

S. 2221

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2221, a bill to restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950, and for other purposes.

S. 2232

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to fund projects to restore and modernize National Laboratories, and for other purposes.

S. 2233

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2233, a bill to establish a grant program for shuttered minor league baseball clubs, and for other purposes.

S. 2238

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention and Services program, and for other purposes.

S. 2258

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2258, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a Parks, Jobs, and Equity Program to support job creation, economic revitalization and park development for communities impacted by COVID-19.

S. 2271

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2271, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to provide grants for eligible entities for activities designed to expand the sales and use of biofuels derived from agricultural feedstocks produced in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2279

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2279, a bill to affirm the authority of the President to require independent regulatory agencies to comply with regulatory analysis requirements applicable to executive agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2301

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2301, a bill to amend the Higher

Education Act of 1965 to provide capacity-building assistance to institutions of higher education to examine and address inequities in college student access and success, and for other purposes.

S. 2331

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2331, a bill to temporarily suspend the admissibility of certain persons traveling from countries that currently have a moderate or higher level COVID-19 transmission.

S.J. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 21, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2356. A bill to provide funding to rehabilitate, retrofit, and remove the Nation's dams to improve the health of the Nation's rivers, improve public safety, and increase clean energy production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the "Twenty-First Century Dams Act," which I introduced today. I would like to thank Senators PADILLA, WYDEN, STABENOW, PETERS, GILLIBRAND, and BENNET, who have joined me in introducing the bill.

This bill represents a remarkable and historic coalition of groups that are often at odds: environmentalists, the hydropower industry, and dam safety advocates have come together to advance this proposal to modernize our nation's more than 90,000 dams. This breakthrough agreement is the result of a process launched three years ago and led by Stanford University's Woods Institute and Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance, with additional direction from the Energy Futures Initiative.

Our Nation's dams serve many important public purposes, including water supply, flood control, recreation, and, where appropriately mitigated, clean energy generation that will help slow climate change. But the dams also block off key habitat for fish, and can reduce flows needed for the health of rivers.

As a result, conservationists have often fought proposals to upgrade older hydropower facilities or construct new water-powered energy-storage projects, undertaking lengthy regulatory disputes over environmental safeguards.

The historic coalition advocating for this bill has agreed to try a different approach by working together. They jointly support three principles for modernizing dams known as the "3 Rs": rehabilitate, retrofit, and remove.

1) First, rehabilitate. Our bill increases investments in rehabilitating dams to improve their safety. Many of our nation's dams were built more than 50 years ago to safety standards that are insufficient today, all the more so because climate change is increasing the extreme weather events, like super storms, that dams will have to withstand to avoid catastrophic failures.

2) Second, retrofit. Hydropower provides the United States with more than seven percent of its electricity and over 90% of its current electricity storage capacity. Both the private and Federal hydropower fleet generate electricity, and hydropower facilities can complement variable solar and wind power sources and provide long-duration energy storage, critical to decarbonizing the grid. DOE estimates that by maintaining and retrofitting existing powered dams, U.S. hydropower electricity output could reduce carbon emissions by 5.1 billion metric tons by 2050 while supporting nearly 200,000 clean energy jobs. Retrofitting dams also includes measures to make them less ecologically damaging.

3) Third, removal. There are ample opportunities to remove unnecessary dams that no longer provide benefits to the population, have safety issues that cannot be mitigated in a cost-effective way, and/or have significant environmental impacts that cannot be addressed. Dam removals can improve public safety, restore the natural functions of rivers, help endangered fish species, create jobs, protect important environmental and cultural resources, and increase the climate resilience of U.S. rivers.

I would like to now talk about how the bill would advance each of the "3 Rs": rehabilitations, retrofits, and removals.

Rehabilitations of dams to improve their safety has long been a goal of mine. As Ranking Member of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, last year I funded for the first time the Army Corps of Engineers' loan program under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, or WIFIA. This program focuses on dam safety, and will use \$14 million in federal appropriations to back loans supporting approximately \$1 billion in dam safety projects.

Dam safety has been underfunded at Federal, State, and local levels for many years. There are nearly 6,000 non-federal high hazard potential dams, which are at high risk of failure with probable loss of human life if they were to fail. The Association of State Dam Safety officials has estimated that the total cost of rehabilitating these dams exceeds \$20 billion.

The bill proposes a series of investments to meet this critical need:

FEMA's grant program for non-Federal high hazard potential dams would be funded at \$1 billion over 5 years, up from \$10-12 million per year in recent years.

2) USDA's Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act would provide another \$500 million for rehabilitating non-Federal dams over 5 years, up from just \$10 million in the most recent appropriations bill.

