

section 1902(e)(14), as added by subsection (a)(2)(A) of this section).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 350—RECOGNIZING THE 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE CELEBRATION OF “HUMAN RIGHTS DAY”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 350

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations 69 years ago on December 10, 1948, represents the first comprehensive agreement among nations as to the specific rights and freedoms of all human beings;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the basic principles of liberty and freedom enshrined in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights;

Whereas awareness of human rights—

- (1) is essential to the realization of fundamental freedoms;
- (2) promotes equality;
- (3) contributes to preventing conflict and human rights violations; and
- (4) enhances participation in democratic processes;

Whereas Congress has a proud history of promoting human rights that are internationally recognized; and

Whereas December 10 of each year is celebrated around the world as “Human Rights Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes the 69th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the celebration of “Human Rights Day”;
- (2) supports the ideals of human rights and reaffirms the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- (3) encourages all nations to continue working towards freedom, peace, and security, which can be achieved through democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of law; and
- (4) encourages the people of the United States to observe “Human Rights Day” and continue a commitment to upholding freedom, democracy, and human rights across the globe.

SENATE RESOLUTION 351—RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI ON DECEMBER 10, 2017

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 351

Whereas December 10, 2017, marks a historic bicentennial, denoting 200 years since the State of Mississippi was admitted to the Union;

Whereas this momentous occasion marks a time for Mississippians and all people of the

United States to remember the past and celebrate the future, including the significant contributions of the State of Mississippi to the culture, governance, and intellect of the United States;

Whereas on March 1, 1817, President James Monroe signed into law “An Act to enable the people of the western part of the Mississippi territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the union, on an equal footing with the original states” (3 Stat. 348, chapter 23), setting the boundaries for the State of Mississippi;

Whereas on December 10, 1817, the United States approved the Mississippi Constitution and admitted the State of Mississippi as the 20th State of the Union;

Whereas the history of Mississippi is most deeply rooted in the people and land of Mississippi, which has produced a unique and rich culture distinct from any other State;

Whereas in the 200 years since the birth of Mississippi as a sovereign State, the citizens of Mississippi have made many significant achievements in agriculture, art, cuisine, industry, literature, music, science, and many other important areas;

Whereas Mississippians have shown their patriotism to the United States through their dedicated service to the protection of the United States through every major conflict;

Whereas the land of Mississippi has produced crops, timber, and protein for the United States and the world while surviving the devastation of hurricanes and other natural disasters over the course of the history of Mississippi; and

Whereas the Mississippi Bicentennial Celebration Commission is dedicated to celebrating all aspects of the past 200 years of history of Mississippi as a State and has planned numerous major events in coordination with communities, which will culminate on December 9, 2017, with the grand opening of—

- (1) the Museum of Mississippi History; and
- (2) the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes the momentous occasion of the bicentennial of the State of Mississippi on December 10, 2017;
- (2) encourages all Mississippians to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and
- (3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—
 - (A) the Governor of Mississippi;
 - (B) the National Archives; and
 - (C) the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

SENATE RESOLUTION 352—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3 THROUGH DECEMBER 9, 2017, AS “NATIONAL NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINIC WEEK”

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 352

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics are nonprofit, community-based health care sites that offer primary care and wellness services based on the nursing model;

Whereas the nursing model emphasizes the protection, promotion, and optimization of health, the prevention of illness, the alleviation of suffering, and the diagnosis and treatment of illness;

Whereas an advanced practice nurse leads each nurse-managed health clinic, and an

interdisciplinary team of highly qualified health care professionals staffs each nurse-managed health clinic;

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics offer a broad scope of services, including treatment for acute and chronic illnesses, routine physical exams, immunizations for adults and children, disease screenings, health education, prenatal care, dental care, and drug and alcohol treatment;

Whereas, as of September 2017, approximately 500 nurse-managed health clinics provided care across the United States and recorded more than 2,500,000 patient encounters annually;

