Whereas, at the joint press conference with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and President Peña Nieto, President Barack Obama continued, ''Political prisoners should be released. The democratic process should be respected and that includes legitimate efforts to pursue a recall referendum consistent with Venezuelan law.'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its profound concern about widespread shortages of essential medicines and basic food products faced by the people of Venezuela, and urges President Maduro to permit the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

(2) calls on the Government of Venezuela to immediately release all political prisoners, to provide protections for freedom of expression and assembly, and to respect internationally recognized human rights;

(3) supports meaningful efforts towards a dialogue that leads to respect for Venezuela's constitutional mechanisms and resolves the country's political, economic, social, and humanitarian crisis;

(4) affirms its support for OAS Secretary General Almagro's invocation of Article 20 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter and urges the OAS Permanent Council, which represents all of the organization's member states, to undertake a collective assessment of the constitutional and democratic order in Venezuela;

(5) expresses its great concern over the Venezuelan executive's lack of respect for the principle of separation of powers, its overreliance on emergency decree powers, and its subjugation of judicial independence;

(6) calls on the Government of Venezuela and security forces to respect the Constitution of Venezuela, including constitutional provisions that provide Venezuelan citizens with the right to peacefully pursue a fair and timely recall referendum for their president this year if they so choose;

(7) stresses the urgency of strengthening the rule of law and increasing efforts to combat impunity and public corruption in Venezuela, which has bankrupted a resource-rich country, fuels rising social tensions, and contributes to elevated levels of crime and violence; and

(8) urges the President of the United States to provide full support for OAS efforts in favor of constitutional and democratic solutions to the political impasse, and to instruct appropriate Federal agencies to hold officials of the Government of Venezuela accountable for violations of United States law and abuses of internationally recognized human rights.

SENATE RESOLUTION 538—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS ''NATIONAL SPINAL CORD INJURY AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 538

Whereas approximately 282,000 individuals in the United States live with a spinal cord injury;

Whereas spinal cord injuries account for billions of dollars in health care costs and lost wages in the United States;

Whereas approximately 40,000 spinal cord injury victims are veterans who suffered a spinal cord injury while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of spinal cord injuries and the third leading cause of traumatic brain injuries;

Whereas motor vehicle accidents account for approximately 50 percent of all spinal cord injuries to children under the age of 18;

Whereas there is an urgent need to develop new neuroprotection, pharmacological, and regeneration treatments to reduce and prevent future incidences of paralysis and reverse current incidences of paralysis; and

Whereas increased education and investment in research are key factors in improving outcomes for victims of spinal cord injuries, improving the quality of life of victims of spinal cord injuries, and ultimately curing paralysis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2016 as ''National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month'';

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments, therapies, and a cure for spinal cord injuries;

(4) supports clinical trials for promising new therapies that offer hope to individuals living with paralysis; and

(5) commends the dedication of national, regional, and local organizations, researchers, doctors, volunteers, and people of the United States that are working to improve the quality of life of individuals living with a spinal cord injury and the families of individuals living with a spinal cord injury.

SENATE RESOLUTION 539—CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND HATRED IN DALLAS, TEXAS, ON JULY 7, 2016, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ALL THOSE IMPACTED BY THE TRAGEDY

Mr. CORNYN submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 539

Whereas, on July 7, 2016, during a rally and march in Dallas, Texas, a lone gunman opened fire, killing 5 police officers and wounding 9 other officers and 2 bystanders;

Whereas this act of violence and hatred is the deadliest attack on United States law enforcement officers since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas this act of violence and hatred occurred during a lawful, peaceful, nonviolent political demonstration;

Whereas this attack took place with the intention of targeting police officers;

Whereas Federal, State, and local law enforcement personnel performed their duties admirably during the attack and risked their lives for the safety of the people of Dallas; and

Whereas the residents of Dallas came together to support the victims, and the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the heinous attack that occurred in Dallas, Texas, on July 7, 2016;

(2) expresses its belief that an attack upon a police officer is an affront to the rule of law and the promise of justice, domestic tranquility, common defense, and general welfare and the blessings of liberty secured by the Constitution of the United States;

(3) offers its condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those who were killed while protecting the city of Dallas and expresses its hope for the quick and complete recovery of the survivors wounded in the shooting;

(4) applauds the bravery and dedication exhibited by the hundreds of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials, emergency medical responders, and others who offered their support and assistance; and

(5) stands together united against violence and hatred, and in support of the brave and honorable police officers across the United States who work every day to keep the country safe.

SENATE RESOLUTION 540—COMMENDING THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE FOR THEIR WORK IN FIGHTING EBOLA

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 540

Whereas the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (in this preamble referred to as the ''Commissioned Corps'') traces its antecedents to the creation of the Marine Hospital Service in the Act entitled ''An Act for the relief of sick and disabled seamen'', approved July 16, 1798;

Whereas the Commissioned Corps today consists of approximately 6,700 commissioned officers who serve in 11 specialty areas;

Whereas thousands of officers of the Commissioned Corps have deployed in the aftermath of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and Superstorm Sandy;

Whereas almost 900 officers of the Commissioned Corps deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan to support members of the Armed Forces stationed in those locations;

Whereas the officers of the Commissioned Corps constitute a rapidly-deployable force of medical professionals who serve public health in the United States and foreign countries;

Whereas more than 300 officers of the Commissioned Corps deployed to Liberia to treat Ebola patients, voluntarily accepting the risks associated with treating patients who carried this deadly disease;

Whereas hundreds of other officers of the Commissioned Corps provided support to the officers who were deployed to Liberia;

Whereas the Ebola epidemic in Liberia no longer represents a public health emergency of international concern, as determined by the World Health Organization, due in part to the intervention of officers of the Commissioned Corps; and

Whereas the United States was spared the danger of an Ebola outbreak because the disease was contained in West Africa: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends all of the officers of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service who participated in the effort to prevent an Ebola outbreak in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 541—RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK AND HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK IN THE STATE OF HAWAII, AND DESIGNATING AUGUST 1, 2016, AS ''HAWAII VOLCANOES AND HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARKS DAY''

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: