

S. 1939

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1939, a bill to facilitate the expedited review of antisemitic hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 9, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of nine justices.

S. RES. 165

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 165, a resolution calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, a resolution establishing a McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program in the Senate.

S. RES. 224

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KANE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 224, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States must seize the opportunity to create millions of jobs, become a net exporter of clean energy, and secure a better, more equitable future by accelerating the electrification of households, buildings, and businesses in the United States, modernizing the United States electricity grid, and continuing on the path towards decarbonizing electricity generation in the United States by 2035.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1970. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to conduct testing for and remediation of perfluoroalkyl substances and polyfluoroalkyl substances at or surrounding installations of the Department of Defense located in the United States, formerly used defense sites, and State-owned facilities of the National Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the "Clean Water For

Military Families Act." This legislation would provide \$10 billion for the Department of Defense to conduct investigations and remediate PFAS contamination at and surrounding DOD installations in the U.S. and state-owned National Guard facilities.

Dating back to the 1960s, the U.S. Navy began using a firefighting foam called aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) that contains toxic PFAS chemicals. The military used AFFF firefighting foam for emergencies, fire training exercises, and equipment testing, resulting in large discharges of PFAS contamination in groundwater and other environments.

For decades, DOD continued using AFFF firefighting foam despite mounting evidence of detrimental health concerns, and even after leading manufacturers voluntarily phased out production of PFOS and PFOA, the two most widespread and studied PFAS compounds.

In recent years, Congress has passed legislation requiring DOD to phase out the use of AFFF firefighting foams. While this is a vital step toward ensuring DOD adopts PFAS-free alternatives going forward, it does not address DOD's legacy pollution.

To clean up the legacy pollution at contaminated military sites across the country, this legislation authorizes a one-time, \$10 billion investment for PFAS investigations and cleanup. We owe it to military communities to ensure that they can drink clean water and live pollution-free.

There are hundreds of contaminated military sites across the country that jeopardize the health, safety, and well-being of military communities who have suffered from exposure to PFAS pollution and toxic drinking water.

In California alone, there are 62 military facilities with a known or suspected PFAS release.

Since the discovery of PFAS at these installations, there has been little to no progress on the bases with the highest PFAS detections. A \$10 billion investment would accelerate DOD's existing cleanup efforts and cover all types of PFAS chemicals. Absent this legislation, it could take decades for DOD to clean up toxic PFAS. We must act now to move beyond studying the problem and toward a comprehensive cleanup effort to protect service-members, veterans, and military communities.

I thank my co-lead, Senator GILLIBRAND for her tireless leadership fighting PFAS contamination at DOD sites. I also thank the bill's cosponsors for championing this effort with me in the Senate.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the "Clean Water for Military Families Act" as quickly as possible.

Thank you, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 259—REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE 1989 TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE AND CONDEMNING THE CONTINUED AND INTENSIFYING CRACKDOWN ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC FREEDOMS WITHIN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, BY THE CHINESE COMMUNITY PARTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

S. RES. 259

Whereas, on April 15, 1989, peaceful demonstrators gathered in Tiananmen Square in central Beijing to mourn the death of former General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Hu Yaobang, who was compelled to resign in 1987 for expressing support of students demanding political reform;

Whereas, throughout April and May 1989, peaceful demonstrations continued in Tiananmen Square and in an estimated 400 cities across China;

Whereas, by May 17, 1989, an estimated 1,000,000 Chinese citizens from all walks of life, including students, government employees, journalists, workers, police officers, and members of the armed forces, gathered peacefully in Tiananmen Square to call for democratic reforms;

Whereas the peaceful demonstrators of 1989 called upon the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to eliminate corruption, accelerate economic and political reform, and protect human rights, particularly the freedoms of expression and assembly;

Whereas, on May 20, 1989, the Government of the PRC declared martial law;

Whereas, during the late afternoon and early evening hours of June 3, 1989, the CCP leadership sent armed People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops and tanks into Beijing and surrounding streets;

Whereas, on the night of June 3, 1989, and continuing into the morning of June 4, 1989, PLA soldiers, at the direction of CCP leadership, fired indiscriminately into crowds of peaceful protesters, killing and injuring thousands of demonstrators and other unarmed civilians;

Whereas the Government of the PRC continues to censor any mention of the crackdown centered on Tiananmen Square, prevent the victims from being publicly mourned and remembered, and harass, detain, and arrest those who call for a full, public, and independent accounting of the wounded, dead, and those imprisoned for participating in the spring 1989 demonstrations;

Whereas the sovereignty of Hong Kong transferred from the United Kingdom to the PRC in 1997 under the terms of 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 (in this resolution referred to as the "Joint Declaration"), which guaranteed that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) will "enjoy a high degree of autonomy" and committed the PRC to keep the "social and economic systems in Hong Kong" unchanged through 2047;

Whereas the Joint Declaration states that "[r]ights and freedoms, including those of

the person, of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, of travel, of movement, of correspondence, of strike, of choice of occupation, of academic research and of religious belief will be ensured by law in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region” and that those rights are reiterated in chapter III of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China;

Whereas the people of Hong Kong have held an annual Tiananmen Square vigil since 1990, which has been the only such mass gathering on Chinese territory because commemorations are banned in mainland China;

