

Whereas to recruit and retain a qualified childcare workforce for young children, childcare staff for young children should be paid as much as K-12 staff with equivalent education and experience;

Whereas a full-time living wage of at least \$15 per hour is needed for childcare workers to meet the essential needs of their families, but the average childcare center worker earns \$10.60 per hour and has experienced no increase in real earnings since 1997;

Whereas high-quality childcare that works for everyone is essential for a strong economy and future;

Whereas each working family needs, in order to support its well-being—

- (1) universal preschool;
- (2) child nutrition programs that promote health and wellness;
- (3) a fair work schedule;
- (4) a living wage;
- (5) paid family and medical leave;
- (6) paid sick days; and
- (7) credit in the Social Security system for time spent caregiving; and

Whereas when families are guaranteed high-quality, flexible, available, and affordable childcare—

- (1) business productivity improves;
 - (2) parents have a greater likelihood of finding and keeping employment; and
 - (3) children do better in school and in life:
- Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports efforts—

- (1) to provide childcare assistance to each working family that needs childcare assistance, including—
 - (A) middle-class families that struggle to afford the costs of high-quality childcare; and
 - (B) underpaid families that are often left behind;
- (2) to make childcare affordable—
 - (A) such that no working family must pay more than 10 percent of its income for childcare; and
 - (B) by providing additional help to families most in need;
- (3) to ensure that childcare is available so that parents in the 24-hour economy can access high-quality care—
 - (A) when and where the parents need it (during weekends, nights, and as their job schedules change); and
 - (B) with options across school, center, and home settings;
- (4) to guarantee that each family eligible for childcare receives childcare by creating a system that expands with need;
- (5) to improve the quality of childcare by—
 - (A) guaranteeing childcare workers a living wage and wage parity with K-12 staff with equivalent education and experience;
 - (B) improving training opportunities; and
 - (C) giving workers a voice on the job to advocate for higher workplace standards and standards of care for the children the workers serve; and
- (6) to provide sufficient Federal, State, and local investment to ensure resources for high-quality jobs and affordable childcare.

SENATE RESOLUTION 293—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH, COMMENDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM ADVOCATES, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS, CRISIS HOTLINE STAFF, AND FIRST RESPONDERS SERVING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR THEIR COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HOLD PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACCOUNTABLE

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. AYOTTE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 293

Whereas domestic violence victim advocates, domestic violence service providers, domestic violence first responders, and other individuals in the United States observe the month of October, 2015, as “National Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in order to increase awareness in the United States about the issue of domestic violence;

Whereas it is estimated that each year up to 9,000,000 individuals in the United States are victims of intimate partner violence, including—

- (1) physical violence;
- (2) rape; or
- (3) stalking;

Whereas more than 1 in 5 women in the United States and more than 1 in 7 men in the United States have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner;

Whereas domestic violence affects women, men, and children of every age and background, but women—

- (1) experience more domestic violence than men; and
- (2) are significantly more likely than men to be injured during an assault by an intimate partner;

Whereas women aged 18 to 34 typically experience the highest rates of intimate partner violence, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics;

Whereas most female victims of intimate partner violence have been victimized by the same offender previously;

Whereas domestic violence is cited as a significant factor in homelessness among families;

Whereas research shows that households in which children are abused or neglected are likely to have a higher rate of intimate partner violence;

Whereas millions of children are exposed to domestic violence each year;

Whereas victims of domestic violence experience immediate and long-term negative outcomes, including detrimental effects on mental and physical health;

Whereas crisis hotlines serving domestic violence operate 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, and offer important—

- (1) crisis intervention;
- (2) support;
- (3) information; and
- (4) referrals for victims;

Whereas staff and volunteers of domestic violence shelters and programs in the United States, in cooperation with 56 State and territorial coalitions against domestic violence, serve—

(1) thousands of adults and children each day; and

(2) at least 1,000,000 adults and children each year;

Whereas law enforcement officers in the United States put their lives at risk each day by responding to incidents of domestic violence, which can be among the most volatile and deadly disturbance calls;

Whereas Congress first demonstrated a significant commitment to supporting victims of domestic violence through the landmark enactment of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.);

Whereas Congress has remained committed to protecting survivors of all forms of domestic violence and sexual abuse by making Federal funding available to support the activities that are authorized under—

- (1) the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.); and
- (2) the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925 et seq.);

Whereas there is a need to continue to support programs and activities aimed at domestic violence intervention and domestic violence prevention in the United States; and

Whereas individuals and organizations that are dedicated to preventing and ending domestic violence should be recognized: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of “National Domestic Violence Awareness Month”; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(A) continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and the corresponding devastating effects of domestic violence on survivors, families, and communities; and

(B) pledge continued support for programs designed—

- (i) to assist survivors;
- (ii) to hold perpetrators accountable; and
- (iii) to bring an end to domestic violence.

SENATE RESOLUTION 294—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26, 2015, AS DAY OF THE DEPLOYED

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 294

Whereas more than 2,000,000 individuals serve as members of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,700,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to the area of operations of the United States Central Command since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal military personnel from the total force (the regular components, the National Guard, and the Reserves), who protect the precious heritage of the United States through their declarations and actions;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;