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics strengthen the health care safety net by expanding access to primary care and chronic disease management services for vulnerable and medically underserved populations in diverse rural, urban, and suburban communities;

Whereas research has shown that nurse-managed health clinics experience high patient retention and patient satisfaction rates, and nurse-managed health clinic patients, compared to patients of other similar safety net providers, experience higher rates of generic medication fills and lower hospitalization rates;

Whereas the 2013 Health Affairs article “Nurse-Managed Health Centers and Patient-Homes Could Mitigate Expected Primary Care Physician Shortage” highlights the ability of nurse-managed health clinics to bring high quality care to individuals who may not otherwise receive needed services; and

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics offering both primary care and wellness services provide quality care in a cost-effective manner: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) designates the week of December 3 through December 9, 2017, as “National Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Week”;
- (2) supports the ideals and goals of National Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Week; and
- (3) encourages the expansion of nurse-managed health clinics so that nurse-managed health clinics may continue to serve as health care workforce development sites for the next generation of primary care providers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 353—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 16, 2017, AS “WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 353

Whereas, 26 years before the date of adoption of this resolution, the Wreaths Across America project began with an annual tradition, which occurs in December, of donating, transporting, and placing 5,000 Maine balsam fir remembrance wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, during the 26 years preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 4,517,000 wreaths have been sent to locations, including national cemeteries and veterans memorials, in every State and overseas;

Whereas the mission of the Wreaths Across America project, to “Remember, Honor, Teach”, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and overseas, including at—

- (1) Arlington National Cemetery;

- (2) veterans cemeteries; and
- (3) other locations;

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project carries out a week-long veterans parade from Maine to Virginia, stopping along the way to spread a message about the importance of—

(1) remembering the fallen heroes of the United States;

(2) honoring those who serve; and

(3) reminding the people of the United States about the sacrifices made by veterans and the families of veterans to preserve freedoms in the United States;

Whereas, in 2016, approximately 1,200,000 remembrance wreaths were sent to more than 1,220 locations across the United States and overseas, which is an increase of more than 100 locations compared to the previous year;

Whereas, in December 2017, the tradition of escorting tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine, to Arlington National Cemetery will be continued by—

(1) the Patriot Guard Riders; and

(2) other patriotic escort units, including—

(A) motorcycle units;

(B) law enforcement units; and

(C) first responder units;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals volunteer each December to help lay remembrance wreaths;

Whereas, in 2017, the trucking industry in the United States continues to support the Wreaths Across America project by providing drivers, equipment, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths to more than 1,300 locations across the United States;

Whereas the Senate designated December 17, 2016, as “Wreaths Across America Day”; and

Whereas, on December 16, 2017, the Wreaths Across America project will continue the proud legacy of bringing remembrance wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 16, 2017, as “Wreaths Across America Day”;

(2) honors—

(A) the Wreaths Across America project;

(B) patriotic escort units, including—

(i) motorcycle units;

(ii) law enforcement units; and

(iii) first responder units;

(C) the trucking industry in the United States; and

(D) the volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes—

(A) the service of veterans and members of the Armed Forces; and

(B) the sacrifices that veterans and members of the Armed Forces have made, and continue to make, for the United States, a great nation.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by my colleague Senator ANGUS KING in sponsoring this resolution to designate December 16, 2017, as Wreaths Across America Day. Since its inception, the Wreaths Across America project has become an annual tradition of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir remembrance wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at veterans cemeteries and memorials in every State and overseas. In the program’s 26 years, more than 4.5 million wreaths have been placed in honor of those who have served our country.

The origin of Wreaths Across America is an inspiring example of that generosity and gratitude. During the Christmas season in 1992, Morrill and Karen Worcester took time during their busiest season to donate and deliver wreaths from their company in Harrington, ME, to Arlington National Cemetery to honor the heroes who lie at rest there. At first, a small group of volunteers laid the wreaths with little notice. In recent years, however, the Arlington Wreath Project has grown to become a national phenomenon. The people of Maine are proud that this important and well-deserved tradition began in our State.

