

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY USE OF LAND ENROLLED IN THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM DURING A PANDEMIC.

Section 1233(b)(1)(B)(i)(I) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3833(b)(1)(B)(i)(I)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding item (aa), by striking “or other emergency,” and inserting “or other emergency (including a pandemic),”; and

(2) in item (cc), by inserting “or pandemic” after “disaster event”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 607—RECOGNIZING THAT IN THE 25 YEARS SINCE NORMALIZING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAVE WORKED TOWARD INCREASED STABILITY, PROSPERITY, AND PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN A STRONG, RELIABLE, AND ACTIVE PARTNER IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION

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

S. RES. 607

Whereas cooperation between the Governments and people of the United States and Vietnam can help realize their common goals of a peaceful, prosperous, and open Indo-Pacific rooted in a rule-based order that promotes security, opportunity, and respect for sovereignty;

Whereas Vietnam is serving as the 2020 Chair for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) under the theme of “Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN”, and will co-chair the U.S.-ASEAN Special Summit when it is rescheduled from the original planned March 14, 2020 date;

Whereas Vietnam has demonstrated a willingness to stand up for freedom of navigation and international law in the South China Sea and opened a new chapter in bilateral cooperation on these shared goals;

Whereas Vietnam deployed its first military officers to United Nations peacekeeping operations in 2014, and contributed a field hospital to United Nations peacekeeping operations in South Sudan in 2018;

Whereas both countries have sought to assist each other in accounting for the over 1,200 Americans and as many as 300,000 Vietnamese still missing from the Vietnam War;

Whereas the United States Government has worked with the Government of Vietnam to remove unexploded ordnance and to treat victims maimed by it through funding under the Leahy War Victims Fund and the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Act, 2019 (division F of Public Law 116-6), including \$15,000,000 for humanitarian demining operations as well as United States Agency for International Development (USAID) programs;

Whereas the United States Government has completed the cleanup of dioxin at Da Nang airport, and is working with the Government of Vietnam of the cleanup of Bien Hoa airport;

Whereas the United States Government has assisted the Government of Vietnam in

strengthening its maritime capabilities, including by providing coast guard vessels and assisting the Government of Vietnam in strengthening its maritime domain awareness;

Whereas the United States Government remains committed to working with the Government of Vietnam on its compliance with international commitments and obligations to protect internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of religion, expression, the press, and assembly, in order to advance the fundamental dignity of all people, a key to maintaining stability, promoting economic growth, and strengthening good governance;

Whereas, in the 25 years since the United States and Vietnam normalized diplomatic relations, the people of Vietnam have benefited from greater prosperity and integration into the global economy;

Whereas the United States and Vietnam signed a bilateral trade agreement in July 2000, and granted one another permanent normal trade relations in 2008, ushering in a more than tenfold increase in trade flows in both directions over the past 20 years, exceeding \$77,000,000,000 in 2019;

Whereas the Governments of the United States and Vietnam cooperate on a range of public health issues, particularly combating HIV-AIDS under the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program, and more broadly on health, governance, education, infrastructure, and environmental issues through the Lower Mekong Initiative;

Whereas, in 2020, Vietnam celebrates 75 years since declaring independence;

Whereas more than 1,800,000 Vietnamese-Americans have made contributions to the United States in a variety of fields ranging from law to science to defense and the arts;

Whereas the United States hosts nearly 30,000 young Vietnamese students, the 6th largest group of international students studying at United States universities, contributing \$1,000,000,000 annually to the United States economy;

Whereas bilateral cooperation transformed debts of the former South Vietnamese government to the United States into Fulbright University Vietnam, Vietnam's first independent, not-for-profit university; and

Whereas sister city relationships link our citizens in—

- (1) Seattle, Washington and Haiphong;
- (2) Madison, Wisconsin and Bac Giang;
- (3) Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Da Nang;
- (4) San Francisco, California and Ho Chi Minh City;
- (5) Oakland, California and Da Nang;
- (6) Angel Fire, New Mexico and Quang Tri Town;
- (7) New Haven, Connecticut and Hue;
- (8) Maryland State, Maryland and Ninh Thuan Province; and
- (9) Newport Beach, California and Vung Tau Province (Friendship City): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the importance of the United States-Vietnam comprehensive partnership, including the full implementation of provisions of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409) with regard to elevating the United States relationship with Vietnam;

