STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3348. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain individuals who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3348

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Dream Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, any term used in this Act that is used in the immigration laws shall have the meaning given such term in the immigration laws.

(2) APPLICABLE FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY.—The term ''applicable Federal tax liability'' means liability for Federal taxes imposed under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, including any penalties and interest on Federal taxes imposed under that Code.

(3) ARMED FORCES.—The term ''Armed Forces'' has the meaning given the term ''armed forces'' in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

(4) DACA.—The term ''DACA'' means deferred action granted to an alien pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program announced by President Obama on June 15, 2012.

(5) DISABILITY.—The term ''disability'' has the meaning given such term in section 3(1) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102(1)).

(6) EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term ''early childhood education program'' has the meaning given such term in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003).

(7) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; HIGH SCHOOL; SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The terms ''elementary school'', ''high school'', and ''secondary school'' have the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(8) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term ''immigration laws'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).

(9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education''—

(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002); and

(B) does not include an institution of higher education outside of the United States.

(10) PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS.—The term ''permanent resident status on a conditional basis'' means status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis under this Act.

(11) POVERTY LINE.—The term ''poverty line'' has the meaning given such term in section 673 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902).

(12) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(13) UNIFORMED SERVICES.—The term ''Uniformed Services'' has the meaning given the term ''uniformed services'' in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 3. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR CERTAIN LONG-TERM RESIDENTS WHO ENTERED THE UNITED STATES AS CHILDREN.

(a) CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR STATUS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien shall be considered, at the time of obtaining the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under this section, to have obtained such status on a conditional basis subject to the provisions under this Act.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who is inadmissible or deportable from the United States, is in temporary protected status under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), or is the son or daughter of an alien admitted as a nonimmigrant described in subparagraph (E)(i), (E)(ii), (H)(i)(b), or (L) of section 101(a)(15) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) if—

(A) the alien has been continuously physically present in the United States since the date that is 4 years before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) the alien was younger than 18 years of age on the date on which the alien initially entered the United States;

(C) subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the alien—

(i) is not inadmissible under paragraph (2), (3), (6)(E), (6)(G), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

(ii) has not ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion; and

(iii) has not been convicted of—

(I) any offense under Federal or State law, other than a State offense for which an essential element is the alien's immigration status, that is punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 1 year; or

(II) 3 or more offenses under Federal or State law, other than State offenses for which an essential element is the alien's immigration status, for which the alien was convicted on different dates for each of the 3 offenses and imprisoned for an aggregate of 90 days or more;

(D) the alien—

(i) has been admitted to an institution of higher education;

(ii) has earned a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school, or has obtained a general education development certificate recognized under State law or a high school equivalency diploma in the United States;

(iii) is enrolled in secondary school or in an education program assisting students in—

(I) obtaining a regular high school diploma or its recognized equivalent under State law; or

(II) in passing a general educational development exam, a high school equivalence diploma examination, or other similar State-authorized exam; or

(iv)(I) has served, is serving, or has enlisted in the Armed Forces; or

(II) in the case of an alien who has been discharged from the Armed Forces, has received an honorable discharge; and

(E) the alien has sworn under penalty of perjury that the alien—

(i) has no unpaid applicable Federal tax liability, which is assessed and is not being disputed;

(ii) has entered into an agreement to resolve any such assessed and undisputed Federal tax liability (via an installment agreement, an offer in compromise, or otherwise) which has been approved by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue; or

(iii) has applied in good faith to enter into an agreement to resolve any such assessed and undisputed Federal tax liability, which has not been rejected by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

(2) WAIVER.—With respect to any benefit under this Act, the Secretary may waive the grounds of inadmissibility under paragraph (2), (6)(E), (6)(G), or (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humanitarian purposes or family unity or if the waiver is otherwise in the public interest.

(3) TREATMENT OF EXPUNGED CONVICTIONS.—An expunged conviction shall not automatically be treated as an offense under paragraph (1). The Secretary shall evaluate expunged convictions on a case-by-case basis according to the nature and severity of the offense to determine whether, under the particular circumstances, the Secretary determines that the alien should be eligible for cancellation of removal, adjustment to permanent resident status on a conditional basis, or other adjustment of status.

(4) DACA RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who was granted DACA unless the alien has engaged in conduct since the alien was granted DACA that would make the alien ineligible for DACA.

(5) APPLICATION FEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require an alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the cost of processing the application.

(B) EXEMPTION.—An applicant may be exempted from paying the fee required under subparagraph (A) if the alien—

(i)(I) is younger than 18 years of age;

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; and

(III) is in foster care or otherwise lacking any parental or other familial support;

(ii) is younger than 18 years of age and is homeless;

(iii)(I) cannot care for himself or herself because of a serious, chronic disability; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; or

(iv)(I) during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, accumulated $10,000 or more in debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line.

(6) SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not grant

an alien permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section unless the alien submits biometric and biographic data, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alternative procedure for aliens who are unable to provide such biometric or biographic data because of a physical impairment.

