

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 480) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MAY 2016 AS ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res 481, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 481) recognizing the significance of May 2016 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month and as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to join in the recognition and celebration of the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. This month, we celebrate the many contributions Asian American and Pacific Islanders, AAPI, have made to the United States and their cultures, traditions, and history. In 1978, Congress passed a joint congressional resolution to commemorate Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week during the first week of May in 1979, and in 1992, Congress passed legislation that annually designated May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Congress chose May because two important anniversaries occurred during this month. On May 7, 1843, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in America. May 10 is the anniversary of the transcontinental railroad's completion in 1869. Many of the workers who laid the tracks for this railroad were Chinese immigrants. These two dates only begin to describe the innumerable contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to this country. The AAPI community of over 18 million draws from a variety of distinct cultures, each of which has enriched American society and challenged our Nation to aspire to be better. This community comprises 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 different languages. Through hard work and a steadfast commitment to American ideals, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have strengthened this country as leaders, laborers, activists, artists, and trailblazers.

I remember our beloved former colleague, Senator Daniel K. Inouye, who lost an arm defending America during World War II as part of the "Go for Broke" 442nd Regiment, which was composed almost entirely of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry and became the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of American warfare. In Maryland, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions and serve our Nation with distinction. The Honorable Theodore D. Chuang of Bethesda, for example, is a U.S. District Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland and is the first Asian American judge in history to sit on the Federal bench in Maryland or the Fourth Circuit, which includes Maryland and four other States.

As the former chairman and current ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific, I have been closely engaged on issues affecting the Asia-Pacific American community and their families abroad. I will continue to work on behalf of this community, especially on issues such as human rights, security, and peace. I have, therefore, cosponsored two resolutions related to Asian Pacific Heritage Month. One resolution—the one the Senate is currently considering—recognizes the accomplishments of Asian American and Pacific Islanders and May 2016 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The other resolution notes the historical significance of Japanese internment and its end. I support this resolution, too, because as we honor Asian Americans, we must remember and acknowledge that dark stain on our history as we redouble our efforts to ensure that the United States of America remains a beacon of tolerance and inclusion. Discrimination based on the actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, or sexual orientation of people is anathema to the values we cherish as Americans.

Once again, I would like to thank Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islander Americans in Maryland and all around the country for their tremendous contributions to and sacrifices for our Nation.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 481) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3011

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3011) to improve the accountability, efficiency, transparency, and overall effectiveness of the Federal Government.

Mr. McCONNELL. I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016, THROUGH MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, May 27, at 12:30 p.m.; Tuesday, May 31, at 8:30 a.m.; Friday, June 3, at 1 p.m.; I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, June 3, it next convene at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 6; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; I ask that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 4 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 12:30 P.M. TOMORROW

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