

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the bipartisan 9-8-8 Connect Act. This legislation would boost our continued efforts to improve access to and improve followup services through the 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

The 9-8-8 Connect Act establishes a new grant program for eligible crisis centers to provide followup services to individuals receiving suicide prevention and crisis intervention services, including check-in calls, outreach to ensure engagement in services and support, collaboration with family and caregivers, and referral navigation. It also requires carriers to allow calls and texts to 9-8-8 even if the plan is inactive or the carrier is experiencing service interruptions or failures, just as they currently do for 9-1-1 calls. Furthermore, it requires multiline systems like hotel and office phones to support the direct dialing of 9-8-8 rather than requiring a caller to dial 9 or another number before dialing 9-8-8.

Significant progress has been made in increasing access to quality mental health care in America. The 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline has been critical for supporting Americans in crisis; however, there is currently a lack of capacity to provide followup services for those in crisis.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration emphasizes the role of connections to care following a crisis episode in supporting individuals who are experiencing mental health, substance use, or suicidal crisis towards recovery.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention reports that 80 percent of surveyed crisis line callers said that followup services helped save their lives. A frequent critique of 9-8-8 is that, while a single contact may resolve a crisis situation for many individuals, a lack of followup support doesn't provide callers with the necessary mental health resources they may need longterm.

As awareness of 9-8-8 increases, it is critical to ensure that the line can quickly connect callers to a range of mental health services and a full continuum of care, including mobile crisis response teams.

I would like to thank Senator TILLIS for introducing this important legislation with me, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the bipartisan 9-8-8 Connect Act as soon as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 747—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 2026 AS “RENEWABLE FUELS MONTH” TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT RENEWABLE FUELS PLAY IN LOWERING FUEL PRICES FOR CONSUMERS, LESSENING RELIANCE ON FOREIGN ADVERSARIES, SUPPORTING RURAL COMMUNITIES, AND REDUCING CARBON IMPACTS

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

S. RES. 747

Whereas the United States is the largest producer of biofuels in the world, which contributes to the domestic economy, creates jobs, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions;

Whereas ethanol is a renewable fuel made of biomass from plant materials;

Whereas, in 2025, more than 79,000 jobs in the United States were directly associated with the ethanol industry, with an additional 237,000 indirect and induced jobs supported across all sectors of the economy;

Whereas, in 2025, the ethanol industry created \$28,000,000,000 in household income and contributed nearly \$50,000,000,000 to the gross domestic product of the United States;

Whereas ethanol and feed co-product production provide a valuable market for United States corn, as a typical dry mill ethanol plant adds nearly \$2 of additional value, or 55 percent, to every bushel of corn processed;

Whereas ethanol use reduces greenhouse gas emissions by between 44 and 52 percent on average compared to gasoline, and by displacing hydrocarbon substances like aromatics in gasoline, ethanol also helps reduce emissions of air toxins, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides, and exhaust hydrocarbons;

Whereas, in 2025, ethanol played a vital role in bolstering the energy independence of the United States by supplementing more than 640,000,000 barrels of imported crude oil;

Whereas, in 2025, ethanol exports reached a record 2,180,000,000 gallons, an increase of over 250,000,000 gallons compared to 2024;

Whereas ⅓ of every bushel processed by an ethanol plant is used to make distillers grains, one of the most efficient and desirable animal feeds available;

Whereas biodiesel is a drop-in replacement for petroleum-based diesel fuel that is produced from renewable resources such as recycled cooking oil, soybean oil, distillers corn oil, canola oil, and animal fats;

Whereas renewable diesel is an advanced biofuel, made from the same feedstocks as biodiesel, that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, while meeting the same standard specification for diesel fuels as petroleum-based diesel;

Whereas biomass-based diesel production uses more than 1,000,000,000 pounds of soybean oil per month and generates increasing amounts of soybean meal for feed markets, driving a 25 percent increase in crush capacity across the United States since 2023;

Whereas, in 2024, the biodiesel and renewable diesel sectors generated a total economic impact of \$42,400,000,000, supporting 107,400 United States jobs and contributing \$6,000,000,000 in wages;

Whereas biodiesel and renewable diesel can be used in existing diesel engines without modification and are available throughout the United States;

