

in major loss and damage, with a disproportionate impact on developing countries;

Whereas the United States will pursue initiatives that are consistent with sustainable long-term economic development, including—

(1) achievement of food security and poverty alleviation;

(2) improvement of conservation and sustainable management of forests, fish stocks, and oceanic resources;

(3) resilience to extreme weather events that are increasing in frequency and severity; and

(4) provision of sustainable livelihoods for local communities throughout the ASEAN region; and

Whereas, in the invitation for the United States-ASEAN Leaders Summit, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., stated that “the United States is committed to ASEAN centrality and remains steadfast in its support for an ASEAN-centered regional architecture at the heart of the Indo-Pacific”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes official representatives from the Governments of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam to attend the first United States-ASEAN Special Summit in Washington, D.C.;

(2) supports the decision of the Association of South East Asian Nations (referred to in this resolution as “ASEAN”) to invite non-political representatives from Myanmar to high-level ASEAN events and, furthermore, welcomes such non-political representatives to vocalize concerns on behalf of the Burmese people at the United States-ASEAN Special Summit, and refutes any political representation for the Burmese junta;

(3) supports and affirms the full implementation of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409; 132 Stat. 5387 et seq.) with regard to elevating the relationship between the United States and ASEAN, including more than \$2,000,000,000 in annual appropriations for foreign assistance and diplomatic operations in the Indo-Pacific region;

(4) urges the United States-ASEAN Special Summit, scheduled for May 12 and 13, 2022, to prioritize—

(A) democracy, good governance, rule of law, and human rights and address the trend of democratic backsliding in Southeast Asia, including the 2021 coup in Myanmar; and

(B) the pursuit of a robust economic agenda;

(5) reaffirms the importance of United States-ASEAN economic engagement, including the elimination of barriers to cross-border commerce, and supports the goals of the ASEAN Economic Community (referred to in this resolution as the “AEC”) goals, including strong, inclusive, and sustainable long-term economic growth and cooperation with the United States that focuses on innovation and capacity-building efforts in technology, education, disaster management, food security, human rights, and trade facilitation, particularly for the poorest ASEAN member states;

(6) urges ASEAN to continue its efforts to foster greater integration and unity within the ASEAN community, as well as to foster greater integration and unity with non-ASEAN economic, political, and security partners, including Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, the European Union, Taiwan, and India;

(7) calls on ASEAN to reaffirm its commitment, consistent with the fundamental principle in the ASEAN Charter and Treaty of Amity and Cooperation, to the sovereignty, independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally

recognized borders and call for an immediate ceasefire and the withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine;

(8) recognizes the value of strategic economic initiatives like United States-ASEAN Connect, which demonstrates a commitment to ASEAN and the AEC and builds upon economic relationships in the region;

(9) supports ASEAN member states in addressing maritime and territorial disputes in a constructive manner and in pursuing claims through peaceful, diplomatic, and, as necessary, legitimate regional and international dispute resolution mechanisms, consistent with international law, including through the adoption of a code of conduct in the South China Sea that represents the interests of all parties and promotes peace and stability in the region;

(10) urges all parties involved in the maritime and territorial disputes in the Indo-Pacific region, including the Government of the People’s Republic of China—

(A) to cease any current activities, and avoid undertaking any actions in the future that undermine stability or complicate or escalate disputes through the use of coercion, intimidation, or military force;

(B) to demilitarize islands, reefs, shoals, and other features, and refrain from new efforts to militarize, including the construction of new garrisons and facilities and the relocation of additional military personnel, materiel, or equipment;

(C) to oppose actions by any country that prevent other countries from exercising their sovereign rights to the resources in their exclusive economic zones and continental shelves by enforcing claims to those areas in the South China Sea that lack support in international law; and

(D) to oppose unilateral declarations of administrative and military districts in contested areas in the South China Sea;

(11) urges parties to refrain from unilateral actions that cause permanent physical damage to the marine environment, and supports the efforts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and ASEAN to implement guidelines to address the illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the region;