(7) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary shall utilize biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary determines appropriate—

(i) to conduct security and law enforcement background checks of an alien seeking permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section; and

(ii) to determine whether there is any criminal, national security, or other factor that would render the alien ineligible for such status.

(B) COMPLETION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The security and law enforcement background checks of an alien required under subparagraph (A) shall be completed, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, before the date on which the Secretary grants such alien permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section.

(8) MEDICAL EXAMINATION.—

(A) REQUIREMENT.—An alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall undergo a medical examination.

(B) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall prescribe policies and procedures for the nature and timing of the examination required under subparagraph (A).

(9) MILITARY SELECTIVE SERVICE.—An alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall establish that the alien has registered under the Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), if the alien is subject to registration under such Act.

(c) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE.—

(1) TERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD.—Any period of continuous physical presence in the United States of an alien who applies for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall not terminate when the alien is served a notice to appear under section 239(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

(2) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN BREAKS IN PRESENCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), an alien shall be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence in the United States under subsection (b)(1)(A) if the alien has departed from the United States for any period exceeding 90 days or for any periods, in the aggregate, exceeding 180 days.

(B) EXTENSIONS FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may extend the time periods described in subparagraph (A) for an alien who demonstrates that the failure to timely return to the United States was due to extenuating circumstances beyond the alien's control, including the serious illness of the alien, or death or serious illness of a parent, grandparent, sibling, or child of the alien.

(C) TRAVEL AUTHORIZED BY THE SECRETARY.—Any period of travel outside of the United States by an alien that was authorized by the Secretary may not be counted toward any period of departure from the United States under subparagraph (A).

(d) LIMITATION ON REMOVAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or the Attorney General may not remove an alien who appears prima facie eligible for relief under this section.

(2) ALIENS SUBJECT TO REMOVAL.—The Secretary shall provide a reasonable opportunity to apply for relief under this section to any alien who requests such an opportunity or who appears prima facie eligible for relief under this section if the alien is in removal proceedings, is the subject of a final removal order, or is the subject of a voluntary departure order.

(3) CERTAIN ALIENS ENROLLED IN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.—

(A) STAY OF REMOVAL.—The Attorney General shall stay the removal proceedings of an alien who—

(i) meets all the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (b)(1), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of such subsection;

(ii) is at least 5 years of age; and

(iii) is enrolled in an elementary school, a secondary school, or an early childhood education program.

(B) COMMENCEMENT OF REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS.—The Secretary may not commence removal proceedings for an alien described in subparagraph (A).

(C) EMPLOYMENT.—An alien whose removal is stayed pursuant to subparagraph (A) or who may not be placed in removal proceedings pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall, upon application to the Secretary, be granted an employment authorization document.

(D) LIFT OF STAY.—The Secretary or Attorney General may not lift the stay granted to an alien under subparagraph (A) unless the alien ceases to meet the requirements under such subparagraph.

(e) EXEMPTION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in this section or in any other law may be construed to apply a numerical limitation on the number of aliens who may be granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this Act.

SEC. 4. TERMS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS.

(a) PERIOD OF STATUS.—Permanent resident status on a conditional basis is—

(1) valid for a period of 8 years, unless such period is extended by the Secretary; and

(2) subject to termination under subsection (c).

(b) NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS.—At the time an alien obtains permanent resident status on a conditional basis, the Secretary shall provide notice to the alien regarding the provisions of this Act and the requirements to have the conditional basis of such status removed.

(c) TERMINATION OF STATUS.—The Secretary may terminate the permanent resident status on a conditional basis of an alien only if the Secretary—

(1) determines that the alien ceases to meet the requirements under paragraph (1)(C) of section 3(b), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of that section; and

(2) prior to the termination, provides the alien—

(A) notice of the proposed termination; and

(B) the opportunity for a hearing to provide evidence that the alien meets such requirements or otherwise contest the termination.

(d) RETURN TO PREVIOUS IMMIGRATION STATUS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is terminated under subsection (c) or whose application for such status is denied shall return to the immigration status that the alien had immediately before receiving permanent resident status on a conditional basis or applying for such status, as appropriate.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.—An alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is terminated under subsection (c) or whose application for such status is denied and who had temporary protected status under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) immediately before receiving or applying for such permanent resident status on a conditional basis, as appropriate, may not return to such temporary protected status if—

(A) the relevant designation under section 244(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)) has been terminated; or

(B) the Secretary determines that the reason for terminating the permanent resident status on a conditional basis renders the alien ineligible for such temporary protected status.

SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY FOR REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status granted under this Act and grant the alien status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

(A) is described in paragraph (1)(C) of section 3(b), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of that section;

(B) has not abandoned the alien's residence in the United States; and

(C)(i) has acquired a degree from an institution of higher education or has completed at least 2 years, in good standing, in a program for a bachelor's degree or higher degree in the United States;

(ii) has served in the Armed Forces for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received an honorable discharge; or

(iii) has been employed for periods totaling at least 3 years and at least 75 percent of the time that the alien has had a valid employment authorization, except that any period during which the alien is not employed while having a valid employment authorization and is enrolled in an institution of higher education, a secondary school, or an education program described in section 3(b)(1)(D)(iii), shall not count toward the time requirements under this clause.

(2) HARDSHIP EXCEPTION.—The Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status and grant the alien status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

(A) satisfies the requirements under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1);

(B) demonstrates compelling circumstances for the inability to satisfy the requirements under subparagraph (C) of such paragraph; and

(C) demonstrates that—

(i) the alien has a disability;

(ii) the alien is a full-time caregiver of a minor child; or

(iii) the removal of the alien from the United States would result in extreme hardship to the alien or the alien's spouse, parent, or child who is a national of the United States or is lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(3) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status granted under this Act may not be removed unless the alien demonstrates that the alien satisfies the requirements under section 312(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)).

(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an alien who is unable to meet

the requirements under such section 312(a) due to disability.

(4) APPLICATION FEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require aliens applying for lawful permanent resident status under this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the cost of processing the application.

(B) EXEMPTION.—An applicant may be exempted from paying the fee required under subparagraph (A) if the alien—

(i)(I) is younger than 18 years of age;

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; and

(III) is in foster care or otherwise lacking any parental or other familial support;

(ii) is younger than 18 years of age and is homeless;

(iii)(I) cannot care for himself or herself because of a serious, chronic disability; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; or

(iv)(I) during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, the alien accumulated $10,000 or more in debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line.

(5) SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status unless the alien submits biometric and biographic data, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alternative procedure for applicants who are unable to provide such biometric data because of a physical impairment.

(6) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary shall utilize biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary determines appropriate—

(i) to conduct security and law enforcement background checks of an alien applying for removal of the conditional basis of the alien's permanent resident status; and

(ii) to determine whether there is any criminal, national security, or other factor that would render the alien ineligible for removal of such conditional basis.

(B) COMPLETION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The security and law enforcement background checks of an alien required under subparagraph (A) shall be completed, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, before the date on which the Secretary removes the conditional basis of the alien's permanent resident status.

(b) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF NATURALIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of title III of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.), an alien granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis shall be considered to have been admitted to the United States, and be present in the United States, as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(2) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION FOR NATURALIZATION.—An alien may not apply for naturalization while the alien is in permanent resident status on a conditional basis.

SEC. 6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING IDENTITY.—An alien's application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis may include, as proof of identity—

(1) a passport or national identity document from the alien's country of origin that includes the alien's name and the alien's photograph or fingerprint;

(2) the alien's birth certificate and an identity card that includes the alien's name and photograph;

(3) a school identification card that includes the alien's name and photograph, and school records showing the alien's name and that the alien is or was enrolled at the school;

(4) a Uniformed Services identification card issued by the Department of Defense;

(5) any immigration or other document issued by the United States Government bearing the alien's name and photograph; or

(6) a State-issued identification card bearing the alien's name and photograph.

(b) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING CONTINUOUS PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.—To establish that an alien has been continuously physically present in the United States, as required under section 3(b)(1)(A), or to establish that an alien has not abandoned residence in the United States, as required under section 5(a)(1)(B), the alien may submit documents to the Secretary, including—

(1) employment records that include the employer's name and contact information;

(2) records from any educational institution the alien has attended in the United States;

(3) records of service from the Uniformed Services;

(4) official records from a religious entity confirming the alien's participation in a religious ceremony;

(5) passport entries;

(6) a birth certificate for a child who was born in the United States;

(7) automobile license receipts or registration;

(8) deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement contracts;

(9) tax receipts;

(10) insurance policies;

(11) remittance records;

(12) rent receipts or utility bills bearing the alien's name or the name of an immediate family member of the alien, and the alien's address;

(13) copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the United States;

(14) dated bank transactions; or

(15) 2 or more sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien who have direct knowledge of the alien's continuous physical presence in the United States, that contain—

(A) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(B) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(c) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING INITIAL ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES.—To establish under section 3(b)(1)(B) that an alien was younger than 18 years of age on the date on which the alien initially entered the United States, an alien may submit documents to the Secretary, including—

(1) an admission stamp on the alien's passport;

(2) records from any educational institution the alien has attended in the United States;

(3) any document from the Department of Justice or the Department of Homeland Security stating the alien's date of entry into the United States;

(4) hospital or medical records showing medical treatment or hospitalization, the name of the medical facility or physician, and the date of the treatment or hospitalization;

(5) rent receipts or utility bills bearing the alien's name or the name of an immediate family member of the alien, and the alien's address;

(6) employment records that include the employer's name and contact information;

(7) official records from a religious entity confirming the alien's participation in a religious ceremony;

(8) a birth certificate for a child who was born in the United States;

(9) automobile license receipts or registration;

(10) deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement contracts;

(11) tax receipts;

(12) travel records;

(13) copies of money order receipts sent in or out of the country;

(14) dated bank transactions;

(15) remittance records; or

(16) insurance policies.

