

Majority Leader and 6 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader.

(b) **CHAIRPERSON; VICE-CHAIRPERSON.**—The Majority Leader shall designate 1 member of the select committee as the chairperson of the select committee, and the Minority Leader shall designate 1 member of the select committee as the vice-chairperson of the select committee.

(c) **EXEMPTION.**—For purposes of paragraph 4 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member or chairperson of the select committee shall not be taken into account.

(d) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the select committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

### SEC. 3. INVESTIGATION AND REPORT.

(a) **INVESTIGATION.**—The select committee shall conduct a full and complete investigation and study regarding—

(1) identification of the source of the COVID-19 virus and the route of human-to-human transmission beginning in or around Wuhan, China;

(2) secret research and gain-of-function zoonotic research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (referred to in this section as “WIV”);

(3) training operations and safety standards at the WIV;

(4) cases of researchers at the WIV laboratory becoming sick or demonstrating COVID-19-like symptoms in 2019 or 2020;

(5) cables and other communications from 2017 to 2021 from employees of the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Department of Health and Human Services regarding activities and research at the WIV;

(6) response from officials of the Department of State and National Security Council in Washington, DC to the cables and other communications described in paragraph (5);

(7) funding distributed to the WIV by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Institutes of Health, and institutions of higher education of the United States;

(8) funding of gain-of-function research by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases during the 2014–2017 moratorium on such research;

(9) research and possible leaks from the Wuhan Center for Disease Control;

(10) information regarding efforts by the Chinese Communist Party to silence journalists and doctors, destroy samples of the COVID-19 virus, and block United States and other foreign investigators, including investigations surrounding the Chinese Communist Party’s misinformation campaign through social media, traditional news outlets, and other propaganda outlets;

(11) the origination of claims that the pandemic spread from a seafood market in Wuhan, China and the closure and sanitation of the market;

(12) actions taken by the World Health Organization, including actions taken by Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and other World Health Organization officials, to spread Chinese misinformation and the failure of the World Health Organization to meet the Organization’s charter to prevent the international spread of disease; and

(13) the impact of failing to shut down travel in and out of Wuhan, China, the Hubei province, and greater China.

(b) **REPORTS.**—The select committee—

(1) shall issue a final report to the Senate of its findings from the investigation and study described in subsection (a) by not later than 1 year after the date of adoption of this resolution; and

(2) may issue to the Senate such interim reports as the select committee determines necessary.

### SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES AND POWERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For the purposes of this resolution, the select committee is authorized in its discretion—

(1) to make investigations into any matter within its jurisdiction;

(2) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(3) to employ personnel;

(4) to hold hearings;

(5) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Senate;

(6) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(7) to take depositions and other testimony;

(8) to procure the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, in accordance with section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)); and

(9) with the prior consent of the government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) **OATHS.**—The chairperson of the select committee or any member thereof may administer oaths to witnesses.

(c) **SUBPOENAS.**—A subpoena authorized by the select committee—

(1) may be issued under the signature of the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, or any member of the select committee designated by the chairperson; and

(2) may be served by any person designated by the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, or other member signing the subpoena.

(d) **COMMITTEE RULES.**—The select committee shall adopt rules (not inconsistent with the rules of the Senate and in accordance with rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate) governing the procedure of the select committee, which shall include addressing how often the select committee shall meet, meeting times and location, type of notifications, notices of hearings, duration of the select committee, and records of the select committee after committee activities are complete.

### SEC. 5. TERMINATION.

The select committee shall terminate on the day after the date the report required under section 3(b)(1) is submitted.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 205—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2021, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BROWN,

Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

### S. RES. 205

Whereas the origin of National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2021 is “Vaccine Ready”;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to enhance and protect the health and wellbeing of the people of the United States;

Whereas a study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, entitled “The Economic Burden of Health Inequalities in the United States”, concludes that, between 2003 and 2006, the combined cost of health inequalities and premature death in the United States was \$1,240,000,000,000;

Whereas African American women were as likely to have been diagnosed with breast cancer as non-Hispanic White women, but African American women were about 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women between 2012 and 2016;

Whereas African American women lose their lives to cervical cancer at more than twice the rate of non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American men are 70 percent more likely to die from a stroke than non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanics are twice as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to suffer from end-stage renal disease caused by diabetes, and are 30 percent more likely to die of diabetes, than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the HIV diagnosis rate among Hispanic men is more than 3 times the HIV diagnosis rate among non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas the HIV diagnosis rate among Hispanic women is 4 times the HIV diagnosis rate among non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas, in 2018, although African Americans represented only 13 percent of the population of the United States, African Americans accounted for 42 percent of new HIV diagnoses;

Whereas, in 2018, African American youth accounted for an estimated 51 percent, and Hispanic youth accounted for an estimated 27 percent, of all new HIV diagnoses among youth in the United States;

Whereas, in 2016, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 1.6 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2018, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are 10 percent more likely to die from cancer than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, although the prevalence of obesity is high among all population groups in the United States, 48 percent of American Indian and Alaska Natives, 51 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, 48 percent of African Americans, 45 percent of Hispanics, 37 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, and 12 percent of Asian Americans older than 18 years old were obese (not including overweight);

