

SENATE RESOLUTION 298—CONCURRING WITH THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE UNITED STATES FROM THE INF TREATY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 298

Whereas, since 2014, the United States Government has found the Russian Federation to be in violation of the limitations in the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, together with the Memorandum of Understanding and Two Protocols, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly referred to as the “INF Treaty”);

Whereas, per Article XV of the INF Treaty, “Each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events related to the subject matter of this Treaty have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of its decision to withdraw to the other Party six months prior to withdrawal from this Treaty.”;

Whereas, on February 2, 2019, the United States notified the Russian Federation of its intent to withdraw from the INF Treaty;

Whereas the period of six month notice, required by Article XV of the INF Treaty, will close on August 2, 2019; and

Whereas, during the six month notice period, the Russian Federation made no attempt to return to compliance with the terms of the INF Treaty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) in accordance with all powers delegated and implied to Congress, concurs with the decision to withdraw the United States from the INF Treaty; and

(2) declares that—

(A) the United States is freed and exonerated from the stipulations of the INF Treaty; and

(B) the treaty shall not be regarded as legally obligatory on the Government or citizens of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 299—DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST 2019 AS “WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK”, AND DESIGNATING AUGUST 2019 AS “NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH”

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 299

Whereas the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that a baby be fed exclusively through breastfeeding for about the first 6 months after the birth of the baby, followed by continued breastfeeding as complementary foods are introduced, with con-

tinuation of breastfeeding for 1 year or longer as mutually desired by the mother and infant;

Whereas the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action has designated the first week of August as “World Breastfeeding Week”, and the United States Breastfeeding Committee has designated August as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

Whereas National Breastfeeding Month focuses on how data and measurement can be used to build and reinforce the connections between breastfeeding and a broad spectrum of other health topics and initiatives;

Whereas World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month provide important opportunities to address barriers to breastfeeding faced by families across the United States and around the world;

Whereas, according to the 2016 Breastfeeding Report Card of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 81.1 percent of mothers in the United States, or about 4 out of every 5 mothers in the United States, start breastfeeding their babies at the birth of their baby;

Whereas by the end of 6 months after the birth of a baby, breastfeeding rates for mothers in the United States fall to 51.8 percent, and only 22.3 percent of babies in the United States are exclusively breastfed at 6 months of age;

Whereas 2 of every 3 mothers report that they are unable to reach their personal breastfeeding goals;

Whereas there are substantial racial and ethnic disparities in breastfeeding initiation and duration;

Whereas, in 2014, 85.7 percent of non-Hispanic White infants were breastfed, as compared to—

(1) 68.0 percent of non-Hispanic Black infants; and

(2) 79.5 percent of non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native infants;

Whereas the Healthy People 2020 objectives for breastfeeding are that—

(1) 82 percent of babies are breastfed at some time;

(2) 61 percent of babies continue to be breastfed at 6 months; and

(3) 34 percent of babies continue to be breastfed at 1 year;

Whereas breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy that builds a foundation for life-long health and wellness;

Whereas the evidence of the value of breastfeeding to the health of women and children is scientific, solid, and continually reaffirmed by new research;

Whereas a 2016 study of maternal and pediatric health outcomes and associated costs based on 2012 breastfeeding rates indicates that if 90 percent of infants were breastfed according to medical recommendations, 3,340 deaths, \$3,000,000,000 in medical costs, and \$14,200,000,000 in costs relating to premature death would be prevented annually;

Whereas the great majority of pregnant women and new mothers want to breastfeed but face significant barriers in community, health care, and employment settings; and

Whereas a 2016 study found that universal breastfeeding—

(1) could prevent 800,000 child deaths per year across the world; and

(2) is an invaluable tool for mothers to provide essential nutrients to protect newborns against infectious diseases in developing countries; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of August 2019 as “World Breastfeeding Week”;

(2) designates August 2019 as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

(3) supports the goals of World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month; and

(4) supports policies and funding to ensure that all mothers who choose to breastfeed can access a full range of appropriate support from child care and health care institutions, health care insurers, employers, researchers, and government entities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 300—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 300

Whereas the week of April 1, 2019, through April 7, 2019, is National Public Health Week;

Whereas the theme for National Public Health Week in 2019 is “Creating the Healthiest Nation: For science. For action. For health.”;

Whereas the goal of National Public Health Week in 2019 is to recognize the contributions of public health to—

(1) improving the health of the people of the United States; and

(2) achieving health equity;

Whereas, in 2017, the life expectancy for the United States population declined for the third year in a row, and some of the leading causes of death are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems;

Whereas there is a significant difference in the health status of people living in the healthiest States compared to people living in the least healthy States, including differences in obesity rates, the prevalence of chronic disease, and the prevalence of infectious disease;

Whereas, despite significant progress in reducing the infant mortality rate in the United States to a historic low of 5.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2017, the number of infant deaths in the United States greatly varies among States;

Whereas women die from pregnancy-related deaths in the United States at a higher rate than in many other developed countries, and an estimated 60 percent of maternal deaths are preventable;

Whereas poisoning, including drug overdose, has become the leading cause of accidental death in the United States, with the number of drug overdoses more than tripling between 1999 and 2016;

Whereas, on average, 130 people in the United States die every day from an opioid overdose;

Whereas the smoking of cigarettes is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States, accounting for more than 480,000 deaths every year, including more than 41,000 deaths resulting from secondhand smoke;

Whereas the percentage of adults in the United States who smoke cigarettes has decreased from 20.9 percent of the population in 2005 to 14 percent of the population in 2017;

Whereas, according to data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey, between 2017 and 2018, current electronic cigarette use by students in the United States increased by 78 percent among high school students and by 48 percent among middle school students;

Whereas public health organizations use National Public Health Week to educate the public, policymakers, and public health professionals on issues that are important to