

acre-feet of water per year, enough water for 3 million people, including Metropolitan Water District's project that involves a collaboration with Arizona and Nevada to work together to address water shortages on the Colorado River. The program benefits water supply as well as the environment by reducing the need to divert water from rivers and the Delta.

California also has dozens of other water recycling projects for which the bill would reauthorize federal grants for up to 25% of the costs. The MORE WATER Act also increases the cap on funding for these projects to \$50 million.

Furthermore, the bill would reauthorize a program that funds in-stream and floodplain habitat restoration and other projects to benefit threatened and endangered salmon and other fish species.

IMPROVING CALIFORNIA'S WATER DELIVERY SYSTEM

As more and more of California's precipitation comes from a few major atmospheric rivers, restoring the capacity of the California Aqueduct and other large canals is critical in order to capture this precipitation and move it to places where it can be stored in the ground for future use. To support this effort, the bill would create a new multi-benefit conveyance program that would provide federal grants for up to 30% of the cost of restoring these canals. Additionally, the new program would issue federal grants for up to 20% of the projects' costs to provide environmental benefits and/or safe drinking water benefits for the many low-income communities in the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California.

Designing projects for multiple benefits can incentivize the inclusion of win-win features that benefit both water supply and either the environment or drinking water for low-income communities. For example, the voluntary buyout of lands adjoining the canals and conversion to significant blocks of terrestrial habitat for native species in the San Joaquin Valley consistent with California's Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program could save hundreds of millions of dollars in additional repair costs for the canals by liming further groundwater pumping while simultaneously advancing important environmental goals.

Furthermore, water districts can be quite creative in delivering safe drinking water to low-income communities if incentivized to do so. For example, the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency exchanged some of its water supplies to low-income communities along the California Aqueduct in return for state funding of a pipeline on the western edge of the Mojave Desert.

BUILDING PROJECTS FASTER

Besides authorizing federal funding, the bill also expedites Congressional approval for these projects so they can be built faster and cheaper. The bill reauthorizes an expired programmatic approval for water recycling projects

and establishes a new programmatic approval so Congress does not have to enact specific bills for every project. This can trim five years or more off the process of developing projects and getting federal funding, without any reduction in the environmental reviews that projects must undergo.

I want to thank Congressman VALADAO (R-CA) for working with me on this effort.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 592—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF 2026 AS THE "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN FARMER" TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CRITICAL ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Mr. COONS, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 592

Whereas the United States proudly recognizes its agricultural heritage and acknowledges the vital role that women have played in advancing agriculture both domestically and globally;

Whereas women are essential to agriculture, serving as leaders on and off the farm, with more than 1,200,000 female agricultural producers in the United States comprising 36 percent of the agricultural producers of the United States;

Whereas, in addition to their leadership in farming and ranching operations, women in agriculture continue to make significant contributions across a wide range of sectors, including research and development, manufacturing, sales and distribution, agricultural education, agribusiness, and advocacy, benefitting communities in the United States and around the world;

Whereas 2026 has been designated as the International Year of the Woman Farmer;

Whereas women professionals and leaders in agriculture in the United States should be recognized and celebrated for their contributions during this designated year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of 2026 as the "International Year of the Woman Farmer";

(2) recognizes the critical role of women in agriculture; and

(3) encourages all citizens to—

(A) honor and recognize the contributions of women working in agriculture; and

(B) celebrate the positive impact these women have on the food systems and agricultural workforce of the United States by encouraging and empowering women to—

(i) pursue careers in agriculture, a high-demand and essential field;

(ii) cultivate leadership opportunities; and

(iii) help feed a growing and hungry world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 593—HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE 2025 POTOMAC RIVER MID-AIR COLLISION

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BUDD, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mr. WICKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KAINÉ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. WARNER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 593

Whereas, on January 29, 2025, a United States Army Black Hawk helicopter and a passenger aircraft, operated as American Airlines Flight 5342 from Wichita, Kansas, to Washington, D.C., collided in flight above the Potomac River near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport;

