employer liability, and insurance restrictions;

(C) expand workforce development programs for returning citizens, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration, including—

(i) pre-apprenticeship programs;

(ii) registered apprenticeship programs;

(iii) career coaching, résumé-building, technology literacy, and other skillset development programs; and

(iv) programs that educate employers on best practices for, and the benefits of, fair-chance hiring;

(D) match jobs providers with returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals seeking jobs;

(E) support efforts from labor unions and worker organizations to engage returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals who are seeking jobs;

(F) publicize work opportunities that are open to applicants with prior arrest or conviction records; and

(G) foster greater collaboration and dialogue between Federal, State, and local government agencies, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, employers, labor unions, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration to enhance fair-chance hiring and employment and help to heal communities impacted by mass incarceration.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 701—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20 THROUGH 26, 2026, AS “NATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK”**

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. KELLY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 701

Whereas the people of the United States are increasingly seeking opportunities for outdoor recreation, stargazing, and unique nighttime experiences;

Whereas national parks, rural communities, and protected landscapes with dark skies attract visitors interested in stargazing, recreation, and nature tourism;

Whereas the night sky has significantly impacted cultural traditions and human history;

Whereas the ability to observe the stars, planets, and other celestial bodies is an important part of the shared natural heritage of all people and should be preserved for future generations;

Whereas dark sky tourism provides economic opportunities for communities located near parks, observatories, and open landscapes;

Whereas preserving dark skies supports scientific discovery, astronomical research, and educational opportunities for students and communities;

Whereas astronomy education and public stargazing programs inspire interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;

Whereas artificial lighting can obscure visibility of the night sky and may limit opportunities for the people of the United States to observe stars, planets, and other celestial phenomena;

Whereas excessive artificial light can disrupt wildlife behavior and ecosystems;

Whereas many species rely on natural cycles of light and darkness to regulate biological process and ecosystem balance;

Whereas reducing brightness at night can save energy, reduce consumption, and lower costs;

Whereas artificial lighting has increased significantly in recent decades, contributing to light pollution across the United States; and

Whereas efforts to reduce light pollution can be achieved through simple measures such as shielding lights, directing lighting downward, and limiting unnecessary illumination: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of April 20 through 26, 2026, as “National Dark Sky Week”;

(2) encourages Federal agencies to coordinate among themselves to expand safe and informative dark skies opportunities to support local communities and all people of the United States;

(3) encourages communities, educators, scientists, and local governments to raise awareness of the value of preserving dark skies; and

(4) encourages individuals and organizations to adopt responsible outdoor lighting practices that protect the natural night sky.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 702—COMMENDING THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY AND RECOGNIZING ITS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 702

Whereas, on April 6, 1876, 35 chemists convened at the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York to found the American Chemical Society (ACS), establishing what would become one of the world's foremost scientific organizations;

Whereas, for 150 years, the ACS has advanced the chemical enterprise by supporting American innovation, fostering research, and disseminating scientific knowledge through its internationally respected publications and programs;

Whereas the American Chemical Society was incorporated by an Act of Congress on January 1, 1938, thereby affirming its national importance and mission of promoting the broader chemistry community;

Whereas chemistry, as the central science, connects and informs countless disciplines and plays an essential role in addressing challenges that affect every aspect of daily life;

Whereas global challenges in public health, national security, and emerging technologies increasingly demand collaborative, science-based solutions, with chemistry providing a critical foundation for such advancements to ensure continued American leadership in science and innovation;

Whereas the science of chemistry has the power to improve lives, strengthen communities, and make meaningful contributions that address critical societal and global issues;

Whereas innovations in chemical research and development continue to generate economic growth and employment across numerous industries and sectors;

Whereas chemists and chemistry professionals serve as catalysts for positive change—advancing discovery, expanding educational opportunity, and inspiring the next generation of scientific leaders; and

