

insurance, creating unprecedented demand for state and federal disaster recovery assistance; and

Whereas, The FEMA application process is so duplicative and confusing, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations are so complex, that many survivors give up trying to navigate the system and, therefore, receive no assistance; and

Whereas, Consolidating funding for recovery housing programs into a single Disaster Housing Response and Recovery Block Grant would increase efficiency, save taxpayer dollars, and speed the recovery process by combining FEMA's short-term programs and HUD's long-term programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact legislation to consolidate disaster recovery housing funding into a single Disaster Housing Response and Recovery Block Grant; and, be it further

Resolved, That the secretary of the senate forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM-113. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Hawaii urging the United States Congress to amend federal law to ensure that victims of sexual harassment and sexual assault who might otherwise be forced into arbitration and silence instead have access to the courts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

Whereas, access to the judicial system, whether federal or state, is a fundamental right of all Americans that should extend fully to persons who have been subjected to sexual harassment and sexual assault; and

Whereas, many employers require their employees, as a condition of employment, to sign arbitration agreements mandating that sexual harassment claims be resolved through arbitration instead of judicial proceedings; and

Whereas, arbitration requirements are often set forth in clauses found within the fine print of lengthy employment contracts, and that these clauses are typically presented in boilerplate "take-it-or-leave-it" fashion by employers; and

Whereas, additional concerns arise from the secrecy requirements of arbitration clauses, which disserve the public interest by keeping both the harassment complaints and any settlements confidential; and

Whereas, the prevalence of mandatory arbitration clauses and the associated secrecy requirements create a culture of silence that protects serial perpetrators at the cost of their victims; and

Whereas, the United States Senate and House of Representatives are considering legislation to address the issue of forced arbitration and secrecy in sexual harassment and sexual assault cases, and enable the victims of such egregious misconduct to seek redress in the courts; and

Whereas, the Hawaii Women's Legislative Caucus applauds the female members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives who are working in a bipartisan fashion to craft and advance this important legislation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular

Session of 2019, that members of the United States Congress are respectfully requested to amend federal law to ensure that victims of sexual harassment and sexual assault who might otherwise be forced into arbitration and silenced instead have access to the courts; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, members of each state's congressional delegation, and Governor.

POM-114. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to authorize the garnishment of veterans' disability benefits to fulfill child support obligations; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

Whereas, Civil Code Article 224 provides that parents are obligated to support, maintain, and educate their child, and the obligation to educate a child continues after minority as provided by law; and

Whereas, 5 CFR Part 581, Subpart A provides which moneys received by a civilian employee for services rendered to a governmental entity are subject to garnishment for the purpose of enforcing the legal obligations of obligors to provide child support; and

Whereas, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 659, the United States consents to the withholding and garnishing of income of an individual for the enforcement of the individual's child support and alimony obligations; and

Whereas, 42 U.S.C. 659 further provides that the federal government will allow under certain circumstances the garnishment of service-connected disability compensation paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to former members of the armed forces for the purpose of enforcing child support and alimony obligations; and

Whereas, in *Rose v. Rose*, 481 US 619 (1987), the Supreme Court held that not only could a state consider the amount of disability benefits received by a veteran in setting the amount of child support, but also, once a child support obligation had been created, the veteran's disability benefits could be used to satisfy that obligation; and

Whereas, in the same case, Justice Marshall, quoting the legislative record, describes the purpose of veterans' disability benefits as compensation for impaired earning capacity and "to provide reasonable and adequate compensation for disabled veterans and their families"; and

Whereas, as of February 2019, the current total for child support arrears in Louisiana is \$1,923,958,949.00 and less than one percent of that amount has been collected; and

Whereas, adequate child support is vital to the well-being of children and families in our state: Therefore, be it

Resolved That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to authorize the garnishment of veterans' disability benefits to fulfill child support obligations; be it further

Resolved That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-115. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to prohibiting any potential employer from requiring disclosure of an employment applicant's Social Security number until a conditional or firm offer

of employment is formally made to that candidate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-116. A resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah, New Jersey, recognizing June 7, 2019, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1309. A bill to identify and combat corruption in countries, to establish a tiered system of countries with respect to levels of corruption by their governments and their efforts to combat such corruption, and to assess United States assistance to designated countries in order to advance anti-corruption efforts in those countries and better serve United States taxpayers.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Monica David Morris, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of the United States Parole Commission for a term of six years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2086. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to improve transparency under the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2087. A bill to improve the removal of lead from drinking water in public housing; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2088. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repetitively damaged by floods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2089. A bill to prohibit the labeling of certain opioid drugs recommending use for long-term chronic pain; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTESZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2090. A bill to direct the Attorney General to submit to Congress investigative materials in the event of certain pardons granted by the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.