

Whereas the United States historically contributes almost one third of the total funds of the United Nations budget, yet has the same voting power and influence as all other member states in the United Nations;

Whereas the United States historically spends more than twice as much money on defense as all the other member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization combined;

Whereas the United States historically contributed almost one quarter of the total funds of the World Health Organization budget when the United States was a member of the World Health Organization;

Whereas the United States has contributed significantly to other multilateral institutions and multilateral security agreements at the expense of United States taxpayers and has failed to deliver returns on investment to Americans;

Whereas the significant financial and security contributions the United States has provided to multilateral institutions has not served United States interests of securing the blessings of liberty or providing for the common defense of the homeland;

Whereas bilateral agreements deliver stronger outcomes for the United States and put the United States in a more favorable position to advance its interests;

Whereas bilateral negotiations give the United States more leverage, and diplomacy is tailored to the culture, needs, and capabilities of each partner country;

Whereas bilateral agreements are often stronger, easier to secure, and can be amended more feasibly as the security environment and the interests of the United States change;

Whereas the United States is not coerced to relinquish its interests at the expense of the interests of other great powers and adversaries which are hostile towards the United States;

Whereas many multilateral agreements and institutions have outlived their original objectives and do not accurately represent the shared interests of the member states;

Whereas the United Nations is fraught with ideologies that do not align with the United States, including Marxism, antisemitism, climate alarmism, and other extremist ideologies that contradict the values of liberty and prosperity represented by the United States;

Whereas many of the countries that perpetrate gross violations of human rights against women, children, and minorities are active and influential members in the very United Nations bodies tasked with human rights protections;

Whereas the World Health Organization proved to be a puppet of the Chinese Communist Party, an adversary of the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic, and failed to make meaningful reforms following the pandemic;

Whereas the United Nations repeatedly protects the interests of adversaries of the United States by excluding Taiwan from participating in the United Nations system and elevating false Chinese data over other countries' data through the World Health Organization;

Whereas the objectives of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization outlined in the North Atlantic Treaty, done at Washington on April 4, 1949, were reached upon the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and several member states within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization no longer share values and interests with the United States;

Whereas the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have failed to assist the United States during its time of crisis facing the Iranian regime, which repeatedly

threatened the interests of all North Atlantic Treaty states with terrorist proxies; and

Whereas the interests and priorities of the United States are best served by bilateral security agreements with its partners and allies and not by multilateral security agreements or institutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses that the United States must use its power, influence, and resources to encourage small and medium states to choose the United States as its great power partner and ally of choice;

(2) recognizes that the United States should prioritize bilateral security agreements over multilateral security agreements and institutions; and

(3) determines that the United States should withdraw support for multilateral security agreements or institutions that undermine United States interests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 673—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CRUZ, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 673

Whereas, each year, the underground utility infrastructure of the United States, including pipelines, electric, gas, telecommunications, fiber, water, sewer, and cable television lines, is jeopardized by unintentional damage caused by those who fail to have underground utility lines located prior to digging;

Whereas some utility lines are buried only a few inches underground, making the lines easy to strike, even during shallow digging projects;

Whereas digging prior to having underground utility lines located often results in unintended consequences, such as service interruption, environmental damage, personal injury, and even death;

Whereas the month of April marks the beginning of the peak period during which excavation projects are carried out around the United States;

Whereas, in 2002, Congress required the Department of Transportation and the Federal Communications Commission to establish a 3-digit, nationwide, toll-free number to be used by State "One Call" systems to provide information on underground utility lines;

Whereas, in 2005, the Federal Communications Commission designated "811" as the nationwide "One Call" number for homeowners and excavators to use to obtain information on underground utility lines before conducting excavation activities (referred to in this preamble as the "One Call"/811 program");

Whereas the nearly 4,000 damage prevention professionals who are members of the Common Ground Alliance, States, the "One Call"/811 program, and other stakeholders who are dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services, promote the national "Contact 811 Before You Dig" campaign to increase public awareness about the importance of homeowners and excavators contacting 811 to find out the location of underground utility lines before digging;

Whereas the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-90; 125 Stat. 1904) affirmed and expanded the "One Call"/811 program by eliminating exemptions given to local and State government agencies and their con-

tractors regarding notifying "One Call"/811 centers before digging;

Whereas, according to the 2024 Damage Information Reporting Tool Report published by the Common Ground Alliance in August 2025—

(1) "No notification to the 811 center" remains the number 1 top root cause of damage;

(2) failure to notify 811 prior to digging contributed to 25 percent of damages; and

(3) fencing and landscaping are the top types of work performed when professionals cause no-notification damages; and

Whereas the Common Ground Alliance has designated April as "National Safe Digging Month" to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the United States and to celebrate the anniversary of the designation of 811 as the national "Contact Before You Dig" number: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month;

(2) encourages all homeowners and excavators throughout the United States to contact 811 by phone or online before digging; and

(3) encourages all damage prevention stakeholders to help educate homeowners and excavators throughout the United States about the importance of contacting 811 to have the approximate location of buried utilities marked with paint or flags before digging.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4791. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4201, to require the Chief of Space Operations to submit a feasibility report on expanding the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SA 4792. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4201, supra; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4791. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4201, to require the Chief of Space Operations to submit a feasibility report on expanding the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Indo-Pacific Space Partnership Act of 2026".

SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY REPORT ON EXPANDING MULTINATIONAL FORCE OPERATION OLYMPIC DEFENDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commander of the United States Space Command shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the feasibility and advisability of expanding the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender to include additional allies in the Indo-Pacific region, including Japan and the Republic of Korea.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of current activities and initiatives to facilitate the expansion of the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender to allied countries in the Indo-Pacific region, including Japan and the Republic of Korea.

(2) An identification of any policy change the Government of Japan, the Government of the Republic of Korea, and the government of any other allied country in the Indo-Pacific region identified by the Commander of the United States Space Command would need to make in order for the United States to extend a formal invitation for such countries to join the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender.

(3) An identification of any funding or policy change necessary to facilitate the accession to the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender of Japan, the Republic of Korea, and any other allied country in the Indo-Pacific region identified by the Commander of the United States Space Command.

(4) An assessment of each of the following:

(A) The manner in which the accession to the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender of Japan, the Republic of Korea, and any other allied country in the Indo-Pacific region identified by the Commander of the United States Space Command would affect United States national security interests.

(B) Whether the accession to the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender of Japan and the Republic of Korea—

(i) is feasible; and

(ii) would be in the national interest of the United States.

(C) The additional resources or authorities needed from the executive and legislative branches to carry out the accession to the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender of Japan and the Republic of Korea.

(C) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SA 4792. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4201, to require the Chief of Space Operations to submit a feasibility report on expanding the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “To require the Commander of the United States Space Command to submit a feasibility report on expanding the Multinational Force Operation Olympic Defender.”

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I have 11 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 COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, immediately following the business meeting, to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 3:30 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, April 15, 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, April 15, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

NATIONAL SLAM THE SCAM DAY

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 627.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 627) designating March 5, 2026, as “National Slam the Scam Day” to raise awareness about pervasive scams and to prevent government imposter scams and other types of scams by promoting education about such scams.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. RICKETTS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 627) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 5, 2026, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 673, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 673) supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. RICKETTS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 673) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

INVESTING IN ALL OF AMERICA ACT OF 2025

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2066 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2066) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to exclude from the limit on leverage certain amounts invested in smaller enterprises located in rural or low-income areas and small businesses in