This year, on December 16, thousands of volunteers in Arlington, throughout our Nation, and overseas will carry out the mission of Wreaths Across America to “Remember, Honor, Teach.” This will conclude a weeklong procession between Maine and Virginia, with stops along the way to pause and remember the men and women who have died to preserve our freedoms, spread the message about the importance of honoring those who serve, and remind the people of the United States about the sacrifices made by our veterans and their families. This procession helps to ensure that those sacrifices are never forgotten.

The Patriot Guard Riders, along with other dedicated escort groups, will accompany tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery. America’s trucking industry has long supported Wreaths Across America by providing drivers, equipment, fuel, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the country to more than 1,200 locations.

Wreaths Across America not only honors our departed heroes but also imparts the important message to veterans who are still with us that we honor their service. It tells our men and women in uniform today that we are grateful for their courage and devotion to duty. It tells the families of those serving our country that they are in our thoughts and prayers. And it tells the families of the fallen that we share their grief.

Throughout human history, the ever-green wreath has been offered as a tribute to heroes. On December 16, 2017, we will again offer this enduring symbol of valor and sacrifice as part of our never-ending obligation to thank those who wore the uniform of our country. In this season of giving, we will pay tribute to those who have given us the most precious gift of all—our freedom.

SENATE RESOLUTION 354—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE COURAGEOUS WORK AND LIFE OF ARGENTINIAN PROSECUTOR ALBERTO NISMAN, AND CALLING FOR A SWIFT AND TRANSPARENT INVESTIGATION INTO HIS TRAGIC DEATH IN BUENOS AIRES ON JANUARY 18, 2015

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 354

Whereas the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on July 18, 1994, killed 85 people and wounded more than 300;

Whereas the investigation of the AMIA bombing had been marked by grave judicial misconduct, and the case had reached an impasse in 2004;

Whereas, in September 2004, Alberto Nisman was appointed as the Special Prosecutor in charge of the 1994 AMIA bombing investigation;

Whereas, on October 25, 2006, Argentine prosecutors Alberto Nisman and Marcelo Martínez Burgos formally accused the Government of Iran of directing the bombing, and the Hezbollah militia of carrying it out;

Whereas Ibrahim Hussain Berro, a member of the terrorist group Hezbollah, was identified as the AMIA bomber;

Whereas Iranian nationals Ali Fallahijan (former Iranian intelligence minister), Mohsen Rabbani (former Iranian cultural attaché), Ahmad Reza Asghari (former Iranian diplomat), Ahmad Vahidi (former Iranian defense minister), Ali Akbar Velayati (former Iranian foreign minister), Mohsen Rezaee (former chief commander of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps), and Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani (former President of Iran) were named as suspects in the bombing;

Whereas Lebanese national Imad Fayeze Moughnieh (former head of Hezbollah’s external security) was named as a suspect in the bombing;

Whereas, in November 2007, Interpol voted to put these 5 Iranian and 1 Lebanese suspects in the 1994 AMIA attack on its most wanted list, and reportedly has extended these red notices in July, 2017;

Whereas, in 2007, Guyanese national Abdul Kadir plotted to blow up John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York and was, according to Mr. Nisman, “the most important Iranian agent” in Guyana and influenced by Mohsen Rabbani;

Whereas, in May 2013, prosecutor Alberto Nisman published a 500-page indictment accusing Iran of establishing terrorist networks throughout Latin America, including in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Suriname, dating back to the 1980s;

Whereas, according to the Department of State’s 2016 Report on Terrorism, Hezbollah, Iran’s proxy terrorist organization, continues to maintain an active presence in the Western Hemisphere as well as “some financial supporters, facilitators and sympathizers”;

Whereas, in January 2013, the Government of Argentina under then-President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner agreed with Iran in a Memorandum of Understanding to set up a so-called “truth commission” to investigate who was “really” responsible for the bombing, despite the fact that Iran and its proxy