(2) welcomes Vietnam's leadership in 2020 as ASEAN Chair in cooperation with its ASEAN partners, especially as ASEAN and the People's Republic of China negotiate a Code of Conduct;

(3) welcomes Vietnam playing a productive role as a member of the United Nations Security Council during its 2020-2021 term;

(4) reiterates Congress' findings in section 401 of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of

2018 (Public Law 115-409; 132 Stat. 5407) that—

(A) the promotion of human rights and respect for democratic values in the Indo-Pacific region is in the United States' national security interest;

(B) continued support for human rights, democratic values, and good governance is critical to a successful United States diplomatic strategy in the Indo-Pacific;

(C) strong support for human rights and democracy in the Indo-Pacific region is critical to efforts to reduce poverty, build rule of law, combat corruption, reduce the allure of extremism, and promote economic growth; and

(D) there are serious concerns with the rule of law and civil liberties in Vietnam, which has been identified by Freedom House as “Not Free”;

(5) reaffirms that it is important that Vietnam's rights and interests under international law, regardless of size, power, and military capabilities, are respected; and

(6) appreciates Vietnam's ongoing cooperation to account for the 1,246 United States service members who remain unaccounted for since the Vietnam War.

SENATE RESOLUTION 608—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONDEMNING THREATS TO HONG KONG'S FREEDOMS AND AUTONOMY ON THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENT REPRESSION OF THE PEACEFUL PROTESTS CENTERED IN BEIJING'S TIANANMEN SQUARE

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. KING, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 608

Whereas the 31st anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre is an especially poignant milestone, particularly as the autonomy of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (“Hong Kong”) and freedoms guaranteed to the people of Hong Kong are currently under threat by possible national security legislation from the Government of the People's Republic of China (“China”);

Whereas, during the spring of 1989, an estimated 1,000,000 people engaged in Tiananmen Square protests, and citizens in over 400 Chinese cities staged similar protests, including among many others, students, workers, academics, journalists and government employees;

Whereas the peaceful demonstrations of 1989 called upon the Government of China to eliminate corruption, accelerate economic and political reform, and protect human rights, particularly the freedoms of expression and assembly, issues that remain relevant in United States-China relations 31 years later;

Whereas, on June 4, 1989, troops of the People's Liberation Army, at the behest of Chinese Communist Party leadership, attacked Tiananmen Square to repress demonstrators, crushing defenseless protestors with tanks and firing on them indiscriminately, killing hundreds or possibly thousands of individuals;

Whereas, since June 4, 1989, the Government of China censors any mention of Tiananmen Square and imprisons and

harasses its own citizens who attempt to discuss or commemorate Tiananmen Square protests and their violent suppression;

Whereas the Tiananmen Mothers—a group in China composed of parents and family members of individuals killed on or around June 4, 1989—have annually called upon the Government of China to reveal the truth of the events;

Whereas people of mainland China and Macau are again barred this year from commemorating the lives lost and the legacy of the 1989 massacre;

Whereas the Government of China continues to view the demands of the Tiananmen protesters, including democracy, transparency, rights protections, and freedom of speech, as threats to the legitimacy of the Chinese Communist Party's hold on political power;

Whereas the people of Hong Kong have commemorated the Tiananmen massacre each year faithfully in large numbers;

Whereas the Hong Kong Police Force has blocked the annual candlelight vigil to commemorate Tiananmen this year;

Whereas Hong Kong's guaranteed freedoms and the rule of law have allowed it to be a prosperous bridge between mainland China and the world;

Whereas Hong Kong's autonomy and freedoms have been eroded by the actions of the Government of Hong Kong and the Government of China, particularly over the past several years, with disqualifications of elected members of Hong Kong's Legislative Council, blocking citizens from running for office, failing to address the petitions of the Hong Kong people, banning a political party advocating Hong Kong independence, and failing to address police excessive use of force;

Whereas the political turmoil in Hong Kong is primarily the result of actions of the Government of Hong Kong and the Government of China, including the arbitrary arrests of peaceful protesters, including well-known democracy advocates such as Martin Lee, Jimmy Lai, Lee Cheuk Yan, Margaret Ng, Albert Ho, Leung Kwok-hung, Au Nok-hin, Figo Chan, and others;

Whereas China's National People's Congress has decided to impose national security legislation with respect to Hong Kong;

Whereas the implementation of that legislation signals a severe blow to Hong Kong's autonomy and would violate the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing on December 19, 1984;