3) The Army Corps' WIFIA program, which I mentioned earlier, would be funded at \$250 million over 5 years, a 250% increase over the most recent appropriations bill. This could support as much as \$15 billion in loans for non-Federal dam safety projects.

4) The bill would also authorize funds to building existing state regulatory oversight capacity, mapping the potential consequences of dam failure, and modernizing the National Dam Safety Program.

Dam safety funding in the bill totals \$2.405 billion over five years, plus \$15 billion in lending capacity to rehabilitate dangerous non-Federal dams.

While public safety is paramount, it is also critical that we manage our dams as part of a comprehensive strategy to address climate change. As I mentioned before, hydropower facilities can "firm up" variable solar and wind power sources, critical to decarbonizing the grid, by both producing 24/7 electricity and providing substantial electricity storage capacity for variable resources.

The coalition proposal has a two-part strategy to advance the second "R" of retrofitting dams. First is investing in existing Federal dams, which make up roughly 50% of all U.S. hydropower generation. Federal dam investments are essential to maintain this energy resource.

The bill authorizes \$11 billion over five years to improve the safety and renewable energy generating capacity, and reduce environmental impacts of federally owned dams across the United States. These investments are focused on the largest Federal dam-owning agencies, including:

- 1) \$8 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers;
- 2) \$2 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation;
- 3) \$650 million for the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and
- 4) \$350 million for the Forest Service.

The bill also authorizes \$200 million for the Department of Energy for research, development, and deployment to support innovative waterpower technologies, technologies to improve retrofitting and rehabilitating hydropower dams, and furthering the contribution of hydropower to grid resilience.

The coalition has also proposed establishing a 30% tax credit for investment at qualifying facilities in dam safety, environmental improvements, grid flexibility, and dam removals, with a direct pay alternative. Due to Senate rules regarding committee ju-

risdiction, it makes sense to move this tax credit provision separately. Senators CANTWELL and MURKOWSKI have introduced separate bipartisan legislation regarding this tax credit proposal, which they are actively discussing with the Senate Finance Committee.

Let me now turn to the third "R"—removal of unnecessary dams. Around the nation there are thousands of dams, in many cases built a century or more ago, which no longer provide significant societal benefits, but block fish passage to critical habitats and otherwise harm river ecosystems.

A twenty-first century dam strategy would be wholly incomplete without provisions to remove these unnecessary dams. The bill creates an interagency council and a stakeholder advisory committee to help administer funding to remove dams where appropriate. Identifying candidates for dam removal will follow these guiding principles:

- 1) The dam owner must give consent;
- 2) The priority is to remove dams that pose a significant public safety hazard, or non-powered dams whose removal would provide significant ecological value; and
- 3) Consideration of the extent to which the dam provides critical beneficial uses, the magnitude of public benefits from dam removal, and the cost-effectiveness and technical feasibility of dam removal.

Because dam removal can be a difficult issue, I believe it is critical to establish the framework in this bill for identifying which dams are appropriate for removal, and which are not. Within this framework, the bill authorizes \$7.5 billion in funding over 5 years for multiple Federal agencies with dam removal authorities, including the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Forest Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The broad goal of these provisions is to reconnect 10,000 river miles through the removal of 1,000 dams. In addition to ecological benefits that could transform the prospects for many endangered fish populations, these projects would also create over 100,000 jobs.

I want to again congratulate the hydropower industry, environmental community, and dam safety advocates that have come together in the coalition proposing this bill. This is an historic coalition, and the coalition's proposal gives the Senate a remarkable opportunity to advance three critical goals:

- 1) Rehabilitating aging dams that pose public safety risks and need major investments to withstand the extreme flooding events that are coming with climate change;
- 2) Retrofitting our Federal and non-Federal dam fleets to increase clean energy generation and slow climate change, while reducing the dams' environmental impacts; and
- 3) Removing unnecessary dams to open up critical habitat for endangered

fish populations and restore the health of our precious rivers.

Our colleague, Representative ANNIE KUSTER (NH-02), has introduced this legislation in the House of Representatives together with Representatives DON YOUNG (AK-AL), KIM SCHRIER M.D. (WA-08), JULIA BROWNLEY (CA-26), JARED HUFFMAN (CA-02), DEBBIE DINGELL (MI-12), EMANUEL CLEAVER (MO-05), NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN (CA-44), BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN (NJ-12), and SCOTT PETERS (CA-52). I look forward to working with these House members to advance this important bill.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this legislation. Thank you, Mr. President, and I yield the floor.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2357. A bill to fight homelessness in the United States by authorizing a grant program within the Health Resources and Services Administration for housing programs that offer comprehensive services and intensive case management for homeless individuals and families; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the "Fighting Homelessness with Services and Housing Act," which would establish a new Federal grant program to increase support for comprehensive services paired with housing to address our Nation's current homelessness crisis.

