

time by Law make or alter such Regulations,” underscoring State control over electoral administration;

Whereas public statements by President Donald J. Trump urging members of one political party to “take over the voting” and calling for Republicans to “nationalize the voting,” including a Federal takeover of election processes in “at least many, 15 places,” represent a proposal that would require the Federal executive branch to displace the constitutionally assigned role of State and local authorities in administering elections;

Whereas the Constitution’s framework reflects a fundamental structural commitment to federalism and to the separation of powers between the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, with States primarily responsible for regulating elections, subject to guardrails by Congress;

Whereas repeated claims that the 2020 presidential election was “rigged” or marked by widespread, systemic fraud have been rejected by Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies in the first Trump Administration, State election officials, courts, and independent fact-checking, and have no credible evidentiary basis;

Whereas any attempt by the President to exercise unilateral authority over the conduct of Federal elections, absent a clear grant of constitutional or statutory power by Congress, would be illegal, unconstitutional, and without lawful effect;

Whereas the President has a constitutional obligation to “take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed,” not to disregard the constitutional order or to pursue actions that usurp powers reserved to the States or to Congress; and

Whereas the Senate affirms that preserving the constitutional allocation of powers over elections is essential to the integrity of the Republic, the rule of law, and the public’s confidence in democratic self-government: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) finds that the Constitution of the United States entrusts the primary oversight and administration of Federal elections to State and local authorities and Congress;

(2) rejects any suggestion that the President of the United States may lawfully “nationalize,” commandeer, or otherwise assume direct control over elections;

(3) renounces any effort by the President to exercise such authority, absent explicit constitutional or statutory grant, as antithetical to the Constitution, unlawful, and without effect;

(4) expresses its grave concern that public advocacy of unconstitutional power by the President undermines foundational principles of federalism, threatens the rule of law, and erodes public trust in the democratic process; and

(5) maintains that should the President attempt to implement or execute measures that unconstitutionally infringe on the constitutional prerogatives of the States or contrary to the laws enacted by Congress, such conduct would constitute grounds for impeachment and removal from office under article II of the Constitution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 606—CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN FOR ITS SUPPRESSION OF THE RIGHT OF IRANIANS TO PEACEFULLY ASSEMBLE

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr.

CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. COTTON, Mr. KIM, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 606

Whereas, on December 28, 2025, protests began in Iran in response to enduring economic hardship;

Whereas, in December 2025, the annual inflation rate in Iran reached 42.2 percent;

Whereas, on December 29, 2025, the Iranian rial hit a record low of 1,430,000 Iranian rials per one United States dollar, further causing economic strife for everyday Iranians;

Whereas the protests have spread throughout Iran’s capital of Tehran, all 31 provinces of Iran, and at least 100 other cities and towns nationwide in the country’s largest protests since 2022;

Whereas the first deaths were recorded on January 1, 2026, when at least seven protestors were shot and killed;

Whereas, on January 3, 2026, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said that “rioters must be put in their place;”

Whereas, beginning on January 8, 2026, the Iranian regime implemented near-total internet blackouts across the country, including both intranet access and external internet access as well as cellular services;

Whereas the Iranian regime uses censorship and internet blackouts as a tool of repression against the Iranian people;

Whereas the United States has long supported tools to ensure Iranians have access to the means to circumvent the censorship of the regime and access to news and information free of the regime’s interference, including through the Open Technology Fund, Radio Farda, and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks;

Whereas, on January 10, 2026, the Attorney General of Iran, Mohammad Movahedi Azad, said that anyone taking part in protests and those who “helped rioters” would be considered an “enemy of God,” a capital offense in Iran;

Whereas, as of February 10, 2026, there have been at least 6,126 deaths, with credible reporting of up to 30,000 deaths, including 86 children and 49 civilians who were not demonstrating, and 41,800 arrests of protestors have been reported;

Whereas hospitals, medical centers, and morgues have been overwhelmed with injured and dead protestors;

Whereas medical professionals inside Iran have reported receiving hundreds of patients who were injured by live rounds of ammunition from security forces;

Whereas Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei holds ultimate authority over Iran’s security agencies and has overseen and orchestrated countless human rights violations against Iranian citizens and dissidents since 1989;

Whereas the Iranian regime has used its security forces to crack down on protests through violent means, including through extrajudicial killings—

(1) in 1999, when at least three students were killed, several students disappeared, and at least 1,500 people were arrested following passage by the Iranian Parliament of censorship legislation and the subsequent closure of a reformist newspaper;

(2) in 2009, when dozens of people were killed and opposition candidates were arrested following protests over fraudulent elections;

(3) in 2017, when protests began as a result of increasing food prices and the deepening economic crisis, resulting in 20 deaths and hundreds of arrests;

(4) in 2019, when Iranian security forces killed approximately 1,500 people and detained 8,600 in response to protests over fuel; and

(5) in 2022, when more than 500 protestors were killed and 22,000 were detained after Mahsa Amini died while in the custody of the Morality Police after being detained for wearing a hijab “improperly,” prompting thousands of women to lead the Women, Life, Freedom effort in the streets of Iran;

Whereas the regime has a history of disproportionately cracking down on religious and ethnic minorities, including Christians, Baha’is, Zoroastrians, Jews, Sunnis, agnostics and Kurds;

