

SENATE RESOLUTION 587—HONORING THE MEMORY OF JEREIMA “JERI” BUSTAMANTE ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF HER PASSING

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 587

Whereas Jereima “Jeri” Bustamante (referred to in this preamble as “Jeri Bustamante”) lived the American Dream;

Whereas, after moving from Panama to the United States with her family, Jeri Bustamante—

(1) attended Miami Beach Senior High School; and

(2) earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication and Media Sciences and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Florida International University;

Whereas Jeri Bustamante had a tireless work ethic and a passion for communication and paid for her education by working while enrolled in school;

Whereas that tireless work ethic propelled Jeri Bustamante to professional success, beginning with an internship at a Miami television station and culminating in a period of service as press secretary to Governor Rick Scott;

Whereas the enthusiasm, compassion, tenacity, and vibrant energy of Jeri Bustamante are greatly missed by her family, friends, and coworkers;

Whereas the spirit of Jeri Bustamante lives on through the Jereima Bustamante Memorial Scholarship, which aims to help graduates of Miami Beach Senior High School achieve their goals and pursue the American Dream through a college education; and

Whereas April 8, 2022, marks 4 years since the life of Jeri Bustamante was tragically cut short in a fatal boating accident: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and memory of Jereima “Jeri” Bustamante (referred to in this resolution as “Jeri Bustamante”);

(2) offers heartfelt condolences to the family, loved ones, and friends of Jeri Bustamante;

(3) recognizes that living the American Dream remains possible for any individual who, following the example of Jeri Bustamante, works hard to pursue and achieve a goal; and

(4) encourages the recipients of the Jereima Bustamante Memorial Scholarship to carry on the legacy of Jeri Bustamante.

SENATE RESOLUTION 588—DESIGNATING APRIL 2022 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNOCK, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the

following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 588

Whereas, according to the 2020 report entitled “Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households” by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, economic distress from the COVID-19 pandemic was evident when analyzing the self-assessments of individuals with respect to their financial trajectories over the past year;

Whereas, according to the 2019 report entitled “How America Banks: Household Use of Banking and Financial Services” by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, approximately 5.4 percent of households in the United States are unbanked and, therefore, have limited or no access to savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas, according to the 2021 Consumer Financial Literacy and Preparedness Survey of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling and Wells Fargo—

(1) 47 percent of the general population in the United States report having credit card debt;

(2) 38 percent of adults in the United States report carrying credit card balances from month-to-month; and

(3) 44 percent of the general population in the United States have a budget and keep close track of expenses, such as food, housing, and entertainment;

Whereas, according to a report entitled “Financial Capability of Adults with Disabilities” by the National Disability Institute and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, people with disabilities were more likely to struggle with the key components of financial capability, which are making ends meet, planning ahead, managing financial products, and financial knowledge and decision making, and could benefit from targeted financial education;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2021 entitled “Household Debt and Credit”—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States has been increasing steadily since 2013 and was \$414,000,000,000 higher than at the end of 2019; and

(2) outstanding student loan balances have more than doubled in the last decade to approximately \$1,560,000,000,000;

Whereas, according to the 2022 report entitled “Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation’s Schools”, by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 25 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 23 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to make sound money management decisions about credit, debt, insurance, financial transactions, and planning for the future;

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas financial education in schools in the United States is critical to a long-term financial inclusion strategy to reach stu-

dents who are not able to get sufficient personal finance guidance at home;

Whereas, according to the 2021 report entitled “Game Changer: The Evaluation of the JumpStart Financial Foundations for Educators Professional Development Program” by the Financial Literacy Group, teacher training regarding financial education improves student outcomes significantly, especially among historically underserved students;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2022 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 589—RECOGNIZING, HONORING, AND COMMENDING THE WOMEN OF UKRAINE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM AND THE DEFENSE OF UKRAINE

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 589

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin instigated an unprovoked, unjustified, and unlawful war violating the territorial integrity of the sovereign country of Ukraine;

Whereas, in response to this invasion, the people of Ukraine marshaled their will to defend their country and shared belief in a sovereign Ukraine in order to resist the imperialist ambitions of Vladimir Putin;

Whereas every Ukrainian man, woman, and child has done their part to defend democracy and freedom in Ukraine;

Whereas women have played a key role in defending Ukraine, keeping their families and innocent children safe and responding to the invasion by the Russian Federation;

Whereas, in the first 6 weeks of fighting in Ukraine, more than 4,300,000 Ukrainians, of which the majority are women and children, fled the country in response to Putin's war;

Whereas women play a critical role in facilitating the transit of children to safety, including by escorting the children of parents and guardians who cannot leave Ukraine so that such children are able to find safety in neighboring countries;

Whereas the women who remain in Ukraine contribute to all aspects of warfighting, including by fighting on the front lines and as part of the territorial defense, delivering supplies and weapons, and preparing cities for assaults by the Russian Federation;

Whereas 17 percent of the armed forces of Ukraine are women;

Whereas the women of Ukraine have a long history of defending Ukraine and standing up for their rights and freedoms;

Whereas, following the 2014 invasion of the sovereign and independent state of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, the women of Ukraine joined the fight to preserve their independence;

Whereas, despite significant contributions to the war effort, outdated legislation in Ukraine classifies women as cooks, tailors, and administrative assistants, even while women were fighting and dying on the front lines beside their male counterparts;

Whereas women are an integral part of the armed forces of Ukraine and continue to defend their homes and their country;