(12) supports efforts by United States partners and allies in ASEAN—

(A) to enhance maritime capability and maritime domain awareness;

(B) to protect unhindered access to and use of international waterways in the Indo-Pacific region that are critical to ensuring the security and free flow of commerce;

(C) to counter piracy;

(D) to disrupt illicit maritime trafficking activities, such as the trafficking of persons, goods, and drugs; and

(E) to enhance the maritime capabilities of countries or regional organizations to respond to emerging threats to maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region;

(13) urges ASEAN member states to develop a common approach to reaffirm the 2016 decision of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in favor of the Philippines in the case against the People’s Republic of China for excessive maritime claims;

(14) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to continue joint efforts with ASEAN to halt human smuggling and trafficking in persons, and urges ASEAN to create and strengthen regional mechanisms to provide assistance and support to refugees and migrants;

(15) supports the Mekong-U.S. Partnership, which promotes the stability, peace, prosperity, and sustainable development of the Mekong sub-region through cooperation between countries in the Mekong region and the United States in addressing transboundary challenges; ;

(16) urges ASEAN to build capacity for the promotion and protection of human rights by ASEAN member states and the implementation of related priorities, programs, and activities;

(17) urges the governments of such member states to engage directly with leaders of civil society and human rights organizations, including advocates of religious freedom, victims of human rights abuses, and environmental groups, to ensure these stakeholders have a voice in constructing public policy;

(18) encourages the President to communicate to ASEAN leaders the importance of promoting the rule of law and open and transparent government, strengthening civil society, and protecting human rights, including releasing political prisoners, ceasing politically motivated prosecutions and arbitrary killings, and safeguarding freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and freedom of speech and expression;

(19) supports efforts by organizations in ASEAN that address corruption in the public and private sectors, enhance anti-bribery compliance, enforce bribery criminalization in the private sector, and build beneficial ownership transparency through the ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT project partnered with the South East Asia Parties Against Corruption;

(20) supports the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative as an example of a people-to-people partnership that provides skills, networks, and leadership training to a new generation who will create and fill jobs, foster cross-border cooperation and partnerships, and rise to solve the regional and global challenges of the future; and

(21) applauds the governments of ASEAN member states that have fully upheld and implemented all United Nations Security Council resolutions and international agreements with respect to nuclear and ballistic missile programs in North Korea, and encourages all other governments of such member states to do the same.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 617—RECOGNIZING THE ROLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE TEACHERS OF THE UNITED STATES IN BUILDING AND ENHANCING THE CIVIC, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KING, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. REED, Ms. SMITH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

### S. RES. 617

Whereas education and knowledge are the foundation of the current and future strength of the United States;

Whereas teachers and other education staff have earned and deserve the respect of their students and communities for the selfless dedication of the teachers and staff to community service and the futures of the children of the United States;

Whereas school communities, teachers, and other education staff have risen to the occasion to support their students and communities amid the significant challenges

posed by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

Whereas teachers and other education staff have taken on the challenges presented by schools reopening, including by—

- (1) helping to address pandemic learning loss;
- (2) supporting the mental and behavioral health needs of students; and
- (3) maintaining health and safety standards to prevent a reoccurrence of the pandemic;

Whereas the purposes of National Teacher Appreciation Week, celebrated from May 2, 2022, through May 6, 2022, are—

- (1) to raise public awareness of the unquantifiable contributions of teachers; and
- (2) to promote greater respect and understanding for the teaching profession; and

Whereas students, schools, communities, and a number of organizations representing educators are recognizing the importance of teachers during National Teacher Appreciation Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) thanks the teachers of the United States; and
- (2) promotes the profession of teaching and the contributions of educators by encouraging students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to recognize National Teacher Appreciation Week.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 618—RECOGNIZING APRIL 30, 2022, AS “EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS—CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS”