Whereas Iranian civilians’ unprecedented nationwide protests and bravery, confronted with the regime’s unprecedented widespread extrajudicial killing of thousands and disruption of all electronic communication, have profoundly destabilized the country and constitute changed conditions in Iran;

Whereas the regime continues to persecute citizens who it disagrees with by using criminal statutes like “insulting the Prophet,” “insulting Islam,” “rebellion against God,” and “corruption on earth;”

Whereas the Government of Iran continues to attempt to suppress protestors, including through means of—

- (1) extrajudicial killings;
- (2) forced disappearances;
- (3) torture;
- (4) sexual and gender-based violence;
- (5) arbitrary detention and imprisonment;
- (6) severe restrictions on free expression,
- (7) internet blackouts, censorship, and prohibition of virtual private networks;
- (8) criminalization of libel; and
- (9) severe restrictions of religious freedom;

and Whereas the people of Iran have continued to fight for their basic human rights in the face of violence and oppression: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns the Government of Iran’s continued killing of protestors and bystanders;

(2) condemns the Government of Iran for its suppression of Iranians’ basic human rights, including their right to peacefully assemble;

(3) commends the courage of the Iranian people to protest amid increased and harsh persecution from the Government of Iran;

(4) calls on the Government of Iran to hold free and fair elections and allow the people of Iran to determine their own future; and

(5) supports the calls of the Iranian people to bring human rights violators to justice.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4296. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7147, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4296. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7147, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . OBSTRUCTION OF IMMIGRATION LAWS BY OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 1925. Obstruction of immigration laws by official interference

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘criminal alien’ means an alien (as defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1001(a))) who has been charged with or convicted of a crime under Federal or State law;

“(2) the terms ‘Federal sex offense’ and ‘minor’ have the meanings given such terms in section 3559(e)(2);

“(3) the term ‘immigration laws’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a));

“(4) the term ‘reasonable advance notice’, with respect to the release of a criminal alien, means notice regarding the scheduled release date and time of the criminal alien that is provided as early as practicable and, unless impossible, at least 48 hours prior to release;

“(5) the term ‘responsible executive official’, with respect to a law, regulation, policy, practice, or action, means the most senior executive official of a State or unit of government charged with overseeing execution of the law, regulation, policy, practice, or action.

“(6) the term ‘serious violent felony’ has the meaning given that term in section 3559(c)(2);

“(7) the terms ‘State’ and ‘unit of local government’ have the meanings given such terms in section 901(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251(a)); and

“(8) the term ‘State sex offense’ means a State or Military sex offense (as defined in section 3559(e)(2)) that is an offense under State law.

“(b) PROHIBITED CONDUCT.—It shall be unlawful for any responsible executive official of a State or unit of local government, acting under color of law, to knowingly prohibit, limit, or restrict compliance with any formal request under the immigration laws by the Department of Homeland Security for reasonable advance notice regarding the release of a criminal alien, including through establishing, directing, implementing, or enforcing any pertinent law, regulation, policy, practice, or action.

“(c) PENALTIES.—A person who violates subsection (b)—

“(1) if the violation results in the release from custody of a criminal alien who has been charged with or convicted of an offense consisting of murder, rape, or a Federal sex offense or State sex offense against a minor, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not less than 10 years and not more than 25 years, or both;

“(2) if the violation results in the release from custody of a criminal alien who has been charged with or convicted of an offense that is a serious violent felony, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years, or both; or

“(3) if the violation results in the release from custody of a criminal alien who has been charged with or convicted of any other Federal or State criminal offense, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not less than 30 days and not more than 6 months, or both.”

(b) SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.—If any provision of this section, an amendment made by this section, or the application of such a provi-

sion or amendment to any particular person or circumstance is held invalid, the remaining provisions of this section and the amendments made by this section, and the application of such remaining provisions and amendments to any other person or circumstance, shall not be affected thereby.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1925. Obstruction of immigration laws by official interference.”

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have four 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 VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

The Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Mrs. BRITT. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 315, H.J. Res. 142, and the Senate vote on passage at 12 noon; further, that upon disposition of the joint resolution, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147, and that there be 30 minutes of debate, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, and the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture following the use or yielding back of that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:01 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GEORGE KELESIS, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JASON M. FRIERSON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CATHERINE DILLON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS), VICE LEE SATTERFIELD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WILLIAM HAGUE, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE CARMEN G. CANTOR, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

KYLE HAUSTVEIT, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF ENERGY, VICE PRESTON GRIFFITH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

STEVEN LEWIS, OF MISSOURI, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN D. JORDAN, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

KEVIN LILLY, OF TEXAS, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE, VICE SHANNON ANEAL ESTENOZ, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASEL ROBERTS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

KAREN SESSIONS, OF TEXAS, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2025, VICE MARY T. BOYLE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SCOTT SOCHA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, VICE CHARLES F. SAMS III, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TODD STEGGERDA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

ASHLEY STOW, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 30, 2029, VICE JAMES E. TRAINOR III, TERM EXPIRED.

ANDREW WOODSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 30, 2031, VICE ALLEN DICKERSON, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ERICA R. AUSTIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 9435:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES M. VALPIANI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOHN I. ALORA