Whereas the American Chemical Society has demonstrated long standing leadership in promoting innovation, environmental stewardship, and scientific advancement for the benefit of the United States and the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the American Chemical Society on the momentous occasion of its 150th anniversary;

(2) recognizes the American Chemical Society for its enduring contributions to the scientific, educational, and economic strength of the United States;

(3) affirms the importance of promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, expanding opportunities for students to pursue chemistry and related fields, and encouraging youth from all communities to pursue careers in these disciplines; and

(4) requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of the American Chemical Society, Rigoberto Hernandez;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer of the American Chemical Society, Albert Horvath; and

(C) the Chair of the Board of the American Chemical Society, Wayne Jones.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 703—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2026, THROUGH MAY 9, 2026, AS “NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK” TO CELEBRATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS IN EVERY COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES**

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. REED, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. WARREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BUDD, Mr. KING, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. COONS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HUSTED, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. KIM, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 703

Whereas a National Small Business Week has been declared by every President since 1963;

Whereas there are more than 36,200,000 small businesses in the United States that support more than 62,300,000 jobs;

Whereas small businesses play an integral role in building the economy of the United States; and

Whereas May 3, 2026, through May 9, 2026, would be an appropriate week to celebrate National Small Business Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors and celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit of small businesses and the contributions they make to every community in the United States;

(2) applauds the efforts and achievements of the owners of small businesses and their employees in every community of the United States;

(3) recognizes that, in the face of significant challenges, the owners of small businesses have demonstrated incredible resilience; and

(4) supports the designation of the week of May 3, 2026, through May 9, 2026, as “National Small Business Week”.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 704—SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF NATIONAL FENTANYL AWARENESS DAY IN 2026, INCLUDING INCREASING INDIVIDUAL AND PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPACT OF FAKE OR COUNTERFEIT FENTANYL PILLS ON FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 704

Whereas drug traffickers are mass-producing fake or counterfeit pills and falsely marketing them as legitimate prescription pills to deceive the people of the United States;

Whereas many fake or counterfeit pills are made to look like prescription name-brand opioids, stimulants, or anxiety medications;

Whereas drug traffickers are using fake or counterfeit pills to exploit prescription drug misuse and the opioid crisis;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration (referred to in this preamble as the “DEA”) has observed a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing not less than 2 milligrams of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose;

Whereas 5 out of every 10 pills with fentanyl tested by the DEA contain a potentially lethal dose;

Whereas counterfeit pills may also contain fentanyl-related substances and methamphetamine;

Whereas the number of counterfeit pills with fentanyl seized by law enforcement agencies in 2025 was more than 47,000,000;

Whereas, including the nearly 10,000 pounds of fentanyl powder seized in 2025, total fentanyl seizures are equivalent to more than 369,000,000 lethal doses of fentanyl;

Whereas fake or counterfeit pills have been identified in all 50 States and the District of Columbia;

Whereas illicit fentanyl has also been detected in illicit drugs such as heroin, cocaine, MDMA (ecstasy and molly), and methamphetamine;

Whereas, for the 12-month period ending in October 2025, nearly 70,000 individuals in the United States died of drug-induced deaths, and more than 37,000 of those deaths involved illicit fentanyl and other synthetic opioids;

Whereas, in 2023, illicit fentanyl was involved in more deaths of individuals 55 years of age and under than any single other cause;

Whereas fake counterfeit pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them accessible to teens and youth;

Whereas illicit fentanyl is involved in more deaths of youths than all other drug types combined;

Whereas, between 2019 and 2021, drug overdose and poisoning deaths for individuals 14 to 18 years of age increased by 128 percent, a rate of increase which was 77 percentage points higher than the national rate and higher than the rate for any other 5-year age group;

Whereas, between 2019 and 2021, the number of deaths involving illicit fentanyl in drug overdose and poisoning deaths for individuals 14 to 18 years of age increased by 236 percent, a rate of increase which was 141 percentage points higher than the national rate