

voice and vote of the United States at that institution—

(A) to seek to ensure adequate fiscal space for world economies in response to the global coronavirus disease 2019 (commonly referred to as “COVID-19”) pandemic through—

(i) the suspension of all debt service payments to the institution; and

(ii) the relaxation of fiscal targets for any government operating a program supported by the institution, or seeking financing from the institution, in response to the pandemic;

(B) to oppose any loan, grant, document, or strategy that would lead to a decrease in health care spending or in any other spending that would impede the ability of any country to prevent or contain the spread of, or treat persons who are or may be infected with, the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and

(C) to require approval of all Special Drawing Rights allocation transfers from wealthier member countries to countries that are emerging markets or developing countries, based on confirmation of implementable transparency mechanisms or protocols to ensure the allocations are used for the public good and in response to the global pandemic.

(2) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies shall include in the annual report required by section 1701 of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r) a description of progress made toward advancing the policies described in paragraph (1).

(b) IMF ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS.—

(1) UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund to use the voice and vote of the United States to support the issuance of a special allocation of not less than 2,000,000,000,000 Special Drawing Rights so that governments are able to access additional resources to finance their responses to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

(2) AUTHORIZATION TO VOTE FOR ALLOCATION.—Notwithstanding section 6(a) of the Special Drawing Rights Act (22 U.S.C. 286q(a)), the United States Governor of the International Monetary Fund may vote to allocate up to 2,000,000,000,000 Special Drawing Rights under article XVIII of the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund.

(c) TERMINATION.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall have no force or effect after the earlier of—

(1) the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, submits to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report stating that the SARS-CoV-2 virus is no longer a serious threat to public health in any part of the world.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 17—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CLEAN WATER IS A NATIONAL PRIORITY AND THAT THE APRIL 21, 2020, NAVIGABLE WATERS PROTECTION RULE SHOULD NOT BE WITHDRAWN OR VACATED

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BAR-

RASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SASSE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COTTON, and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 17

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) clean water is a national priority; and
(2) the final rule of the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency entitled “The Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’” (85 Fed. Reg. 22250 (April 21, 2020)) should not be withdrawn or vacated.

SENATE RESOLUTION 18—IN SUPPORT OF AN INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE HANDLING BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA OF COVID-19 AND THE IMPACT THEREOF ON THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER NATIONS

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 18

Whereas the novel coronavirus, hereafter referred to as COVID-19, emerged in the People’s Republic of China and began to spread as early as November 2019;

Whereas, by late December, dozens of citizens of the People’s Republic of China had fallen victim to COVID-19;

Whereas, on December 30, 2019, Wuhan health authorities identified, interrogated, and reprimanded multiple doctors in response to their decisions to warn other Chinese citizens of the danger posed by this new disease;

Whereas, on January 1, 2020, the Wuhan Public Security Bureau questioned eight Chinese doctors who had posted information on COVID-19 on WeChat;

Whereas, on January 1, 2020, the Hubei Provincial Health Commission ordered laboratories to stop testing for COVID-19 and destroy samples of the same;

Whereas, on January 2, 2020, the Wuhan Institute of Virology mapped the genome of COVID-19 in order to inform development of public health interventions and medical treatments for COVID-19, but the Government of the People’s Republic of China withheld genetic information on COVID-19 until January 9;

Whereas, on January 11, 2020, the Wuhan Health Commission insisted that there were no new cases of infection by COVID-19;

Whereas, on January 13, 2020, the first identified COVID-19 case outside of the People’s Republic of China was announced in Thailand;

Whereas, on January 14, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the Government of the People’s Republic of China had seen “no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission of the novel coronavirus”;

Whereas, on January 23, 2020, the Government of the People’s Republic of China began to implement quarantine measures to stem

the spread of COVID-19, at the same time as the disease had already begun to proliferate throughout the world;

Whereas, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, with at least 118,000 persons infected and at least 4,291 dead in 114 different countries at the time of the announcement;

Whereas, by January 21, 2021, one year after the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in the United States, COVID-19 had infected at least 97,061,592 persons and killed at least 2,080,009 in 191 different countries;

Whereas the Government of the People’s Republic of China argues that COVID-19 did not originate in the People’s Republic of China;

Whereas the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China has alleged that the United States Army may have delivered COVID-19 to the city of Wuhan and that COVID-19 may have originated in Italy or “separate outbreaks in multiple places in the world”;

Whereas the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China has said, “China’s endeavor to combating [sic] the epidemic has bought time for [international] preparedness.”;

Whereas a University of Southampton study found that earlier intervention by the Government of the People’s Republic of China could have “significantly” limited the geographic spread of COVID-19;

Whereas more than 120 nations have called for an investigation of the origins of COVID-19; and

Whereas the Government of the People’s Republic of China continues to prevent a credible international investigation of the origins of COVID-19, including by restricting access by investigators to certain locations and information in the People’s Republic of China: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the decision by the Government of the People’s Republic of China to hide the emergence and spread of COVID-19 within its borders during the initial weeks of the pandemic;

(2) assesses that the decision by the Government of the People’s Republic of China to hide the emergence and spread of COVID-19 during that period almost certainly contributed to the rapid spread of that disease throughout the Indo-Pacific, Europe, and the rest of the world;

(3) finds that the Government of the People’s Republic of China should be held accountable for the impact of its decision to hide the emergence and spread of COVID-19 on the lives and livelihoods of the people of the United States and other nations;

(4) calls for an international investigation led by public health officials from the United States and other affected nations and free from any restrictions by the Government of the People’s Republic of China to determine how the handling by the Government of the People’s Republic of China of the COVID-19 outbreak prior to March 11, 2020, contributed to the emergence of the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

(5) calls on the international community—
(A) to quantify the harm caused by the handling of the Government of the People’s Republic of China to the health and economic well-being of the people of the United States and other nations; and

(B) to design a mechanism for delivering compensation from the Government of the People’s Republic of China to all affected nations for the harm caused by its decision to hide the emergence and spread of COVID-19 during the initial weeks of the pandemic.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 9:30

a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Sen-

ate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, January 28; further, that following the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 5:32 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 10 a.m.