(d) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ADMISSION TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that an alien has been admitted to an institution of higher education, the alien shall submit to the Secretary a document from the institution of higher education certifying that the alien—

(1) has been admitted to the institution; or

(2) is currently enrolled in the institution as a student.

(e) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A DEGREE FROM AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that an alien has acquired a degree from an institution of higher education in the United States, the alien shall submit to the Secretary a diploma or other document from the institution stating that the alien has received such a degree.

(f) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE, OR A RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT.—To establish that an alien has earned a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school, or has obtained a general educational development certificate recognized under State law or a high school equivalency diploma in the United States, the alien shall submit to the Secretary—

(1) a high school diploma, certificate of completion, or other alternate award;

(2) a high school equivalency diploma or certificate recognized under State law; or

(3) evidence that the alien passed a State-authorized exam, including the general educational development exam, in the United States.

(g) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENROLLMENT IN AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—To establish that an alien is enrolled in any school or education program described in section 3(b)(1)(D)(iii), 3(d)(3)(A)(iii), or 5(a)(1)(C), the alien shall submit school records from the United States school that the alien is currently attending that include—

(1) the name of the school; and

(2) the alien's name, periods of attendance, and current grade or educational level.

(h) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EXEMPTION FROM APPLICATION FEES.—To establish that an alien is exempt from an application fee under section 3(b)(5)(B) or 5(a)(4)(B), the alien shall submit to the Secretary the following relevant documents:

(1) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH AGE.—To establish that an alien meets an age requirement, the alien shall provide proof of identity, as described in subsection (a), that establishes that the alien is younger than 18 years of age.

(2) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH INCOME.—To establish the alien's income, the alien shall provide—

(A) employment records that have been maintained by the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other Federal, State, or local government agency;

(B) bank records; or

(C) at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the alien's work and income that contain—

(i) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(ii) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(3) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH FOSTER CARE, LACK OF FAMILIAL SUPPORT, HOMELESSNESS, OR SERIOUS, CHRONIC DISABILITY.—To establish that the alien was in foster care, lacks parental or familial support, is homeless, or has a serious, chronic disability, the alien shall provide at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the circumstances that contain—

(A) a statement that the alien is in foster care, otherwise lacks any parental or other familiar support, is homeless, or has a serious, chronic disability, as appropriate;

(B) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(C) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(4) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH UNPAID MEDICAL EXPENSE.—To establish that the alien has debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses, the alien shall provide receipts or other documentation from a medical provider that—

(A) bear the provider's name and address;

(B) bear the name of the individual receiving treatment; and

(C) document that the alien has accumulated $10,000 or more in debt in the past 12 months as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien.

(i) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATION FOR HARDSHIP EXEMPTION.—To establish that an alien satisfies one of the criteria for the hardship exemption set forth in section 5(a)(2)(C), the alien shall submit to the Secretary at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the circumstances that warrant the exemption, that contain—

(1) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(2) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(j) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES.—To establish that an alien has served in the Armed Forces for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received an honorable discharge, the alien shall submit to the Secretary official service records showing the character of the alien's service.

(k) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EMPLOYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien may satisfy the employment requirement under section 5(a)(1)(C)(iii) by submitting records that—

(A) establish compliance with such employment requirement; and

(B) have been maintained by the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other Federal, State, or local government agency.

(2) OTHER DOCUMENTS.—An alien who is unable to submit the records described in paragraph (1) may satisfy the employment requirement by submitting at least 2 types of reliable documents that provide evidence of employment, including—

(A) bank records;

(B) business records;

(C) employer records;

(D) records of a labor union, day labor center, or organization that assists workers in employment;

(E) sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the alien's work, that contain—

(i) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(ii) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien; and

(F) remittance records.

(l) AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT USE OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.—If the Secretary determines, after publication in the Federal Register and an opportunity for public comment, that any document or class of documents does not reliably establish identity or that permanent resident status on a conditional basis is being obtained fraudulently to an unacceptable degree, the Secretary may prohibit or restrict the use of such document or class of documents.

SEC. 7. RULEMAKING.

(a) INITIAL PUBLICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish regulations implementing this Act in the Federal Register. Such regulations shall allow eligible individuals to immediately apply affirmatively for the relief available under section 3 without being placed in removal proceedings.

(b) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the regulations published pursuant to subsection (a) shall be effective, on an interim basis, immediately upon publication in the Federal Register, but may be subject to change and revision after public notice and opportunity for a period of public comment.

(c) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which interim regulations are published under this section, the Secretary shall publish final regulations implementing this Act.

(d) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—The requirements under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act''), shall not apply to any action to implement this Act.

SEC. 8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not disclose or use information provided in applications filed under this Act or in requests for DACA for the purpose of immigration enforcement.

(b) REFERRALS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary may not refer any individual who has been granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis or who was granted DACA to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, or any designee of either such entity.

(c) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), information provided in an application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis or a request for DACA may be shared with Federal security and law enforcement agencies—

(1) for assistance in the consideration of an application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis;

(2) to identify or prevent fraudulent claims;

(3) for national security purposes; or

(4) for the investigation or prosecution of any felony not related to immigration status.

(d) PENALTY.—Any person who knowingly uses, publishes, or permits information to be examined in violation of this section shall be fined not more than $10,000.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3350. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the way beneficiaries are assigned under the Medicare shared savings program by also basing such assignment on primary care services furnished by nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and clinical nurse specialists; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3350

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''ACO Assignment Improvement Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE MEDICARE SHARED SAVINGS PROGRAM.

Section 1899(c)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395jjj(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) in the case of performance years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, primary care services provided under this title by an ACO professional described in subsection (h)(1)(B).''.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3352. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit rollover contributions from Roth IRAs to designated Roth accounts; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3352

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Retirement Rollover Flexibility Act''.

SEC. 2. ROLLOVER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ROTH IRAS TO DESIGNATED ROTH ACCOUNTS.

(a) TREATMENT AS ROLLOVER DISTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF ROTH IRA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(d)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''; or'' at the end of clause (i) and inserting a comma, by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting '', or'' and by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) the entire amount received (including money and any other property) is paid in a direct trustee-to-trustee transfer to a designated Roth account (within the meaning of section 402A)—

''(I) from an eligible Roth IRA, or

''(II) in an automatic portability transaction (as defined in section 4975(f)(12)(A)(i)).''.

(2) ELIGIBLE ROTH IRA.—Section 408(d)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(J) ELIGIBLE ROTH IRA.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the term 'eligible Roth IRA' means a Roth IRA which—

''(i) is the only Roth IRA (other than a Roth IRA established under section 401(a)(31)(B)(i)) maintained for the benefit of the individual during the taxable year of the taxpayer in which the distribution or payment described in subparagraph (A)(iii) is made, and

''(ii) has a balance at the time of the payment or distribution which is not in excess of the amount described in section 401(a)(31)(B)(ii).''.

(b) TREATMENT AS ROLLOVER CONTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF DESIGNATED ROTH ACCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 402A(c)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting ''or under section 408(d)(3)(A)(iii)'' after ''subparagraph (A)''.

(2) TREATMENT OF EARNINGS IN CASE OF TAXABLE DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 402A(d) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) TREATMENT OF ROTH IRA ROLLOVER CONTRIBUTIONS.—Notwithstanding section 72, the total amount of any rollover contribution to a designated Roth account under section 408(d)(3)(A)(iii) shall be treated as investment in the contract.''.

(c) COORDINATION WITH NONEXCLUSION PERIOD.—Section 402A(d)(2)(B) of such Code is amended—

(1) by striking ''earlier'' in the matter preceding subclause (i) and inserting ''earliest'',

(2) by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i),

(3) by striking the period at the end of clause (ii), and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) if a rollover contribution was made to such designated Roth account from a Roth IRA under section 408(d)(3)(A)(iii)(II) and the automatic portability provider (as defined in section 4975(f)(12)(A)(ii)) provides the first taxable year to which a contribution was made to the source plan, the first taxable year in which the individual made contributions to the source plan.

For purposes of clause (iii), the term 'source plan' means the eligible retirement plan (as defined in section 401(a)(31)(B)(ii)) from which amounts were transferred to the Roth IRA as described in section 4975(f)(12)(A)(i)(I).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or distributed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3353. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to States, territories, and Indian Tribes to address contamination by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances on farms, and for other purposes; to the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act. I thank my colleagues Senator KING and Senator SHAHEEN for joining me in introducing this important legislation for farmers across America and particularly in Maine and New Hampshire.

The Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act would provide vital assistance to farmers affected by PFAS contamination. PFAS are man-made chemicals—sometimes referred to as ''forever chemicals''—that can bioaccumulate in humans over time. They may traditionally be found in certain nonstick pans, some furniture, and firefighting foam and have been linked to cancer, thyroid disease, liver damage, decreased fertility, and hormone disruption. PFAS contamination is a growing problem, and additional resources are needed to support affected communities.

In Maine, PFAS contamination affecting many different sectors, including agriculture, has been discovered over the past several years. The presence of PFAS in wastewater sludge once spread as fertilizer has prevented some Maine farms from selling their products, thus leading to significant financial hardship for these family farmers. One such farmer is Fred Stone, a dairy farmer in Arundel, ME. In 2016, Fred discovered that the milk produced on his farm contained some of the highest levels ever reported for a PFAS contaminant at that time. More recently, a dairy farm in Fairfield, ME, found PFAS levels in its milk that were 153 times higher than the State's standard.

