

Whereas, according to NHTSA, 6,205 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes the United States in 2019, representing a 13 percent increase in the last 5 years;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, the number of pedestrian fatalities increased by 44 percent from 2010 to 2019;

Whereas, according to the National Complete Streets Coalition at Smart Growth America, the pedestrian fatality rate for American Indian and Alaska Native people is 221 percent higher than that of White, non-Hispanic people in the United States, and Black people were struck and killed by drivers at a 82 percent higher rate than White, non-Hispanic people in the United States;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, a total of 843 bicyclists were killed in crashes with motor vehicles in 2019, representing a 36 percent increase in the last 10 years;

Whereas independent research in 2015 found that motor vehicle crash death rates were as much as 4.3 times greater for those at the bottom of the education spectrum than those at the top;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, motorcycles represented only 3 percent of all registered vehicles, but accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities and 17 percent of all occupant fatalities in 2019;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, in 2019, 45 percent of motor vehicle traffic fatalities occurred on rural roads, despite only 30 percent of miles traveled occurring on rural roads;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, seatbelts saved 14,955 lives in 2017 but lack of universal seatbelt usage costs the economy of the United States \$10,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, in 2019, 47 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who died in a motor vehicle crash were unrestrained, while 86 percent of occupants who survived a motor vehicle crash were restrained;

Whereas, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, increasing speed limits over the last 25 years have led to approximately 37,000 deaths;

Whereas, according to NHTSA, speeding accounted for 26 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2019;

Whereas, according to Consumer Reports, existing safety technologies could cut road fatalities in half if such technologies were made standard on all vehicles, saving approximately 20,000 lives annually;

Whereas roadway fatalities and injuries rose during the COVID-19 pandemic and remain a persistent killer on the roadways of our Nation;

Whereas, a deep history of inequalities in the United States continues to impact transportation systems, with low-income neighborhoods experiencing more than twice as many pedestrian fatalities as neighborhoods with the highest incomes, according to the National Complete Streets Coalition at Smart Growth America;

Whereas too many families in the United States have been personally affected by preventable crashes; and

Whereas a data-driven safe systems approach is proven to be effective at reducing traffic fatalities and injuries, including through taking into account all aspects of the transportation environment and not requiring a single actor to be responsible for traffic safety; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commits to advancing policies that will end roadway fatalities by 2050;

(2) calls on Congress and the Department of Transportation to commit to working together to achieve zero roadway fatalities by the year 2050;

(3) supports efforts to address disparities and other equity-related issues related to transportation safety;

(4) calls on the Department of Transportation, and the agencies within the Department of Transportation, to improve data gathering and tracking of traffic crashes and other issues related to transportation safety;

(5) calls on the Department of Transportation, and the agencies within the Department of Transportation, to commit to the implementation of proven countermeasures and interventions to prioritize transportation safety;

(6) recognizes the need for a safe systems approach in United States transportation to improve access, safety, and mobility; and

(7) supports the use of the term “crash” and not “accident” when describing traffic incidents and encourages all United States Government agencies to use this term.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 322—RE-AFFIRMING THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BULGARIA, CONGRATULATING BULGARIA ON ITS JULY 11, 2021 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, AND CALLING FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS IN BULGARIA TOWARDS COMBATING CORRUPTION, RESPECTING THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, AND PROTECTING MINORITY RIGHTS**

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

**S. RES. 322**

Whereas Bulgaria, which is an original signatory of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, done at Helsinki August 1, 1975 (commonly known as the “Helsinki Final Act”)—

(1) has transitioned from a Cold War-era, Soviet satellite to a multi-party democracy with a market economy; and

(2) remains an active and constructive participant in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);

Whereas because of its progress on the institutionalization of democratic systems and economic reforms, Bulgaria joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 2004 and the European Union in 2007;

Whereas Bulgaria is a steadfast ally of the United States in an area of strategic importance to the United States;

Whereas bilateral security cooperation between the United States and Bulgaria is deep and growing stronger, including through the October 2020 signing of a 10-year defense cooperation roadmap, and regular United States military training conducted in Bulgaria, including at the Novo Selo Training Area;

Whereas Bulgaria has contributed approximately 21,000 troops to various NATO missions;

Whereas Bulgaria is on track to consistently reach defense spending of at least 2 percent of its gross domestic product by 2024;

Whereas the international observers representing the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe concluded that Bulgaria’s July 11, 2021 parliamentary elections were “competitive with fundamental freedoms generally respected”;