Whereas Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, pursuant to the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-383), has determined that Hong Kong no longer manifests a "high degree of autonomy" distinct from mainland China;

Whereas vague national security laws are used widely in mainland China to imprison or arbitrarily detain dissidents, rights defenders, civil society advocates, religious leaders and adherents, and persons from ethnic minorities;

Whereas human rights, democracy, and religious freedom advocates have been imprisoned or arbitrarily detained under vague national security laws in mainland China, including Wu Gan, Qin Yongmin, Zhou Shifeng, Yu Wensheng, Wang Yi, and Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo, who died in state custody nearly three years ago;

Whereas the United States Congress, particularly in recent years, has passed numerous measures articulating the longstanding and bipartisan commitment to human rights in China, including—

(1) the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note);

(2) the North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-198);

(3) the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-330);

(4) the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-76); and

(5) the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act (S. 3744, 116th Congress);

Whereas, on this day, we stand in solidarity with human rights lawyers, labor and free speech advocates, religious groups, and ethnic minorities in China, such as Tibetans, and also Uyghurs and other predominately Muslim ethnic minorities who face mass internment and surveillance, forced labor and family separations, and who are often forced to renounce their faith; and

Whereas, on this day, we remember the words of the late Nobel Laureate Liu Xiaobo, who said there is "no force that can put an end to the human quest for freedom, and China will in the end become a nation ruled by law, where human rights reign supreme": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) will commemorate the Tiananmen protests and their violent repression at least until such time as Chinese citizens are able to do so freely and publicly everywhere across their country;

(2) expresses sympathy to the families of those killed, tortured, imprisoned, or exiled for their participation in the pro-democracy demonstrations during the spring of 1989;

(3) calls on the Government of China to allow those Tiananmen demonstration participants currently living in exile in the United States and other countries to return to China without risk of repercussions or retribution;

(4) condemns the use of violence, torture, and arbitrary detention as a means to repress the legitimate aspirations of the people of China to speak and associate freely, including to petition the government and challenge the policies and ideology of the Chinese Communist Party;

(5) calls on the Government of China to release all prisoners of conscience, including prisoners detained because of their participation in Tiananmen Square commemorations or actions calling for the type of political reforms and rights protections pursued by those who gathered in Tiananmen Square in 1989 and including over one million Uyghurs and other predominately Muslim ethnic minorities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;

(6) condemns any forced imposition of national security legislation with respect to Hong Kong;

(7) calls upon the United States Government to use all available authorities to protect United States interests in Hong Kong and the freedoms of the Hong Kong people, including—

(A) encouraging the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China "to work with the Hong Kong [Special Administrative Region] Government and the people of Hong Kong to find a mutually acceptable accommodation that will honor China's international obligations under the UN-filed Sino-British Joint Declaration," as called for by the Joint Statement of the Governments of the United States, Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom; and

(B) using all available diplomatic means and targeted sanctions to encourage the repeal of the national security legislation adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China on May 28, 2020;

(8) calls upon the President to encourage an international coalition to demand that

China adhere to its international agreements and human rights obligations; and

(9) calls upon Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam to allow the Hong Kong people to exercise their "freedoms of speech, of the press and of publication; freedom of association, of assembly, of procession and of demonstration," as guaranteed in Article 27 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 39—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF AMERICANS TO PEACEABLY ASSEMBLE, EXERCISE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES MUST BE RESPECTED; THAT VIOLENCE AND LOOTING ARE UNLAWFUL, UNACCEPTABLE AND CONTRARY TO THE PURPOSE OF PEACEFUL PROTESTS; AND THAT CONGRESS CONDEMNS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR ORDERING FEDERAL OFFICERS TO USE GAS AND RUBBER BULLETS AGAINST THE AMERICANS WHO WERE PEACEABLY PROTESTING IN LAFAYETTE SQUARE IN WASHINGTON, DC ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 1, 2020, THEREBY VIOLATING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THOSE PEACEFUL PROTESTORS

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 39

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the Sense of Congress that the constitutional rights of Americans to peaceably assemble, exercise freedom of speech, and petition the government for redress of grievances must be respected; that violence and looting are unlawful, unacceptable and contrary to the purpose of peaceful protests; and that Congress condemns the President of the United States for ordering Federal officers to use gas and rubber bullets against the Americans who were peaceably protesting in Lafayette Square in Washington, DC on the night of June 1, 2020, thereby violating the constitutional rights of those peaceful protestors.