Dairy is not the only agricultural sector affected by these harmful chemicals. Adam Nordell and his wife Johanna Davis, from Unity, ME, learned that PFAS contaminated the soil and water in their organic vegetable farm, the result of sludge spread on their land in the 1990s. Tests showed that Adam and Johanna had levels of PFAS in their blood that were even higher than chemical plant workers who had manufactured PFAS for decades.

Currently, USDA Provides limited support through the Dairy Indemnity Payment Program, DIPP, to dairy farmers who have been directed to remove their milk from the commercial market. This program, however, falls far short in meeting the growing needs of all affected farmers in the State of Maine. Moreover, this program helps only dairy farmers, excluding the farmers of other agricultural products who have had their livelihoods disrupted by PFAS contamination. USDA should do more to assist all farmers harmed by these chemicals. That is what our legislation aims to do.

Specifically, the funds authorized by the Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act could be used for a variety of purposes at the State level, including financial assistance to affected farmers; capacity building for PFAS testing for soil or water sources; blood monitoring for individuals to make informed decisions about their health; equipment to ensure a farm remains profitable during or after known PFAS contamination; alternative production systems or remediation strategies; educational programs for farmers experiencing PFAS contamination; and research on soil and water remediation systems and the viability of those systems for farms.

In addition to making new resources available, our bill would create a task force at USDA charged with identifying other USDA programs to which PFAS contamination remediation should be added as an eligible activity. This would help bring more resources to farmers through existing programs. Additionally, the task force would provide technical assistance to States to help them coordinate their responses effectively.

USDA needs to step up and provide support to farmers, who through no fault of their own are at risk of losing their livelihoods because of PFAS contamination. The Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act would direct the Department to help where it is needed most. I know Secretary of Agriculture Rollins cares about this problem due to our discussions on PFAS.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill. As the members of the Senate Agriculture Committee begin work on the 2026 farm bill, I hope that we can work together to pass the Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act into law.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3365. A bill to ensure that students in schools have a right to read, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, literacy opens the door for lifelong opportunity and economic success. Yet, the long-term trend in the National Assessment of Educational Progress, NAEP, shows continued declines in reading scores with record-low percentages of students reporting regularly reading for fun outside of school. We need urgent action to ensure that all children have the means and the right to read. That is why I am pleased to join Representative ADELITA GRIJALVA and Senators SCHATZ, HIRONO, DURBIN, KING, WHITEHOUSE, and WYDEN in introducing the Right to Read Act.

The Right to Read Act leverages the tools that will make our students strong, lifelong readers. It requires States and school districts to have policies protecting the right to read, which includes access to evidence-based reading instruction; access to effective school libraries; access to developmentally and linguistically appropriate materials—including at home; family literacy support; and the freedom to choose reading materials.

Research consistently shows that investing in school libraries and school librarians improves literacy outcomes, with the connection between high-quality school library programs and student achievement being particularly pronounced for the most vulnerable learners. But not every student has access to library services. In 2020 to 2021, the first full school year after the onset of the COVID–19 pandemic, 29.5 percent of schools reported not having a full- or part-time librarian, an increase from 25.4 percent in 2015 to 2016. Schools with high percentages of economically disadvantaged and minority students were even less likely to have access to certified librarians.

Moreover, school libraries are most effective when they offer resources that resonate, engage, and empower students and that align with their first amendment rights. Too many students are subject to ill-conceived book bans. During the 2024 to 2025 school year, PEN America recorded 6,870 instances of book bans across 23 States. Many of the banned titles address issues of racial, ethnic, or gender identity.

The Right to Read Act addresses the disparities in access to school library resources, ensuring that low-income, minority children, English learners, and students with disabilities are not disproportionately enrolled in schools that lack effective school libraries. It supports the development of effective school libraries, including the recruitment, retention, and professional development of State-certified school librarians. It will also increase the Federal investment in literacy by reauthorizing comprehensive literacy state development grants at $500 million and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy Program at $100 million, targeting critical literacy resources in high-need communities. Importantly, the bill protects access to quality reading materials and provides the resources needed to create a foundation for learning and student success.

In developing this legislation, Representative GRIJALVA and I worked closely with the library community, including the American Library Association and the American Association of School Librarians. We are also pleased to have the support of the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association, the National Council of Teachers of English, PEN America, and Reach Out and Read. These are the experts in helping kids become lifelong readers and learners. I appreciate their insight and assistance on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation to ensure that all students have a right to read.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SHEEHY):

S. 3372. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude qualified wildfire relief payments from gross income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the bipartisan Protect Innocent Victims of Taxation After Fire Extension Act. This legislation would extend and make permanent the tax relief that Congress has provided for individuals and families that have received compensation for losses and damages suffered during a wildfire.

The Protect Innocent Victims of Taxation After Fire Extension Act would make permanent the exclusion of certain qualified wildfire relief payments from gross income, including compensation for losses, expenses, or damages, such as compensation for additional living expenses, lost wages, personal injury, death, or emotional distress.