As we have seen with the growing diversity of our homeless populations—families with children, veterans, individuals with mental health conditions and struggling with addiction, people who simply could not keep up with increases in rent—our Nation's homelessness crisis is not going to simply resolve itself on its own.

According to the most recent data available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, there are more than 580,000 homeless individuals and families in the United States. More than 25 percent of this population is in California, with approximately 161,548 homeless people sleeping on the streets on any given night.

In a Nation as prosperous as ours, we can and we must do better, especially as we address this crisis in the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic. Our city, County, State, and Federal governments must work hand-in-hand with the non-profit and private sectors to establish collaborative efforts to significantly address the issue of homelessness.

The good news is that we have seen a model that works: supportive housing, which helps meet homeless individuals and families where they are. This approach can help stabilize an individual or family and change their life. Supportive services such as mental and physical health care, substance abuse

treatment, education and job training, and life skills such as financial literacy are critical components. Paired with intensive case management, supportive housing models make a difference.

One success story is the Downtown Women's Center in Los Angeles. This shelter allows homeless and formerly homeless women to transform their lives through a combination of permanent, supportive housing and workforce development. This would not be possible without the Center's partnerships with the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Department of Health, and other critical stakeholders. I've visited the Center and encourage my colleagues to do the same to see why this model works.

It is imperative that we support State and local efforts, as well as non-profit service providers, as they work to get people into housing to both mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and address their long-term needs.

Without a doubt, it will take a significant investment to solve the current homelessness crisis. That is why I am introducing the "Fighting Homelessness with Services and Housing Act," which would authorize a new Federal funding stream of \$1 billion per year, subject to annual appropriations. Grantees must serve individuals or families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless by providing housing paired with a comprehensive set of services and must provide a 25 percent match for any Federal funds received.

Because each individual and every community is unique, the grant program created by this bill would be flexible in order to work in any region or for any homeless population.

This bill supports the great work already being done across the Country, allowing local governmental entities and non-profit organizations to expand their capacity and ensure a greater reach by putting Federal dollars where they will make the most effective impact.

This legislation is supported by a wide coalition of local governments, housing, health, and child welfare organizations, including the Mayors and CEOs for U.S. Housing Investment, National Alliance to End Homelessness, Corporation for Supportive Housing, National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, National Low Income Housing Coalition, and the NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice.

I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting the bill and moving it through the Senate, especially as we continue to contend with the increase in homelessness amid the coronavirus pandemic.

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

By Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2361. A bill to reauthorize the budget-neutral demonstration program for energy and water conservation at

multifamily residential units, to establish a green retrofit program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am joining Senator COLLINS in introducing the Green Retrofits Act of 2021, which seeks to boost energy efficiency in multifamily residential homes across the Nation.

The legislation would accomplish this goal through two complimentary paths. First, the bill would authorize a public-private partnership program to make energy efficiency upgrades to properties currently receiving assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Second, it would direct the Secretary of HUD to create a program to distribute grants and loans for energy efficiency and home health upgrades in multifamily homes.

One of the most important investments we can make for our environment and our economy is in energy efficiency. Indeed, building a cleaner, more efficient energy system will increase America's global competitiveness, support job growth, and save families and businesses money through reduced energy consumption—all while reducing our carbon footprint. Further, investments in efficiency can be undertaken quickly and provide immediate benefits.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Association, more than half of energy consumption in U.S. households is for two basic needs: heating and cooling. As our constituents in Maine and Rhode Island know all too well, these bills can get quite high during New England winters, and no one should be forced to choose between staying warm in the winter and buying groceries and medicine for their families. Improving the efficiency of building components such as heating, cooling, and lighting systems will help households lower their energy bills, reduce health and safety risks, and improve the quality of life for residents.

Our legislation is supported nationally by the National Center for Healthy Housing, and in my state by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources and Rhode Island Housing. These state agencies have both made significant strides in clean energy and energy efficiency policy and I am glad this legislation will provide more resources to bolster those efforts.

With our economy still recovering from the pandemic, and the threat of climate change continuing to mount, it is more important than ever that we take steps to reduce costs for American families and decrease energy consumption.

