

the Senate, "Right now, large parts of the fourth largest city in our country remain underwater. I extend my most heartfelt sympathies to the people of Houston and to those across parts of Texas and Louisiana who are just beginning a long road to recovery from Hurricane Harvey. Having lived through Hurricane Sandy in my home State of New York, I remember the agonies of families who lost their homes, lost their businesses, and, particularly in the first month, had a sense of helplessness about what had happened to them. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in Houston."

(4) On June 14, 2017, after the shooting in Alexandria, Virginia—

(A) Senator James Lankford said in a prayer on the floor of the Senate, "[A]s I have walked through the hallways heading back and forth to different meetings, I have been interested to see many doors that I have walked by, and when those doors were open, I could hear people inside praying. There have been at least three organized prayer meetings on the Hill today, specifically related just to that, and others spontaneously occurring. Just for a moment we have the opportunity to be able to reflect and say to God: Thank You so much for protecting the people on that field. Thank you again to the Capitol Police, who literally put their lives on the line to protect the guests and the Members and staff here every single day . . . I would like to be able to join what is happening all over this Hill for just a moment in this room—for us to be able to pray for a moment . . .";

(B) Minority Leader of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi said on the floor of the House of Representatives, "You may not know this, my colleagues, but every time I pray, which is very frequently, and certainly every Sunday, I pray for all of you, all of you together. In the earlier years, I used to pray for your happiness, for the fact that we would, working together, heed the words of President Kennedy in the closing of his inaugural address when he said: ' . . . God's work must truly be our own.' How do we view what God's will is for us? How do we come together to give confidence to the American people? As our Founders intended, we would have our disagreements and we would debate them, and we would have confidence in our beliefs and humility to listen to others. But in more recent years, I have been praying not only for that, but for our safety . . . My prayer is that we can resolve our differences in a way that furthers the preamble to the Constitution, takes us closer to 'e pluribus unum.' And today, again, it is in the family. It is an injury in the family for the staff and for our colleague and for his leadership."; and

(C) Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul Ryan said on the floor of the House of Representatives, "My colleagues, there are so many memories from this day that we will want to forget, and there are so many images that we will not want to see again. But there is one image in particular that this House should keep, and that is a photo I saw this morning of our Democratic colleagues gathered in prayer this morning after hearing the news . . . So before this House returns to its business, let's just slow down and reflect to think about how we are all being tested right now, because we are being tested right now. I ask each of you to join me to resolve to come together, to lift each other up, and to show the country, to show the world, that we are one House, the people's House, united in our humanity. It is that humanity which will win the day, and it always will. God bless."

(5) On September 28, 2017, Representative Steve Scalise, marking his return to the House of Representatives after being shot on

a baseball field in Alexandria, Virginia, said on the floor of House of Representatives, "[W]hen I was laying out on that ball field, the first thing I did once I was down and couldn't move anymore is I just started to pray. And I'll tell you it gave me an unbelievable sense of calm knowing that at that point it was in God's hands. But I prayed for very specific things, and I will tell you pretty much every one of those prayers was answered, and they were some pretty challenging prayers I was putting in God's hands. He really did deliver for me and my family. And it just gives you that renewed faith and understanding that the power of prayer is something that you just cannot underestimate."

(6) On October 2, 2017, after the shooting in Las Vegas, Nevada, Majority Leader of the Senate Mitch McConnell said on the floor of the Senate, "The news we awoke to this morning was heartbreaking. What happened in Las Vegas is shocking, it is tragic, and for those affected and their families, it is devastating. It is hard to even imagine their pain. I hope they will know that we are praying for them now. I hope they will find strength in the love and kindness of those around them in these hours of such darkness and pain. I hope they will see that our country is standing by their side today.";

Whereas the act of prayer is both an expression of religious belief and an act of speech that is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas the National Day of Prayer— (1) is consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

(2) belongs to all people in the United States; and

(3) "is very much in keeping with the pluralistic spirit of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. No single religious group can claim ownership or control of the National Day of Prayer; rather, it truly belongs to all Americans who seek divine guidance for themselves and for the country," as Representative Mervyn Dymally noted on the day the vehicle that would become Public Law 100-307 passed the House of Representatives;

Whereas calling for prayer in times of crisis and thanksgiving creates a sense of unity in the United States, and, as President Ronald Reagan noted in a radio address in 1982, "[P]rayer is one of the few things in this world that hurts no one and sustains the spirit of millions."; and