Whereas on July 8 and 9, 2021, Bulgaria hosted the annual summit meeting of the Three Seas Initiative, a unique region-led undertaking launched in 2015 to create a political platform and investment fund to promote transportation, energy, and digital in-

frastructure connectivity across its 12 member states (Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia);

Whereas Bulgaria’s continued progress has been threatened by multiple internal challenges, including corruption, and Bulgaria is consistently among the lowest-ranked European Union member states in Transparency International’s Corruption Perceptions Index;

Whereas Bulgaria was ranked 112th out of 180 countries in the Reporters Without Borders 2021 World Press Freedom Index, which is the lowest position of any European Union country;

Whereas on March 10, 2021, a Reporters Without Borders expert stated, “Press freedom has reached an impasse in Bulgaria and independent media are on the brink of disappearing”, citing political interference with public broadcasters, and the abuse of privately-owned media for political purposes, among other concerns;

Whereas Bulgaria is an attractive, low-cost investment destination with a talented, tech-savvy labor pool, but has problems with endemic corruption, including in large infrastructure projects and in the energy sector;

Whereas on June 2, 2021, the Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control announced sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) against 3 Bulgarian individuals and 64 associated entities, while the Department of State announced visa bans on 5 former Bulgarian Government officials due to corruption;

Whereas religious pluralism has long been a positive feature of Bulgarian society, though the Muslim community still encounters obstacles in its quest to reclaim property and build new houses of worship in Sofia;

Whereas the Romani community faces systemic discrimination in Bulgaria, including discrimination in access to education, rights to residency, and access to voting, and Romani settlements faced particularly harsh restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas Bulgaria has withheld its support for neighboring North Macedonia to open accession talks with the European Union; and

Whereas America’s most successful and enduring relationships are built on shared values: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to the historic partnership between the United States and Bulgaria and to advance democracy, prosperity and security in Bulgaria;

(2) congratulates the Bulgarian people on the successful conduct of the July 11 parliamentary elections;

(3) declares its support for the Three Seas Initiative;

(4) urges Bulgarian authorities to redouble efforts to address corruption, sustain and protect a healthy independent media, and protect the rights of all minority groups in Bulgaria, in line with its commitments to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(5) encourages Bulgaria to support the aspirations for European Union membership of neighboring North Macedonia;

(6) supports Bulgaria’s efforts to diversify its energy sources to minimize the malign influence of dominant suppliers; and

(7) affirms its intent to continue to support Bulgaria’s efforts in these areas, including through the application of a wide range of supportive measures, such as—

(A) targeted Global Magnitsky Sanctions, as and when appropriate; and

(B) support for independent journalism, including through the recently returned Radio Free Europe Bulgarian Service, which excels in investigative reporting.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 323—RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LANHAM ACT BY DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JULY AS “NATIONAL ANTI-COUNTERFEITING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS MONTH”**

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 323

Whereas July 5, 2021, marks the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, to carry out the provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Lanham Act” or the “Trademark Act of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) by President Harry S. Truman;

Whereas the Lanham Act provided the foundation for modern Federal trademark protection, creating legal rights and remedies for brand owners suffering from trademark infringement, helping consumers make informed choices by reducing confusingly similar products, and making the marketplace more fair, competitive, and safe for all;

Whereas the Lanham Act was named for the primary sponsor, Representative Fritz Lanham of Texas, who recognized a need to “protect legitimate business and the consumers of the country” and created a uniform Federal framework to protect the trademarks of businesses, including logos, words, phrases, names, packaging, scents, shapes, and colors;

Whereas the Lanham Act has enabled the United States Patent and Trademark Office to administer a strong and effective Federal trademark registration system that helps trademark and brand owners safeguard their investments, while protecting consumers from confusion and deception in the marketplace and in commerce;

Whereas the Lanham Act has been cited by the United States Supreme Court in more than 50 decisions and by Federal and State courts across the United States in more than 54,000 decisions;

Whereas, in 2019, approximately 58,200,000 trademarks were in force around the world;

Whereas an estimated 9,200,000 trademark registrations recorded worldwide in 2019 alone, an 18.9 percent increase on the previous year’s total;

Whereas the Lanham Act has provided more than 7 decades of protection for the consumers and industries of the United States, which is of growing importance given the explosion of counterfeiting activity associated with the growth of both global commerce and electronic commerce (commonly referred to as “e-commerce”);