I urge our colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense legislation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 2362. A bill to require rulemaking by the Administrator of the Federal

Emergency Management Agency to address considerations in evaluating the need for public and individual disaster assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2362

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fairness in Federal Disaster Declarations Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. REGULATORY ACTION REQUIRED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (in this Act referred to as the "Administrator" and "FEMA", respectively) shall amend the rules of the Administrator under section 206.48 of title 44, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(b) NEW CRITERIA REQUIRED.—The amended rules issued under subsection (a) shall provide for the following:

(1) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Such rules shall provide that, with respect to the evaluation of the need for public assistance—

(A) specific weighted valuations shall be assigned to each criterion, as follows—

(i) estimated cost of the assistance, 10 percent;

(ii) localized impacts, 40 percent;

(iii) insurance coverage in force, 10 percent;

(iv) hazard mitigation, 10 percent;

(v) recent multiple disasters, 10 percent;

(vi) programs of other Federal assistance, 10 percent; and

(vii) economic circumstances described in subparagraph (B), 10 percent; and

(B) FEMA shall consider the economic circumstances of—

(i) the local economy of the affected area, including factors such as the local assessable tax base and local sales tax, the median income as it compares to that of the State, and the poverty rate as it compares to that of the State; and

(ii) the economy of the State, including factors such as the unemployment rate of the State, as compared to the national unemployment rate.

(2) INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Such rules shall provide that, with respect to the evaluation of the severity, magnitude, and impact of the disaster and the evaluation of the need for assistance to individuals—

(A) specific weighted valuations shall be assigned to each criterion, as follows—

(i) concentration of damages, 20 percent;

(ii) trauma, 20 percent;

(iii) special populations, 20 percent;

(iv) voluntary agency assistance, 10 percent;

(v) insurance, 20 percent;

(vi) average amount of individual assistance by State, 5 percent; and

(vii) economic considerations described in subparagraph (B), 5 percent; and

(B) FEMA shall consider the economic circumstances of the affected area, including factors such as the local assessable tax base and local sales tax, the median income as it compares to that of the State, and the poverty rate as it compares to that of the State.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amended rules issued under subsection (a) shall apply to

any disaster for which a Governor requested a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and was denied on or after January 1, 2012.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 303—SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF CUBA IN THEIR DEMANDS FOR FREEDOM AND THE FULFILLMENT OF BASIC NEEDS AND CONDEMNING THE COMMUNIST REGIME IN CUBA

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. DAINES, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. INHOFE, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 303

Whereas, on July 11, 2021, thousands of people in Cuba raised their voices against socialism, tyranny, and oppression;

Whereas the Cuban people, tired of living under a brutal dictatorship, peacefully protested against the Communist regime throughout Cuba, from major cities such as Havana, Santiago, and Santa Clara to small towns and villages;

Whereas protesters have assembled at the headquarters of the Communist Party of Cuba chanting, "Cuba isn't yours!", "We are not afraid!", "Freedom!", and "Homeland and Life!";

Whereas these protests are only the latest in the Cuban people's long struggle for freedom, which has included—

(1) the Christian Liberation Movement, which has advocated for political change in Cuba since 1987;

(2) the 1994 Maleconazo uprising in Havana, during which thousands of protesters rose up against the disastrous economic policies of the Communist regime in Cuba;

(3) the Varela Project, which, in 1998, proposed a law advocating for democratic political reforms within Cuba;

(4) the Ladies in White movement, founded in 2003 by the wives and relatives of those imprisoned by the regime; and

(5) the San Isidro Movement, which was formed by artists, journalists, and academics in 2018 to protest the restrictions imposed by the Communist regime in Cuba on the Cuban people's right to free expression;

Whereas, since 1959, the Communist regime in Cuba has repressed political and economic freedoms, including by—

(1) preventing Cubans from owning private property and using property stolen from Cuban-Americans, many of whom are now United States citizens;

(2) forcing Cubans employed at foreign firms to register with a state employment agency that confiscates the bulk of their earnings; and

(3) restricting the access of the Cuban people to the internet by using equipment and systems produced and installed by entities controlled by the Chinese Communist Party;

Whereas the Communist regime in Cuba has not acted to preserve the lives and well-being of the Cuban people during the COVID-

19 pandemic and left Cubans in dire need of food, medicine, and other basic necessities;

Whereas the Communist Party of Cuba has for years sought to silence those it considers its political opponents through the use of police harassment, forced detainment, and torture, including—

(1) dismissing and disparaging Oswaldo Paya, founder of the Christian Liberation Movement, and obstructing a credible investigation into the questionable circumstances of his death in a car crash in 2012;

(2) imprisoning 75 dissidents, journalists, and human rights advocates during the "Black Spring" in Cuba in 2003;

(3) imprisoning Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia, founder of the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU);