Whereas advanced biofuels like biodiesel and renewable diesel reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent compared to petroleum-based diesel;

Whereas biodiesel emits up to 80 percent less particulate matter than petroleum-based diesel, improving air quality and health outcomes;

Whereas the production of biodiesel and renewable diesel adds to the total domestic fuel supply, reducing the price of all diesel fuel at the pump;

Whereas, without the renewable fuel standard helping to drive production of biodiesel and renewable diesel, the value of soybeans grown by farmers in the United States would decrease by 10 percent;

Whereas sustainable aviation fuel is made from renewable biomass and waste resources and can deliver the performance of petroleum-based jet fuel; and

Whereas sustainable aviation fuel can be blended with conventional jet fuel and the use of sustainable or blended aviation fuel requires no infrastructure or equipment changes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 2026 as “Renewable Fuels Month”; and

(2) recognizes—

(A) the important role renewable fuels play in reducing the carbon impact of the United States;

(B) the ability of renewable fuels to lower fuel prices for consumers;

(C) the support to rural communities that renewable fuel industries provide; and

(D) the opportunity that the production of renewable fuels provides to lessen the reliance of the United States on foreign adversaries.

SENATE RESOLUTION 784—CONDEMNING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN TRUMP V. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, UNDER WHICH \$1,776,000,000 IN TAXPAYER MONEY MAY BE USED TO FINANCIALLY BENEFIT INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSAULTED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ON JANUARY 6, 2021, AND PRESIDENT TRUMP, HIS FAMILY, AND HIS POLITICAL ALLIES

Mr. DURBIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 784

Whereas, on May 18, 2026, the Justice Department, Internal Revenue Service, and personal counsel to President Trump agreed to a settlement that requires the Federal Government to establish a \$1,776,000,000 “Anti-Weaponization Fund”;

Whereas the distribution of the \$1,776,000,000 in the “Anti-Weaponization Fund” will be determined by a panel of 5 members appointed by the Attorney General and eligible for removal by the President “without cause”;

Whereas the panel described in the previous proviso “shall have the power to determine its own procedures for submitting, receiving, processing, and granting or denying claims” and is not required to make those procedures public;

Whereas a document published by the Department of Justice on May 19, 2026, and signed by Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche further states the United States is “FOREVER BARRED and PRECLUDED from prosecuting or pursuing” claims

against President Trump, “related or affiliated individuals (including, without limitation, family or others filing jointly),” or related companies and trusts;

Whereas, on May 19, 2026, Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche testified before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, and did not rule out using the “Anti-Weaponization Fund” to make payments to individuals who attacked the Capitol on January 6, 2021, including individuals who were found guilty of assaulting law enforcement officers;

Whereas, at a May 19, 2026 press conference, Vice President J.D. Vance similarly stated that the “Anti-Weaponization Fund” could be used to make payments to individuals who attacked the Capitol on January 6, 2021, including individuals who were found guilty of assaulting law enforcement officers;

Whereas Andrew Paul Johnson, who was pardoned by President Trump for his criminal conduct on January 6, 2021, was sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty on 5 charges of child sex abuse after trying to keep his minor victims silent by promising to share millions of dollars in restitution he expected to receive from the Trump Administration; and

Whereas, in addition to Andrew Paul Johnson, at least 20 other individuals who were pardoned by President Trump for their criminal conduct on January 6, 2021, have since been charged with, convicted of, or sentenced for, additional crimes, including conspiracy to commit murder, production and possession of child pornography, reckless homicide, burglary, and online solicitation of a minor, but still may be eligible to receive payments from the “Anti-Weaponization Fund”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate condemns—

(1) the use of public monies to financially benefit President Trump, his family, his associates, or his political allies;

(2) the effort to provide immunity from prosecution for tax crimes to President Trump, his family, his political allies, affiliated individuals, and related companies and trusts; and

(3) providing payments to individuals who attacked the Capitol on January 6, 2021, including individuals who assaulted law enforcement officers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 749—DESIGNATING MAY 2026 AS “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. JUSTICE, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KIM, and Mrs. MOODY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 749

Whereas President John F. Kennedy first designated May as “Senior Citizens Month” in 1963;

