

(1) faces collateral consequences in securing a place to live; and

(2) is often barred from seeking access to public housing;

Whereas collateral consequences prevent millions of individuals in the United States from contributing fully to their families and communities;

Whereas collateral consequences can contribute to recidivism, which increases crime and victimization and decreases public safety;

Whereas collateral consequences have particularly impacted underserved communities of color and community rates of employment, housing stability, and recidivism;

Whereas the inability to find gainful employment and other collateral consequences of conviction inhibit the economic mobility of an individual with a criminal record, which can negatively impact the well-being of the children and families of the individual for generations;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic and economic and public health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic have made the pursuit of gainful employment and access to community supports more daunting for individuals with a criminal record;

Whereas the bipartisan First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–391; 132 Stat. 5194) was signed into law on December 21, 2018, to increase opportunities for individuals incarcerated in Federal prisons to participate in meaningful recidivism reduction programs and prepare for their second chances;

Whereas the programs authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199; 122 Stat. 657)—

(1) have provided reentry services to more than 164,000 individuals in 49 States and the District of Columbia since the date of enactment of the Act; and

(2) were reauthorized by the First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–391; 132 Stat. 5194);

Whereas the anniversary of the death of Charles Colson, who used his second chance following his incarceration for a Watergate-related crime to found Prison Fellowship, the largest program in the United States that provides outreach to prisoners, former prisoners, and their families, falls on April 21; and

Whereas the designation of April as “Second Chance Month” may contribute to—

(1) increased public awareness about—

(A) the impact of collateral consequences; and

(B) the need for closure for individuals with a criminal record who have paid their debt; and

(2) opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances to those individuals: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2021 as “Second Chance Month”;

(2) honors the work of communities, governmental institutions, nonprofit organizations, congregations, employers, and individuals to remove unnecessary legal and societal barriers that prevent individuals with criminal records from becoming productive members of society; and

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to observe “Second Chance Month” through actions and programs that—

(A) promote awareness of those unnecessary legal and social barriers; and

(B) provide closure for individuals with a criminal record who have paid their debt.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 147—RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL DEBT AS A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 147

Whereas, in September 2020, the total public debt outstanding was more than \$26,000,000,000,000, resulting in a total interest expense of more than \$371,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020;

Whereas, in September 2019, the total public debt as a percentage of gross domestic product was about 100 percent;

Whereas leaders of the Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office have testified that—

(1) the growth of the public debt is unsustainable; and

(2) Congress must undertake extensive fiscal consolidation to combat that growth;

Whereas the last Federal budget surplus occurred in 2001;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2020, Federal tax receipts totaled \$3,420,000,000,000, but Federal outlays totaled \$6,652,000,000,000, leaving the Federal Government with a 1-year deficit of \$3,132,000,000,000;

Whereas, since the last Federal budget surplus occurred in 2001, Congress—

(1) has failed to maintain a fiscally responsible budget; and

(2) has had to raise the debt ceiling repeatedly;

Whereas the Medicare Board of Trustees projects that the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund will be depleted in 2026;

Whereas the Social Security and Medicare Boards of Trustees project that the Disability Insurance and the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Funds will be depleted in 2026 and 2031, respectively;

Whereas heavy indebtedness increases the exposure of the Federal Government to interest rate risks;

Whereas the credit rating of the United States was reduced by Standard and Poor's from AAA to AA+ on August 5, 2011, and has remained at that level ever since;

Whereas, without a targeted effort to balance the Federal budget, the credit rating of the United States will continue to fall;

Whereas improvements in the business climate in populous countries, and aging populations around the world, will likely contribute to higher global interest rates;

Whereas more than \$7,000,000,000,000 of Federal debt is owned by individuals not located in the United States, including more than \$1,000,000,000,000 of which is owned by individuals in China;

Whereas China and the European Union are developing alternative payment systems to weaken the dominant position of the United States dollar as a reserve currency;

Whereas rapidly increasing interest rates will squeeze all policy priorities of the United States, including defense policy and foreign policy priorities;

Whereas the National Security Strategy of the United States, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, highlights the need to reduce the national debt through fiscal responsibility;

Whereas, on April 12, 2018, former Secretary of Defense James Mattis warned that “any Nation that can't keep its fiscal house in order eventually cannot maintain its military power”;

Whereas, on March 6, 2018, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats warned: “Our continued plunge into debt is unsustainable

and represents a dire future threat to our economy and to our national security”;

Whereas, on November 15, 2017, former Secretaries of Defense Leon Panetta, Ash Carter, and Chuck Hagel warned: “Increase in the debt will, in the absence of a comprehensive budget that addresses both entitlements and revenues, force even deeper reductions in our national security capabilities”;

Whereas, on September 22, 2011, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullen warned: “I believe the single, biggest threat to our national security is debt”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that the national debt is a threat to the national security of the United States;

(2) realizes that persistent, structural deficits are unsustainable, irresponsible, and dangerous; and

(3) commits to addressing the looming fiscal crisis faced by the United States.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1409. Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1799, to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1410. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes.

