

choose the individuals who would represent the people of Afghanistan in parliament;

Whereas Afghanistan has made significant progress on human rights, including the rights of women and minorities, which are enshrined in the constitution of Afghanistan and further protected by the participation of the people of Afghanistan in democratic elections;

Whereas free and fair elections are a fundamental part of a strong democracy and allow the citizens of a country to exercise full civil, political, and human rights;

Whereas a credible electoral process is necessary for citizens of a country to trust in the democratic institutions and political leaders of that country;

Whereas elections should serve as peaceful processes through which the will of the voters is expressed and political power is transferred or reaffirmed;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan will go to the polls to exercise their democratic right to vote amid heightened threats and attacks by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban has targeted campaign rallies, candidates, and election events, resulting in 48 deaths on September 17, 2019, alone;

Whereas, since 2001, the United States has invested significantly in efforts to bring security and stability to the region, accounting for more than \$800,000,000,000 in efforts that include—

(1) helping to rebuild Afghanistan, including efforts to rebuild and reform the institutions of Afghanistan; and

(2) helping to defend the rights of the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States have been deployed to Afghanistan, of which—

(1) more than 20,500 have been wounded; and

(2) more than 2,400 have died while serving;

Whereas the international community has also made critical investments in democratic processes and institutions in Afghanistan;

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as “NATO”) invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty for the first time in history in the wake of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas, since the date on which NATO invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty, the longest and most challenging mission of NATO has been in commanding the International Security Assistance Force mandated by the United Nations—

(1) beginning in August 2003 and ending in December 2014; and

(2) which, at its largest, comprised more than 130,000 troops from 50 NATO allies and partner countries;

Whereas, in January 2015, NATO launched the Resolute Support Mission, which comprises approximately 17,000 troops from 39 NATO allies and partner countries as of September 2019;

Whereas the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces will have responsibility for providing security for the presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

Whereas, despite threats from the Taliban, people across Afghanistan are risking their lives to support, administer, and secure democratic election operations, including—

(1) 13,000 women and men who are serving as independent election observers;

(2) 50,000 citizens of Afghanistan who have signed up to be poll watchers from the political parties; and

(3) more than 200 members of the independent media who have been accredited to cover and report on the campaigns and election processes; and

Whereas a democratically elected and legitimate government that reflects the will of the people of Afghanistan is in the security interests of Afghanistan and the allies of Afghanistan, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

(2) commends the people of Afghanistan for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections;

(3) condemns all threats against the administration of free and fair democratic elections, including all acts of terrorism designed to depress turnout and intimidate voters; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Government to peace and stability in furtherance of a democratic Afghanistan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 345—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT, AND ENHANCE THE STATE OF, CYBERSECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 345

Whereas internet-based devices are present in every aspect of life for many people in the United States, with constant connection providing opportunities for innovation and modernization;

Whereas a connected society is subject to cybersecurity threats that can compromise even the most personal and sensitive information;

Whereas malware is any malicious software that can be used to compromise the integrity of an electronic device, including the various types of software that give cybercriminals unique methods to monitor and control online activity or steal personal information or other sensitive data, such as—

- (1) adware;
- (2) botnets;
- (3) ransomware;
- (4) rootkits;
- (5) spyware;
- (6) Trojans;
- (7) viruses; and
- (8) worms;

Whereas an insider threat occurs when a current or former employee, contractor, or business partner who has or previously had authorized access to the network, system, or data of an organization intentionally misuses that access in a manner that constitutes a cybercrime;

Whereas 28 percent of electronic crime events are known to be caused by insider threats;

Whereas public Wi-Fi hotspots can be convenient, but are not always secure, and may expose anyone connected to the network to a malicious cyberattack;

Whereas there are more than 10,000,000 attempted cyberattacks reported to the Pentagon each day;

Whereas everyone can take simple steps to minimize the chance of a cybercrime, including—

- (1) setting strong passwords;
- (2) installing updates;
- (3) understanding privacy settings; and
- (4) thinking critically and carefully about online offers;

Whereas National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort between government and industry—

(1) to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity;

(2) to provide education to public and private sector partners through events and initiatives;

(3) to ensure that public and private sector partners, and all people of the United States, have the tools and resources needed to be safer and more secure online; and

(4) to increase the resilience of the United States in the event of a cyber incident;

Whereas, in 2019, National Cybersecurity Awareness Month will emphasize personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and in the workplace, focusing on key areas such as—

- (1) citizen privacy;
- (2) consumer devices; and
- (3) e-commerce security;

Whereas the theme of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019 is “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”;

Whereas there are approximately 310,000 unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that there will be 1,800,000 unfilled cybersecurity positions globally by 2022; and

Whereas the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security works with public sector, private sector, and government partners—

- (1) to share information;
- (2) to build greater trust; and
- (3) to lead the national effort to protect and enhance the resilience of the physical and cyber infrastructure of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month;

(2) commits to continuing to work with Federal agencies, businesses, educational institutions, and other organizations to enhance the state of cybersecurity in the United States; and

(3) recognizes October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019, with the theme “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”, as an opportunity—

(A) to provide education to the people of the United States about cybersecurity; and

(B) to help all people of the United States be safer, more secure, and more aware while online and using connected devices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 346—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2019, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 346

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;