Whereas this tragedy took the lives of all 64 passengers and crew aboard the airliner and the lives of the 3 crew members aboard the helicopter, including individuals from Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, and several foreign countries;

Whereas 11 young United States figure skating athletes, along with their parents and coaches, were among the victims of the collision;

Whereas 3 United States Army soldiers, who selflessly chose to serve and defend their country, lost their lives in this tragic accident;

Whereas 78 agencies and organizations responded in the aftermath of the January 29, 2025 mid-air collision, including first responders of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Fire and Rescue Department, the United States Coast Guard, the Maryland State Police, and other local, State, and Federal agencies, all of which acted promptly and selflessly in responding to the disaster and assisting in the recovery efforts;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials have cooperated to conduct a thorough investigation of this incident;

Whereas countless individuals suffered the loss of a spouse, parent, sibling, friend, family member, or loved one; and

Whereas the lives of those lost will be remembered and cherished by those who loved them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the memory of all victims of the 2025 Potomac River mid-air collision near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, recognizing their lives and contributions to their families and the United States of America;

(2) offers sincere condolences to the families, loved ones, and friends of those who lost their lives in this tragic incident;

(3) acknowledges the bravery and professionalism of the more than 1,700 first responders and emergency personnel, servicemembers, medical professionals, and investigators who assisted in the rescue and recovery efforts following the collision;

(4) expresses its commitment to honoring and supporting the families affected by this tragedy; and

(5) expresses its commitment to translating the safety lessons learned from the collision into action to prevent future incidents and ensure a similar crash does not happen again.

SENATE RESOLUTION 594—SUPPORTING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CELEBRATING THE 52ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 594

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence and provide approximately 1,700,000 students with more than an exceptional scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools instill a broad, values-added education, emphasizing the life-long development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in young people in the United States;

Whereas Catholic schools serve the United States by providing a diverse student population from all regions of the United States and all socioeconomic backgrounds with a strong academic and moral foundation, including, according to the 2024–2025 National Catholic Education Association survey of elementary and secondary Catholic schools in the United States—

(1) 34.9 percent of students from racial minority backgrounds;

(2) 15.4 percent of students of Hispanic heritage; and

(3) 21.8 percent from non-Catholic families;

Whereas Catholic schools are an affordable option for parents, particularly in underserved urban areas;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students who are strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment that promotes spiritual, character, and moral development;

Whereas Catholic schools are committed to community service, producing graduates who hold “helping others” among their core values;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2024–2025 academic year is approximately 1,700,000, and the student-teacher ratio is 10 to 1, according to the 2024–2025 National Catholic Education Association survey of elementary and secondary Catholic schools in the United States;

Whereas the Catholic high school graduation rate is 98.6 percent, with 83.7 percent of graduates attending 4-year colleges;

Whereas the week of January 25, 2026, to January 31, 2026, has been designated as “National Catholic Schools Week” by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops;

Whereas, in 2026, National Catholic Schools Week marks a significant milestone and celebrates its 52nd anniversary, having been first established in 1974; and

Whereas the theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2026 is “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community”, which reflects the fact that Catholic schools, united in their faith, expand beyond the walls of the classroom to include the parents and families of students as integral parts of the school community; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of National Catholic Schools Week, an event—

(A) cosponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and

(B) established to recognize the vital contributions of the thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the United States;

(2) applauds the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on their selection of a theme that all can celebrate; and

(3) supports—

(A) the dedication of Catholic schools, including the students, parents, and teachers of such schools, across the United States toward academic excellence; and

(B) the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4253. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4254. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4255. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4256. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4257. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4258. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4259. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4260. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4261. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4262. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4263. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4264. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4265. Mr. SCOTT of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4266. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4267. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4268. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4269. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4270. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4271. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4272. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4273. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4274. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4275. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4276. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4277. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4278. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4279. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4280. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4281. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4282. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4283. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4284. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4285. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4286. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7148, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4287. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him