Whereas counterfeit products undermine laws, including the Lanham Act, that serve to safeguard consumers and brand owners against deceptive products in the marketplace and create profits for organized crime gangs at the expense of companies and governments;

Whereas counterfeiters use deceptive practices to entice consumers to purchase counterfeit goods;

Whereas the deceptive tactics of counterfeiters and their counterfeit products pose

actual and potential harm to the health and safety of United States citizens, especially the most vulnerable consumers in society, such as senior citizens and children;

Whereas counterfeit products threaten the United States economy and job creation, given that intellectual property is a key value generator, is an enabler of success in competitive markets, and promotes innovation and drives sustained economic growth;

Whereas, according to a report issued on April 18, 2021, by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, as of 2019 the manufacturing, trade, and consumption of counterfeit products is on the rise and trade in counterfeit products accounts for 3.3 percent of global trade, or approximately \$500,000,000,000;

Whereas brand owners, including corporations and medium-sized and small businesses, collectively spend billions of dollars annually to remove counterfeit products from the marketplace, including the online marketplace, in an effort to safeguard consumers from counterfeit products and protect the innovation, reputation, and goodwill invested in their trademarked products and services;

Whereas there is a need to support the efforts of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center to minimize counterfeit activity and educate consumers about the illegal activities that consumer money might support when consumers knowingly or unknowingly purchase counterfeit products;

Whereas U.S. Customs and Border Protection is experiencing an unprecedented volume of counterfeit products being imported into domestic commerce, primarily through the use of e-commerce and delivery in small packages;

Whereas the Congressional Trademark Caucus is actively working to raise awareness of the value of trademarks and the impact of trademarks on the national and State economies, as well as the threat posed by counterfeit products in undermining the safeguards that trademark protections provide for consumers and brand owners alike;

Whereas many governmental and non-governmental entities, including Federal enforcement agencies, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, State enforcement agencies, and consumer groups, share responsibility for, and dedicate substantial resources towards, educating the people of the United States about the potential harms that can arise from counterfeit products in the marketplace; and

Whereas recognition and commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Lanham Act serves as a means of educating the people of the United States about the importance of further raising awareness of the dangers counterfeit products pose to consumer health and safety: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, to carry out the provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Lanham Act” or the “Trademark Act of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) by President Harry S. Truman;

(2) designates the month of July 2021 as “National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month”;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month to educate the public and raise public awareness about

the actual and potential dangers counterfeit products pose to consumer health and safety;

(4) affirms the continuing importance and need for comprehensive Federal, State, and private sector-supported education and awareness efforts designed to equip the consumers of the United States with the information and tools they need to safeguard against illegal counterfeit products in traditional commerce, internet commerce, and other electronic commerce platforms;

(5) encourages the people of the United States to observe and celebrate the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Lanham Act with appropriate anti-counterfeiting education and awareness activities; and

(6) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of the United States to combating counterfeiting by promoting awareness about the actual and potential harm of counterfeiting to consumers and brand owners and by promoting new education programs and campaigns designed to reduce the supply of, and demand for, counterfeit products.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 324—DESIGNATING JULY 30, 2021, AS “NATIONAL WHISTLEBLOWER APPRECIATION DAY”**

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 324

Whereas, in 1777, before the passage of the Bill of Rights, 10 sailors and Marines blew the whistle on fraud and misconduct that was harmful to the United States;

Whereas the Founding Fathers unanimously supported the whistleblowers in words and deeds, including by releasing government records and providing monetary assistance for the reasonable legal expenses necessary to prevent retaliation against the whistleblowers;

Whereas, on July 30, 1778, in demonstration of their full support for whistleblowers, the members of the Continental Congress unanimously passed the first whistleblower legislation in the United States that read: “*Resolved*, That it is the duty of all persons in the service of the United States, as well as all other the inhabitants thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge” (legislation of July 30, 1778, reprinted in *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, DC, 1904-37), 11:732);

Whereas whistleblowers risk their careers, jobs, and reputations by reporting waste, fraud, and abuse to the proper authorities;

Whereas, in providing the proper authorities with lawful disclosures, whistleblowers save the taxpayers of the United States billions of dollars each year and serve the public interest by ensuring that the United States remains an ethical and safe place; and

Whereas it is the public policy of the United States to encourage, in accordance with Federal law (including the Constitution of the United States, rules, and regulations) and consistent with the protection of classified information (including sources and