Whereas, on March 9, the armed forces of the Russian Federation deliberately attacked civilian targets in Mariupol, Ukraine, which destroyed a hospital that served as both a maternity ward and a children's hospital, killing two women and a baby;

Whereas, following the devastating attack on the well-known and established hospital, the world watched in horror as pregnant women, mothers carrying newborn babies, and young children fled the rubble of what should have been a safe place;

Whereas the women at the hospital should have been celebrating new life and looking toward raising their children in peace and safety, instead, those women are seeking shelter in subways, giving birth in bunkers, and worrying for the safety of their children and the future of Ukraine;

Whereas the attack on the maternity ward and children's hospital in Mariupol was the third such attack on a maternity ward in Ukraine by the Russian Federation since the beginning of the invasion on February 24;

Whereas, according to the United Nations, more than 4,300 women have given birth since the start of the war, and 80,000 Ukrainian women are expected to give birth in between April and June of 2022;

Whereas all women, in every situation, have the right to a safe birth and access to crucial supplies necessary for the management of pregnancy complications, including oxygen and medical supplies, which are running dangerously low in Ukraine because of the ongoing violence and refusal on the part of the Russian Federation to allow for safe passage for humanitarian purposes;

Whereas the unprovoked attack on a civilian building constitutes a war crime under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, done at Geneva August 12, 1949, (commonly referred to as the "Fourth Geneva Convention") and should be investigated as such a crime;

Whereas the Russian Federation has deliberately attacked civilian infrastructure in Ukraine, including schools, hospitals, businesses, apartment buildings, and utility services;

Whereas the initial days of the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation have resulted in a disproportionate number of women and children seeking safety outside of Ukraine;

Whereas Ukrainian women and girls, like women and girls in all humanitarian emergencies, including women and girls forced to leave their homes in conflict settings, face increased and exacerbated vulnerabilities to—

(1) gender-based violence, including rape, child marriage, domestic violence, and sexual exploitation and assault;

(2) all forms of human trafficking;

(3) disruptions in education and livelihood;

(4) lack of access to health care; and

(5) food insecurity and malnutrition;

Whereas the world has a responsibility to respond with care to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and in neighboring countries to address the specific needs of women and girls;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council adopted United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on October 31, 2000, acknowledging the impact of conflict and security decisions on women and calling on all member states to include "women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict";

Whereas, according to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (commonly referred to as "UN Women"), peace negotiations are more likely to end in a peace agreement when women and women's groups play a meaningful role in the negotiation process, and according to the International Peace Institute, a peace agreement is 35 percent more likely to last at least 15 years if women participate in the development of the peace agreement;

Whereas, in 2016, Ukraine adopted its first National Action Plan for the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, and, on October 28, 2020, Ukraine approved a new National Action Plan for 2021 through 2025 in order to address the impact on women of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and to ensure gender equality in the security and defense sectors of Ukraine;

Whereas representation of women in politics in Ukraine has increased steadily since the first parliament of an independent Ukraine met in 1990;

Whereas more than 20 percent of seats in the ninth and current Verkhovna Rada are held by women, the most in Ukrainian history;

Whereas women across Ukraine have made political gains in recent years, including in local elections on October 25, 2020, where 38 percent of deputies elected were women; and

Whereas women in Ukraine should be involved at all levels and in all aspects of leadership, negotiation, conflict resolution, and peacekeeping in order to ensure the most enduring peace for Ukraine and the region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes, honors, and commends the women of Ukraine who have contributed to the fight for freedom and the defense of Ukraine, including women who—

(A) are members of the Armed Forces Territorial Defense Forces of Ukraine;

(B) are volunteers, organizing and operating humanitarian organizations;

(C) are doctors, nurses, paramedics, and support personnel, providing life-saving services across Ukraine;

(D) have mobilized to assist the safe transfer of the children and other vulnerable individuals from Ukraine; and

(E) are public leaders, politicians, and diplomats;

(2) stands with the people of Ukraine in support of their fight for freedom against the Russian Federation;

(3) acknowledges the women who have risked their lives to travel through territory controlled by the Russian Federation, break siege tactics surrounding cities, and to ensure the safety of children and the elderly;

(4) commends—

(A) the bordering countries of Ukraine, including Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, and Moldova, who are accommodating more than 4,300,000 refugees; and

(B) the broader European Union for committing to provide support during the growing humanitarian crisis;

(5) calls on all countries to ensure that aid provided in support of refugees of and internally displaced persons within Ukraine takes into account the needs of women and the gender-specific risks that women face in seeking safety;

(6) acknowledges the important role women must play in resolving the conflict between Ukraine and the Russian Federation as outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2016) and required by the laws of the United States and regulations of Ukraine;

(7) further calls on all countries to promote the meaningful inclusion of women in negotiations and decision-making at all levels, including security decisions; and

(8) commits to supporting the women of Ukraine wherever they are as they fight back against tyranny and work for the free and democratic future of Ukraine.

SENATE RESOLUTION 590—RECOGNIZING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 11 THROUGH APRIL 17, 2022, AS THE FIFTH ANNUAL "BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK" TO BRING NATIONAL ATTENTION TO THE MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF REDUCING MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY AMONG BLACK WOMEN AND BIRTHING PERSONS

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 590

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black women in the United States are 3 times more likely than White women to die from pregnancy-related causes;

Whereas Black women in the United States suffer from life-threatening pregnancy complications, known as "maternal morbidities", twice as often as White women;

Whereas maternal mortality rates in the United States are—

(1) among the highest of any member country of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; and

(2) increasing rapidly, from 17.4 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2018, to 23.8 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2020;