(4) arresting journalist Camila Acosta in March 2021 for sharing information on Facebook;

(5) detaining Ivan Hernandez Carrillo, an independent labor union leader, multiple times;

(6) imprisoning journalist Roberto Quinones Haces; and

(7) detaining the leaders of the San Isidro Movement, including Luis Manuel Otero Alcantara, Esteban Lazaro Rodriguez Lopez, Maykel Osorbo, and many others;

Whereas the Communist regime in Cuba has been responsible for numerous atrocities against those that stood up for the rights of the Cuban people, including the extrajudicial assassinations of innocent civilians and activists by firing squad and other brutal methods, such as during the Tugboat Massacre of 1994 and the shoot-down of the Brothers to the Rescue aircraft in 1996;

Whereas the Communist regime in Cuba is taking steps to silence protesters and their message by shutting down internet access throughout Cuba, including by seizing and assaulting photographer Ramon Espinosa;

Whereas the Communist regime in Cuba has already taken steps to violently suppress protests, including deploying heavily armed troops and tear gas to disperse protesters;

Whereas hundreds of Cubans have been wounded by that use of violence by the Communist regime in Cuba, and 67 individuals have been arrested by the regime;

Whereas Miguel Diaz-Canel has openly called for bloodshed to quell the protests by calling on "revolutionary" citizens to "battl[e] in the streets";

Whereas the Communist regime in Cuba has for years resisted the efforts of the United States and its allies to bring freedom to Cuba, including by—

(1) threatening the mass deportation of people in order to destabilize local government services in the United States;

(2) harboring terrorists and fugitives from the United States wanted for committing violent crimes in the United States; and

(3) jamming the radio broadcasts of Radio and TV Marti, which provide critical information on the outside world to the Cuban people; and

Whereas, since 1959, the United States has stood steadfastly in support of the freedom of the Cuban people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the people of Cuba on their courageous efforts to advance freedom and democracy in Cuba;

(2) calls on Cuban security forces to respect the fundamental rights of the Cuban people to peacefully protest while raising their voices and demanding "Libertad";

(3) calls on the Communist regime in Cuba to immediately release all political prisoners and calls for the end of acts of repression and arbitrary imprisonment of members of the opposition, artists, and journalists;

(4) calls on the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed

Forces to refrain from physical violence and any other acts of repression against the people of Cuba;

(5) urges the European Union and Latin American and Caribbean allies—

(A) to express their solidarity with all the Cuban people;

(B) to speak out against the repression of the freedom-loving people of Cuba;

(C) to condemn acts of violence against the Cuban people by the military and security forces of Cuba; and

(D) to cease cooperation with the murderous and corrupt Communist regime in Cuba;

(6) urges President Biden to coordinate an international effort through—

(A) calling a meeting of the United Nations Security Council;

(B) engaging the European Union and the Organization of American States (OAS) to condemn the oppression of the Cuban people by the Communist regime in Cuba; and

(C) leading the effort to impose multilateral sanctions on the regime and against those violating the human rights of the protesters; and

(7) encourages President Biden and the Secretary of State to publicly condemn the violence, arbitrary arrests, persecution, threats, and intimidation against the people of Cuba.

SENATE RESOLUTION 304—DESIGNATING JULY 2021 AS "PLASTIC POLLUTION ACTION MONTH"

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

S. RES. 304

Whereas plastic pollution represents a global threat that will require individual and collective action, both nationally and internationally, to address;

Whereas, since the 1950s, over 8,000,000,000 tons of plastic have been produced worldwide;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) just 9 percent of plastic waste is sorted for recycling; and

(2) less than 3 percent of plastic waste is recycled into a similar quality product;

Whereas a recent study found that, despite the United States only accounting for 4 percent of the global population in 2016, in that same year the United States—

(1) generated 17 percent of all plastic waste; and

(2) ranked third among all countries contributing to coastal plastic pollution;

Whereas single-use plastics account for at least 40 percent of the plastic produced every year;

Whereas over 12,000,000 tons of plastic waste enter the ocean every year from land-based sources alone;

Whereas, if no action is taken, the flow of plastics into the ocean is expected to triple by 2040;

Whereas studies estimate that there are between 15,000,000,000,000 and 51,000,000,000,000 pieces of plastic in the oceans;

Whereas, globally, 100,000 marine mammals die every year as a result of plastic pollution;

Whereas plastics, and associated chemicals of plastics, directly impact human health;

Whereas studies suggest that, every week, humans swallow the amount of plastic that is in a credit card;

Whereas taking action to reduce plastic use, collect and clean up litter, and reuse and recycle more plastics will lead to less plastic pollution;