Whereas declaring a National Day of Prayer sets the United States apart as a country, and, as Representative William Danemeyer noted on the day the vehicle that would become Public Law 100-307 passed the House of Representatives, "A Nation in prayer has traditionally given this great Republic of ours the efficacy required to sustain it. A National Day of Prayer should be more than a mere commemorative occasion, it should be the spiritual sustenance that sets America apart from the rest of the world, the difference between freedom under God or slavery under the rule of men."; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 30th anniversary of the National Day of Prayer established under the Act entitled "An Act to provide for setting aside the first Thursday in May as the date on which the National Day of Prayer is celebrated", approved May 5, 1988 (Public Law 100-307; 102 Stat. 456), which was signed by President Ronald Reagan on May 5, 1988, and later codified as section 119 of title 36, United States Code;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to reaffirm the importance prayer has

played in the heritage of the United States; and

(3) expresses support for the continued recognition each year of—

(A) the National Day of Prayer; and

(B) the importance that prayer and faith have played in the history of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 745—COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RETURN OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER, AND THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Mr. COTTON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 745

Whereas, on April 2, 1917, President Thomas Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to convene an extraordinary session to officially declare war on the Imperial German Government;

Whereas, on April 4, 1917, the Senate passed a joint resolution that declared a formal state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government;

Whereas, on April 6, 1917, the House of Representatives adopted the same joint resolution that the Senate had passed, thereby marking the official entry of the United States into World War I;

Whereas more than four million American men and women served in uniform during World War I;

Whereas 116,516 Americans died from combat and disease and another 200,000 were wounded;

Whereas the Armistice Agreement to end World War I was signed in Paris, France, on November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.;

Whereas, on February 4, 1921, Congress approved the burial of an unidentified American soldier from World War I in the plaza of the new Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, on Memorial Day 1921, four unknown soldiers were exhumed from four World War I American cemeteries in France and United States Army Sergeant Edward F. Younger, who was wounded in combat, highly decorated for valor, and received the Distinguished Service Medal in "The Great War, the war to end all wars", selected the Unknown Soldier of World War I from four identical caskets at the city hall in Chalons-sur-Marne, France, on October 24, 1921, by placing a spray of white roses on the third casket from the left;

Whereas, on October 25, 1921, the casket bearing the unknown soldier was placed on the USS Olympia for transport back to the United States and the French Minister of Pensions presented the Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur, that country's highest military award, to the Unknown Soldier;

Whereas the USS Olympia reached the mouth of the Potomac on November 7, 1921, and on November 9, 1921, joined by the USS North Dakota (BB-29) and the USS Bernadou (DD-153), she stood up the channel to the Nation's Capital, exchanging salutes from Fort Washington and Mount Vernon during her passage;

Whereas the USS Olympia moored at the Washington Navy Yard on November 9, 1921, and was welcomed by District of Columbia Brigadier General Harry H. Bandholtz, USA, who commanded the Military District of Washington, and who led a welcoming entourage that included Secretary of War John W.

Weeks, Secretary of the Navy Edwin Denby, General of the Armies John J. Pershing, USA, Admiral Robert E. Coontz, CNO, and Major General John A. Lejeune, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps;

Whereas the USS Olympia fired a 21-gun salute, buglers on board sounded attention, and the boatswain piped the Unknown Soldier over the side, the ship's band playing the "Funeral March", followed by the national anthem;

Whereas the 3rd Cavalry Regiment's band played "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the procession, escorted by cavalry troopers, made its way toward the United States Capitol and additional ceremonies, culminating in interring the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery on November 11, 1921; and

Whereas, since 1948, soldiers from 3rd United States Infantry Regiment headquartered at Fort Myer, Virginia, have stood guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice Treaty;

(2) expresses gratitude and appreciation to the members of the Armed Forces who participated in World War I operations;

(3) honors the memory of the fallen heroes who wore the uniforms of the Armed Forces during World War I;

(4) commends the crew of the USS Olympia for their role in transporting the unknown soldier home to the United States; and

(5) commends the soldiers from the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment for standing guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier every day for 70 years, regardless of weather conditions be they rain, sleet, or snow.

SENATE RESOLUTION 746—CALLING FOR A PROMPT MULTINATIONAL FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION OPERATION IN THE BLACK SEA AND URGING THE CANCELLATION OF THE NORD STREAM 2 PIPELINE

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. COONS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SASSE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. JONES, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. PETERS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COTTON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CORKER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. TOOMEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. PERDUE, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 746

Whereas, in late February 2014, the Russian Federation invaded and illegally occupied

Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, in full contravention of the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, which condemn the threat or use of force as means of altering international borders;

Whereas the Russian Federation's attempted illegal annexation of Crimea is also a direct violation of its pledges as a signatory to the 1994 Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and existing borders and to refrain from the threat or use of force against Ukraine;

Whereas the inclusion of the United States and the United Kingdom as signatories to the Budapest Memorandum was essential in order to provide Ukraine the security assurances needed to give up its nuclear arsenal;

Whereas, on November 25, 2018, military forces of the Russian Federation attacked and seized three Ukrainian Navy vessels and their crews as they attempted to transit the Kerch Strait between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation still has not released the Ukrainian crew members or returned the Ukrainian ships that were seized illegally;

Whereas European Commissioner Julian King stated that the Government of the Russian Federation launched a disinformation campaign over a year ago designed to paint Ukraine and NATO as provocateurs in the Kerch Strait;

Whereas, as part of the Russian Federation disinformation campaign, Russian state media outlets spread demonstrable falsehoods, including claims that Ukraine was dredging the Kerch Strait seabed to facilitate the stationing of a NATO fleet, that Ukraine had intentionally infected the sea with cholera, and that Ukrainian and British clandestine services were conspiring to destroy the Kerch Strait bridge with a nuclear weapon;

Whereas the United States has important national interests in the Black Sea region, including the security of three NATO littoral states, the promotion of European energy market diversification by ensuring unfettered European access to energy exporters in the Caucasus and central Asia, and combating use of the region by smugglers as a conduit for trafficking in persons, narcotics, and arms;

Whereas the Nord Stream 2 pipeline is a proposed underwater natural gas pipeline project that would provide an additional 55,000,000,000 cubic meters of pipeline capacity from the Russian Federation to the Federal Republic of Germany through the Baltic Sea;

Whereas the Russian Federation's state-owned oil and gas company, Gazprom, is the sole shareholder of the Nord Stream 2 project;

Whereas, in 2017, there was spare capacity of approximately 55,000,000,000 cubic meters in the Ukrainian gas transit system;

Whereas Gazprom cut off natural gas exports to Europe via Ukraine in 2006, and again in 2009, over supply and pricing disputes with Ukraine's state-owned oil and gas company, Naftogaz;

Whereas transit of Russian natural gas to Europe via Ukraine declined precipitously after the completion of Nord Stream 1 in 2011, falling from 80 percent to between 40 and 50 percent of Russia's total exports to Europe;

Whereas, in 2017, Russian gas accounted for 37 percent of Europe's natural gas imports, an increase of 5 percent over 2016;

Whereas, on December 12, 2018, the European Parliament overwhelmingly passed a resolution condemning both the Russian Federation's aggression in the Kerch Strait

and the construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline; and

Whereas, on December 11, 2018, the United States House of Representatives passed a resolution calling upon the European Union to reject the Nord Stream 2 pipeline and urging the President to use all available means to promote energy policies in Europe that reduce European reliance on Russian energy exports: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the President to work with United States allies to promptly lead a robust multinational freedom of navigation operation in the Black Sea to help demonstrate support for internationally recognized borders, bilateral agreements, and safe passage through the Kerch Strait and Sea of Azov and to push back against excessive Russian Federation claims of sovereignty;

(2) calls upon the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to enhance allied maritime presence and capabilities, including maritime domain awareness and coastal defense in the Black Sea in order to support Freedom of Navigation Operations and allied interests;

(3) urges the President to use the authority provided under section 1234 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91; 131 Stat. 1659) to enhance the capability of the Ukrainian military;

(4) urges the President, through the Departments of State and Defense, to provide additional security assistance to Ukraine, especially to strengthen Ukraine's maritime capabilities, in order to improve deterrence and defense against further Russian aggression;

(5) reiterates that the President is required by statute to impose mandatory sanctions on the Russian Federation under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44);

(6) stresses that sanctions against the Russian Federation are a direct result of the actions of the Government of the Russian Federation and will continue and increase until there is an appropriate change in Russian behavior;

(7) calls upon United States allies and partners in Europe to deny Russian Navy vessels access to their ports to resupply and refuel;

(8) notes the resolution passed by the House of Representatives on December 11, 2018, calling on European governments to cancel the Nord Stream 2 pipeline and urging the President to support European energy security through a policy of reducing reliance on the Russian Federation;

(9) applauds and concurs with the European Parliament's December 12, 2018, resolution condemning Russian aggression in the Kerch Strait and the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, calling for the pipeline's cancellation due to its threat to European energy security, and calling on the Russian Federation to guarantee freedom of navigation in the Kerch Strait; and

(10) urges the President to continue working with Congress and our allies to ensure the appropriate policies to deter the Russian Federation from further aggression.

SENATE RESOLUTION 747—RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE NONSECTARIAN MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., THE ONLY MUSEUM OF ITS SIZE AND SCOPE IN THE WORLD DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE BIBLE

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RISCH, Mr.