Whereas, on June 4, 2020, thousands of people in Hong Kong defied a ban by the Hong Kong Police Force and gathered at the city’s annual June 4 vigil to memorialize the 31st anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre;

Whereas, on June 30, 2020, China’s National People’s Congress Standing Committee flagrantly undermined the high degree of autonomy guaranteed to Hong Kong in the Joint Declaration and Basic Law by passing and imposing upon Hong Kong the oppressive and intentionally vague Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (the “national security law”);

Whereas the central Government of PRC and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government have since used the national security law to suppress democratic voices in Hong Kong, including by barring candidates from standing for election and by arresting pro-democracy activists and opposition leaders;

Whereas, on March 11, 2021, China’s National People’s Congress adopted the “Decision of the National People’s Congress on Improving the Electoral System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”, thereby further restricting Hong Kong’s electoral freedom and democratic representation;

Whereas, on May 6, 2021, a Hong Kong judge sentenced several Hong Kong pro-democracy activists to between 4 and 10 months in jail for participating in the unauthorized Tiananmen Square vigil in June 2020;

Whereas, on May 27, 2021, the Hong Kong Police Force officially banned the June 4 vigil for the second consecutive year, citing a ban on large gatherings in light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic;

Whereas, on May 27, 2021, the Hong Kong Legislative Council passed legislation amending local election laws to bring them in line with the China’s National People’s Congress’ March 11, 2021, “Decision of the National People’s Congress on Improving the Electoral System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”;

Whereas June 4, 2021, marks the 32nd anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre;

Whereas the Government of the PRC has committed genocide and crimes against humanity against the predominantly Muslim Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minority groups in Xinjiang; and

Whereas the Government of the PRC continues to violate the human rights of pro-democracy activists, members of ethnic minorities, including individuals in the Tibetan regions, religious believers, human rights lawyers, citizen journalists, and labor union leaders, among many others seeking to express their political or religious views or ethnic identity in a peaceful manner: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its deepest respect for and solidarity with the families and friends of those killed, tortured, and imprisoned for participating in the pro-democracy demonstrations during the spring of 1989, and with those who

have continued to suffer for their fight to publicly mourn the Tiananmen Square massacre victims;

(2) reaffirms its support for those who continue to work for political reform, rule of law, and protections for human rights in China;

(3) condemns the Government of the People’s Republic of China for its continued human rights abuses, including suppressing peaceful political dissent and ethnic and religious minorities;

(4) calls on the Government of the People’s Republic of China to—

(A) cease censoring information and discussion about the Tiananmen Square massacre;

(B) invite and cooperate with a full and independent investigation into the Tiananmen Square massacre by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(C) uphold its international legal obligations to Hong Kong under 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 (“Joint Declaration”) and cease undermining Hong Kong’s high degree of autonomy; and

(D) allow those participants in the Tiananmen demonstrations who fled overseas or reside outside of China after being “blacklisted” for their peaceful protest activity to return to China without risk of retribution;

(5) calls on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and the relevant authorities in the Government of the People’s Republic of China to—

(A) respect and uphold the personal rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong and the independence of Hong Kong’s legal system;

(B) restore independent democratic representation to the people of Hong Kong in line with the “One Country, Two Systems” arrangement set forth in the Joint Declaration and its implementing document, the Basic Law; and

(C) allow those living in exile for engaging in pro-democracy activities to return to Hong Kong without fear of detention or other repercussions;

(6) calls on the United States Government and members of Congress to mark the 32nd anniversary of the Tiananmen Square protests, including through meetings with participants of the Tiananmen Square protests who live outside of China and the families and friends of the victims of the Tiananmen Square massacre based outside China; and

(7) supports ongoing peaceful movements for human rights in China and of the people in Hong Kong, Tibet, and Xinjiang.

SENATE RESOLUTION 260—REMEMBERING THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENT REPRESSION OF THE PEACEFUL PROTESTS CENTERED IN BEIJING’S TIANANMEN SQUARE AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA’S ONGOING DENIAL OF BASIC RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

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

S. RES. 260

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

Whereas the peaceful demonstrations of 1989 called upon the Government of the People’s Republic of China (“China”) to eliminate corruption, accelerate economic and political reform, and protect human rights, particularly the freedoms of expression and assembly, issues that have become more acute in United States-China relations 32 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 the Tiananmen Square Massacre, even the date it occurred, and imprisons and harasses its own citizens who attempt to discuss or peacefully 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 full truth of what transpired, and some members of this group have passed away without obtaining justice and accountability for their family members who were killed in 1989;

Whereas people of mainland China and Macau are again barred this year from commemorating the lives lost and the legacy of the 1989 massacre, and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (“Hong Kong”) is using pandemic restrictions as a pretext for denying the vigil organizers a permit to gather;

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 32nd anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre is a poignant milestone, particularly as the autonomy of Hong Kong and freedoms guaranteed to the people of Hong Kong have been crushed by the Government of China’s imposition of the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on June 30, 2020;

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

Whereas, starting in 2020, the Hong Kong Police Force has blocked the annual candlelight vigil to commemorate Tiananmen;

Whereas Hong Kong’s autonomy and freedoms have been blatantly denied 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, failing to address excessive use of force by police, and criminalizing peaceful political activities through the use of spurious charges of “subversion,” “collusion with a