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 618

Whereas, each year in the United States, El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans is recognized as a day to affirm and recognize the importance of young children and adolescents in the United States;

Whereas children and adolescents represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States, and the well-being of children and adolescents is emphasized as a top priority in the United States;

Whereas, according to data of the Bureau of the Census, the Hispanic population in the United States is the youngest major racial or ethnic group in the United States, as—

- (1) more than 18,600,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the Hispanic population in the United States, are younger than 18 years of age; and
- (2) in 2019, nearly 16,400,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Hispanic population in the United States, were individuals between 18 and 34 years of age;

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States continues to grow and is a significant part of the workforce in the United States, and children in that population will be consumers, taxpayers, and voters in the future;

Whereas, as the United States becomes more culturally and ethnically diverse, the people of the United States must strive to bring about cultural understanding and celebrate a tradition that honors all children and adolescents on El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans, a day that acknowledges and shares traditions and customs with all people in the United States;

Whereas parents are at the center of teaching children about family values, morality, life preparation, health, survival, and culture;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition to honor children and adolescents in the United States—

- (1) will help affirm the significance of family, education, health, and community among the people of the United States; and
- (2) will provide an opportunity for those children and adolescents to reflect on their futures, to articulate their aspirations, to find comfort and security in the support of their family members, communities, and schools, and to grow to contribute to the United States;

Whereas the National Latino Children's Institute, which served as an advocate and a voice for young Latino children, partnered with States and cities throughout the United States beginning in 1998 to highlight the contributions and challenges of young Latino children by advocating for the success and well-being of such children; and

Whereas April 30, 2022, would be an appropriate day to recognize as “El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes April 30, 2022, as “El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans”; and
- (2) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to nurture and invest in children and adolescents in order to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the free and open exchange of ideas, which are concepts that are essential to the spirit of the United States; and

(B) to celebrate the gifts of children and adolescents and to help them take their rightful place in the future of the United States; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to join with children, families, communities, schools, churches, cities, and States across the United States to observe El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans with appropriate ceremonies, including activities that—

(A) center on children and are free or of minimal cost so as to facilitate full participation by all people;

(B) uplift and help children positively envision a path to their futures by allowing children to voice their hopes and dreams;

(C) offer opportunities for children of diverse backgrounds to learn about the cultures of one another and to share ideas;

(D) include family members, especially extended and elderly family members, so as to—

- (i) promote understanding and communication among generations within families; and
- (ii) enable young people to learn from, and respect and benefit from the experiences of, their family elders;

(E) enable diverse communities to build relationships of understanding; and

(F) provide children with safe schools, homes, and communities that give them the long-term support they need to learn, develop, and become confident young adults who are ready and eager to believe in and contribute to the United States.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 619—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BURR,

Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 619

Whereas the week of May 1 through May 7, 2022, has been designated as “Public Service Recognition Week” to honor employees of the Federal Government and State and local governments and members of the uniformed services;

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the United States through work at all levels of government and as members of the uniformed services;

Whereas millions of public servants have worked, and continue to work, to help the United States overcome the challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing essential services to continue and playing a critical role in protecting public health and safety;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service and as members of the uniformed services in every State, county, and city across the United States and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas the ability of the Federal Government and State and local governments to be responsive, innovative, and effective depends on the outstanding performance of dedicated public servants;

Whereas the United States continues to reaffirm the critical importance of public service employees in responding to public health and economic challenges;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous country, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the United States benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of the highly trained individuals who work in public service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend the freedom of the people of the United States and advance the interests of the United States and the ideals of democracy around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to the Armed Forces and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver benefits under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including benefits under the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.);

(6) fight disease, including COVID-19, and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the parks of the United States;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the people of the United States recover from natural disasters, pandemics, and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore Earth, the moon, and space to improve knowledge on how the world changes;

(13) improve and secure transportation systems;

(14) promote economic stability and growth; and

(15) assist veterans of the Armed Forces;