Whereas, in 1963, only approximately 17,778,000 individuals living in the United States were 65 years of age or older, approximately 1/3 of those individuals lived in poverty, and few programs existed to meet the needs of older individuals in the United States;

Whereas, in 2025, there were more than 64,617,088 individuals who were 65 years of age or older living in the United States, and those individuals accounted for 18.9 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas approximately 11,467 individuals in the United States turn 65 years of age each day;

Whereas, in 2025, more than 8,055,160 veterans of the Armed Forces were 65 years of age or older;

Whereas older individuals in the United States rely on Federal programs, such as programs under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) and the Medicaid program under title XIX of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), for financial security and high-quality affordable health care;

Whereas the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) provides—

(1) supportive services to help older individuals in the United States maintain maximum independence in the homes and communities of those individuals; and

(2) funding for programs that promote social connection and improve the health and well-being of older individuals, including nutrition services, transportation, and care management, which assist more than 14,000,000 older individuals in the United States each year;

Whereas, as local aging network leaders, Area Agencies on Aging are critical partners in the healthy aging continuum;

Whereas, in 2025, an estimated 7,016,000 individuals in the United States who were 65 years of age or older continued to work as full-time, year-round employees;

Whereas older individuals in the United States play an important role in society by continuing to contribute their experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments;

Whereas older individuals in the United States play vital roles in their communities and remain involved in volunteer work, the arts, cultural activities, and activities relating to mentorship and civic engagement;

Whereas more than 143,000 older individuals serve as AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program, and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, helping communities by mentoring and tutoring children, providing independent living support and companionship to other older adults, addressing food insecurity, and more; and

Whereas a society that recognizes the success of older individuals and continues to enhance the access of older individuals to quality and affordable health care will—

(1) encourage the ongoing participation and heightened independence of older individuals; and

(2) ensure the continued safety and well-being of older individuals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2026 as “Older Americans Month”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to provide opportunities for older individuals to continue to flourish by—

(A) emphasizing the importance and leadership of older individuals through public recognition of the ongoing achievements of older individuals;

(B) presenting opportunities for older individuals to share their wisdom, experience, and skills with younger generations; and

(C) recognizing older individuals as valuable assets in strengthening communities across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 750—RECOGNIZING “NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK” AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PUBLIC WORKS PROFESSIONALS

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CRAMER,

Mr. KELLY, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. CURTIS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 750

Whereas public works professionals provide essential services that support public health, safety, and quality of life in communities across the United States;

Whereas these services include the construction, operation, and maintenance of transportation systems, water and wastewater infrastructure, stormwater systems, solid waste management, and public facilities;

Whereas public works personnel play an important role in emergency response and recovery efforts, including clearing debris, restoring access, and helping communities rebuild following disasters;

Whereas reliable infrastructure is critical to economic growth, environmental stewardship, and community resilience;

Whereas public works agencies depend on a skilled and dedicated workforce to deliver these services;

Whereas National Public Works Week will be observed from May 17 through May 23, 2026, with the theme, “Rooted in Service. Powered by Community.”; and

Whereas National Public Works Week highlights the contributions of public works professionals and increases understanding of the infrastructure that serves the public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes “National Public Works Week” and the contributions of public works professionals;

(2) commends public works professionals for their service to communities across the United States; and

(3) encourages greater public awareness of the importance of public works and infrastructure.

SENATE RESOLUTION 751—DESIGNATING MAY 2026 AS “ALS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. COTTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 751

Whereas amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this preamble as “ALS”) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord;

Whereas the life expectancy for an individual with ALS is between 2 and 5 years after the date on which the individual receives an ALS diagnosis;

Whereas ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender, or socioeconomic boundaries;

Whereas ALS may affect any individual in any location;

Whereas the cause of ALS is unknown in up to 90 percent of cases;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of ALS cases have a strong known genetic driver;

Whereas, on average, the period between the date on which an individual first experiences symptoms of ALS and the date on which the individual is diagnosed with ALS is more than 1 year;

Whereas the onset of ALS often involves muscle weakness or stiffness, and the progression of ALS results in the further weakening, wasting, and paralysis of—

(1) the muscles of the limbs and trunk; and