SA 1411. Mr. SCOTT, of Florida proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1410 proposed by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill H.R. 1868, *supra*.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 1409.** Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1799, to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . PROHIBITION ON PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM LOANS AND SECOND DRAW LOANS FOR APPLICANTS CONVICTED OF, OR WHO PLEADED GUILTY TO, ASSAULTING A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (36), by adding at the end the following:

“(W) PROHIBITION.—An applicant is not eligible to receive a covered loan if an owner of the applicant has, as of the date of the application, been convicted of or pleaded guilty to assaulting a law enforcement officer.”; and

(2) in paragraph (37), by adding at the end the following:

“(P) PROHIBITION.—An applicant is not eligible to receive a covered loan if an owner of the applicant has, as of the date of the application, been convicted of or pleaded guilty to assaulting a law enforcement officer.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to an application for a loan under paragraph (36) or (37) of section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)) that is submitted on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SA 1410.** Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF MEDICARE SEQUESTRATION.**

(a) EXTENSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3709(a) of division A of the CARES Act (2 U.S.C. 901a note) is amended by striking “March 31, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2021”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if enacted as part of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136).

(b) OFFSET.—Section 251A(6)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901a(6)(C)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) by striking “first 6 months” and inserting “first 5 ½ months”;

(B) by striking “4.0 percent” and inserting “2.0 percent”; and

(C) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (ii)—

(A) by striking “second 6 months” and inserting “6-month period beginning on the day after the last day of the period described in clause (i)”;

(B) by striking “0.0 percent.” and inserting “4.0 percent; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) with respect to the remaining ½ month in which such order is so effective for such fiscal year, the payment reduction shall be 0.0 percent.”.

**SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**

(a) RURAL HEALTH CLINIC PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(f)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(f)(3)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking subclauses (I) and (II) and inserting the following:

“(I) with respect to a rural health clinic that had a per visit payment amount established for services furnished in 2020—

“(aa) the per visit payment amount applicable to such rural health clinic for rural health clinic services furnished in 2020, increased by the percentage increase in the MBI applicable to primary care services furnished as of the first day of 2021; or

“(bb) the limit described in paragraph (2)(A); and

“(II) with respect to a rural health clinic that did not have a per visit payment amount established for services furnished in 2020—

“(aa) the per visit payment amount applicable to such rural health clinic for rural health clinic services furnished in 2021; or

“(bb) the limit described in paragraph (2)(A); and”; and

(ii) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “under clause (i)(I)” and inserting “under subclause (I) or (II) of clause (i), as applicable.”; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) A rural health clinic described in this subparagraph is a rural health clinic that—

“(i) as of December 31, 2020, was in a hospital with less than 50 beds and after such date such hospital continues to have less than 50 beds (not taking into account any increase in the number of beds pursuant to a waiver under subsection (b)(1)(A) of section 1135 during the emergency period described in subsection (g)(1)(B) of such section); and

“(ii)(I) as of December 31, 2020, was enrolled under section 1866(j) (including temporary enrollment during such emergency period for such emergency period); or

“(II) submitted an application for enrollment under section 1866(j) (or a request for such a temporary enrollment for such emergency period) that was received not later than December 31, 2020.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

(b) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR CERTAIN HOSPITALS WITH HIGH DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE.—Effective as if included in the enactment of section 203(a) of title II of division CC of Public Law 116-260, subsection (g) of section 1923 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4), as amended by such section, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) CONTINUED APPLICATION OF GRANDFATHERED TRANSITION RULE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of this subsection (as in effect on October 1, 2021), paragraph (2) of this subsection (as in effect on September 30, 2021, and as applied under section 4721(e) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and amended by section 607 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-113)) shall apply in determining whether a payment adjustment for a hospital in a State referenced in section 4721(e) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 during a State fiscal year shall be considered consistent with subsection (c).”.

**SA 1411.** Mr. SCOTT of Florida proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike section 2(b).

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I have 9 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 25, 2021 at 9:30 a.m., in 106 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Child Nutrition Reauthorization: Healthy Meals and Healthy Futures.”

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 12 p.m., in closed session to re-

ceive a briefing on U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 10 a.m. to meet in open session to conduct a hearing entitled, “American Rescue Plan: Shots in Arms and Money in Pockets.”

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to hold a hearing on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 9:45 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., virtually using Webex, to conduct a hearing entitled “How U.S. International Tax Policy Impacts American Workers, Jobs, and Investment.”

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 10 a.m. to hold a subcommittee hearing on “U.S. Response to the Coup in Burma.”

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Examining Our COVID-19 Response: Improving Health Equity and Outcomes by Addressing Health Disparities” on Thursday, March 25, at 10 a.m., in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 25, at 10:15 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Deanne B. Criswell to be Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask that the Chair initiate the agreed-upon procedures with respect to the Adeyemo nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.