It would also allow taxpayers to claim the exemption in the year they receive payments rather than have to file, for a refund. This will provide more immediate and much needed certainty to wildfire survivors. It would also ensure that future recipients of wildfire-related settlements are able to use the entire sum of compensation towards the intended purpose of rebuilding.

Unfortunately, utility-caused fires are becoming increasingly common, meaning more States now have qualifying settlements or active litigation related to such disasters.

Congress acknowledged the fact that wildfire survivors should not be subject to the financial uncertainty of not knowing how much of their claims will be made available for recovery when it passed the Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act, P.L. 118–148, which included my bill to create this exclusion. This is a policy that passed the Senate with unanimous consent.

Unfortunately, this exclusion will expire at the end of the 2025 calendar year, which means any settlement payments beginning in 2026 will again be subject to Federal income tax obligations. The Protect Innocent Victims of Taxation After Fire Extension Act will make this exclusion permanent so that we might provide at least some sense of certainty to all who have suffered devastating losses.

I would like to thank Senators LUMMIS, WYDEN, and SHEEHY for introducing this bill with me in the Senate, and I would like to thank Representatives LAMALFA and THOMPSON for leading this bipartisan legislation in the House. I hope my colleagues will join us again in supporting this bill to ensure wildfire victims receive full and proper compensation to help rebuild their lives and communities.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 3377. A bill to delay the implementation of a rule relating to the importation of sheep and goats and products derived from sheep and goats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3377

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION OF RULE RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF SHEEP AND GOATS AND PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM SHEEP AND GOATS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 1 year after the date on which the report is submitted under subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture, and any other Federal official, may not finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule entitled ''Importation of Sheep, Goats, and Certain Other Ruminants'' (81 Fed. Reg. 46619) and dated July 18, 2016.

(b) STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) STUDY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a study on the potential costs and benefits of the rule referred to in subsection (a).

(B) CONTENTS.—The study required by subparagraph (A) shall assess—

(i) the estimated amount of sheep and goat meat imported into the United States as a result of the implementation of the rule referred to in subsection (a);

(ii) the estimated increase in the number of live sheep and goats imported into the United States as a result of the rule;

(iii) the estimated demand for sheep and goat meat in the United States during the 10-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, disaggregated by region and State;

(iv) the impact of the COVID–19 pandemic on the economic data and market conditions for imports of sheep and goat meat and live sheep and goats;

(v) the potential effects of the rule on—

(I) the supply and prices of live sheep and goats in the United States;

(II) producers of and markets for live sheep and goats in the United States, disaggregated by region and State;

(III) export opportunities for United States producers of sheep and goat meat;

(IV) the competitiveness of the sheep and goat industries in the United States;

(V) consumer confidence in sheep and goat meat;

(VI) the health of sheep and goat herds in the United States; and

(VII) disease outbreaks across species of animals;

(vi) the estimated amount of direct payments made by foreign countries to producers of live sheep and goats in such countries as a result of the implementation of the rule referred to in subsection (a); and

(vii) any negative impacts that could result from the implementation of the rule referred to in subsection (a) not covered by clauses (i) through (vi).

(2) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the committees specified in subparagraph (B) a report that includes—

(i) an analysis of the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1); and

(ii) recommendations for changes to the rule referred to in subsection (a) to eliminate or mitigate any negative effects of the implementation of the rule.

(B) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this subparagraph are—

(i) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 529—CONDEMNING ANTI-PALESTINIAN HATRED ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK IN BURLINGTON, VERMONT, ON NOVEMBER 25, 2023

Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 529

Whereas, on November 25, 2023, three college students were shot while walking down a street in Burlington, Vermont, where they were visiting family for Thanksgiving;

Whereas all three victims were grievously injured, including one who was paralyzed;

Whereas Hisham Awartani, Kinnan Abdalhamid, and Tahseen Ali Ahmad were attacked simply for wearing a scarf using a traditional Palestinian pattern and speaking in Arabic;

Whereas Palestinian communities across the United States and the Middle East have suffered growing threats and acts of violence and prejudice linked to anti-Palestinian and anti-Muslim hatred during the war in Gaza; and

Whereas no individual in the United States should be subjected to violence or intimidation because of their religion, ethnicity, heritage, or expressions of identity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) mourns those killed and injured in the United States by anti-Palestinian violence since the beginning of the war in Gaza, including the murder of Wadea al-Fayoume in Plainfield Township, Illinois, and the violent attack on Hisham Awartani, Kinnan Abdalhamid, and Tahseen Ali Ahmad in Burlington, Vermont;

(2) decries the bias, hatred, and threats to life and safety experienced by many Palestinian Americans during the two-year conflict in Gaza;

(3) condemns hateful language that—

(A) advocates for the removal of Palestinians from Israel or the Palestinian territories;

(B) suggests that Palestinians should move to other countries; and

(C) denies the existence, cultural traditions, or right to a state of the Palestinian people; and

(4) commends community leaders in the United States, Israel, and the West Bank and Gaza who have spoken out against hateful language and urged peace and mutual respect between different communities, religions, and traditions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 530—CONDEMNING THE PARDON OF EX-HONDURAN PRESIDENT JUAN ORLANDO HERNANDEZ

Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 530

Whereas, according to court documents, from at least 2004 up to and including 2022, Juan Orlando Hernández, the former president of the Honduran National Congress and former two-term President of Honduras, was at the center of one of the largest and most violent drug-trafficking conspiracies in the world;

Whereas, during his political career, President Hernández abused his positions and authority in Honduras to facilitate the importation of over 400 tons of cocaine into the United States, enough for approximately 4,500,000,000 individual doses;

Whereas President Hernández's co-conspirators were armed with machine guns and other weapons, including AK–47s, AR–15s, and grenade launchers, which they used to protect their cocaine shipments as they transited across Honduras on route to the United States, protect the money they made from the sale of the cocaine, and guard their drug-trafficking territory from rivals;

Whereas President Hernández and his co-conspirators abused Honduran institutions, including the Honduran National Police and the Honduran military, to protect and grow their conspiracy, using heavily armed Honduran National Police officers to protect their cocaine shipments as they transited across Honduras;

Whereas President Hernández received millions of dollars of drug money from some of the largest and most violent drug-trafficking organizations in Honduras, Mexico, and elsewhere, and used those bribes to fuel his rise in Honduran politics, including a $1,000,000 bribe from El Chapo, one of the world's most notorious drug kingpins;

Whereas, as President Hernández rose to power in Honduras, he provided increased support and protection for his co-conspirators, allowing them to move tons of cocaine, commit acts of violence and murder, and turn Honduras into one of the most dangerous countries in the world;

Whereas, during his time in office, President Hernández protected and enriched the drug traffickers in his inner circle and those who provided him with cocaine-fueled bribes that allowed him to obtain and stay in power;

Whereas President Hernández selectively supported and took credit for extraditions to the United States of certain drug traffickers who threatened his grip on power, while at the same time promising drug traffickers who bribed him and followed his instructions that they would remain safe in Honduras;

Whereas the threat of being extradited to the United States made drug traffickers eager to bribe anyone who could protect them, and according to Federal prosecutors, they came to know they could rely on President Hernández;

Whereas President Hernández directed the Honduran National Police and military to protect smugglers who paid him off and he promised to shield them from extradition to the United States, reportedly telling one cocaine trafficker that ''by the time the gringos find out, we will have eliminated extradition'';

Whereas President Hernández reportedly boasted, ''We are going to stuff the drugs up the gringos' noses, and they're never even going to know it.'';

Whereas several of President Hernández's co-conspirators were convicted and sentenced to prison in the United States, including President Hernández's brother, Juan Antonio Hernández Alvarado, also known as ''Tony Hernández'', who was convicted and sentenced to life in prison, Geovanny Fuentes Ramirez, a violent cocaine trafficker who met with President Hernández multiple times to discuss their drug trafficking partnership and who was convicted and sentenced to life in prison, and Juan Carlos Bonilla Valladares, also known as ''El Tigre'', the former chief of the Honduran National Police, who pleaded guilty to his participation in the cocaine importation conspiracy and was sentenced to 19 years in prison;

Whereas President Hernández was convicted of drug trafficking and weapons conspiracy after a jury trial that lasted nearly three weeks, and sentenced to 45 years imprisonment and fined $8,000,000;

Whereas President Hernández claimed that he was the victim of ''political persecution'', but no credible evidence to support that claim has been presented;

Whereas President Hernández's conviction and sentence were upheld on appeal; and

Whereas President Donald J. Trump's pardon of Juan Orlando Hernández is an affront to the Federal law enforcement and judicial officials who investigated and prosecuted him and to the jurors who performed their civil duty in convicting him, weakens the rule of law, and severely harms the credibility of the United States in combating drug trafficking in this hemisphere and beyond: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Federal investigators, prosecutors, and other United States law enforcement and judicial personnel for their extraordinary efforts in investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting President Juan Orlando Hernández;

(2) commends the members of the New York jury for faithfully and courageously weighing the evidence and finding President Hernández guilty beyond a reasonable doubt; and

(3) condemns the pardon of convicted cocaine kingpin Juan Orlando Hernández.

SENATE RESOLUTION 531—CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT ON NOVEMBER 29, 2025, AND RECOGNIZING ITS TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT ON THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KIM, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KELLY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 531

Whereas, on November 29, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (Public Law 94–142; 89 Stat. 773), which was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.);

Whereas, prior to the enactment of IDEA, more than 1,000,000 children with disabilities were excluded from public schools, and many children with disabilities were institutionalized or received inadequate or segregated education;

Whereas IDEA established the right of every child with a disability to a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment, fundamentally transforming the educational landscape for millions of students;