Whereas Asian Americans accounted for 30 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases, and non-Hispanic Whites accounted for 13.5 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases;

Whereas of the children diagnosed with perinatal HIV in 2017, 65 percent were African American, 9 percent were Hispanic, and 14 percent were non-Hispanic White;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified heart disease,

stroke, cancer, and diabetes as 4 of the 10 leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives die from diabetes, alcoholism, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide at higher rates than other people in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 5.5 years shorter than the life expectancy of the overall population of the United States;

Whereas African American women die from childbirth or pregnancy-related causes at a rate that is 3 to 4 times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American infants are 3.8 times more likely to die due to complications related to low birth weight than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are more than twice as likely as non-Hispanic White infants to die from sudden infant death syndrome;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Natives have an infant mortality rate twice as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are 2.7 times more likely to die from accidental deaths before their first birthday than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas sickle cell disease affects approximately 100,000 people in the United States, occurring in approximately 1 out of every 365 African American births and 1 out of every 16,300 Hispanic births;

Whereas 10.9 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, 6.3 percent of Asian Americans, 8.8 percent of Hispanics, 8.7 percent of African Americans, and 14 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives received mental health treatment or counseling in the past year, compared to 18.6 percent of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the 2019 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report found African Americans and American Indians and Alaska Natives received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for about 40 percent of quality measures, Hispanics and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for 33 percent of quality measures, and Asian Americans received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for nearly 30 percent of quality measures;

Whereas nearly 30 percent of reported COVID-19-related cases are among Hispanics compared to less than 50 percent comprising non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas nearly 3.5 times more American Indians and Alaska Natives, 2.9 times more Hispanics, and 2.8 times more African Americans were hospitalized due to COVID-19 compared to non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas significant differences in social determinants of health can lead to poor health outcomes and declines in life expectancy; and

Whereas community-based health care initiatives, such as prevention-focused programs, present a unique opportunity to use innovative approaches to improve public health and health care practices across the United States and to reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2021, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations in the United States, such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 206—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 18 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2021, AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

## S. RES. 206

Whereas crime and victimization in the United States have significant, and sometimes life shattering, impacts on victims, survivors, and communities across the United States;

Whereas research suggests that there are several million violent victimizations each year in the United States, yet less than half of all violent crimes are ever reported to police;

Whereas crime victims and survivors need and deserve support and access to services to help them cope with the physical, psychological, financial, and other adverse effects of crime;

Whereas Congress has recognized the importance of supporting crime victims and survivors through the passage of legislation concerning this important issue, including—

(1) the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101 et seq.);

(2) the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291 et seq.);

(3) the Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-236; 130 Stat. 966);

(4) the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.);

(5) the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.);

(6) the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.);

(7) the Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-299; 132 Stat. 4383);

(8) the Scott Campbell, Stephanie Roper, Wendy Preston, Louarna Gillis, and Nila Lynn Crime Victims' Rights Act (Public Law 108-405; 118 Stat. 2261); and

(9) the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-405; 118 Stat. 2260);

Whereas crime can touch the life of any individual, regardless of the age, race, national origin, religion, or gender of that individual;

Whereas a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, schools, and communities by protecting the rights of crime victims and survivors;

Whereas crime victims and survivors in the United States, and the families of those victims and survivors, need and deserve support and assistance to help cope with the often devastating consequences of crime;

Whereas, since Congress adopted the first resolution designating Crime Victims Week in 1985, communities across the United States have joined Congress and the Department of Justice in commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week to celebrate a shared vision of a comprehensive and collaborative response that identifies and addresses the many needs of crime victims and survivors and the families of those victims and survivors;

Whereas the Senate applauds the work of crime victims advocates to ensure that all crime victims and survivors, and the families of those victims and survivors, are—

(1) treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(2) offered support and services, regardless of whether the victims and survivors report crimes committed against them; and

(3) recognized as key participants within the criminal, juvenile, Federal, and Tribal justice systems in the United States when the victims and survivors report crimes; and

Whereas the Senate recognizes and appreciates the continued importance of—

(1) promoting the rights of, and services for, crime victims and survivors; and

(2) honoring crime victims and survivors, and the individuals who provide services for those victims and survivors: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of the week of April 18 through April 24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and

(B) the theme of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2021, "Support Victims. Build Trust. Engage Communities.", which emphasizes the importance of leveraging community support to help crime victims and survivors;

(2) recognizes that crime victims and survivors, and the families of those victims and survivors, should be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(3) applauds the work carried out by thousands of victim assistance organizations and agencies that serve crime survivors at the local, State, Federal, and Tribal levels;

(4) remains committed to funding programs authorized by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101 et seq.) and the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291 et seq.), among other Federal programs, which help thousands of public, community-based, and Tribal victim and survivor assistance organizations and agencies that provide essential, and often life-saving, services to millions of crime victims throughout the United States; and

(5) encourages the observance of the 40th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week with appropriate public awareness, education, and outreach activities.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

### 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 Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.