

Whereas, on March 10, 2022, the European Parliament passed a resolution on the situation of journalists and human rights defenders in Mexico; and

Whereas the United States Government has expressed concern about violence against journalists in Mexico and demonstrated a willingness to assist the Government of Mexico in strengthening human rights protections and freedom of the press: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses unwavering commitment to and support for strengthening deterrent, protective, and accountability measures to prevent violence against journalists and safeguard the freedom of the press in Mexico;

(2) condemns consistently high levels of violence against journalists in Mexico, including recent and ongoing spikes in extrajudicial killings and high levels of impunity for such violence;

(3) encourages the Government of Mexico—
(A) to strengthen efforts to protect the free press and journalists, including by—

(i) committing sufficient resources to address threats to the free press and journalists; and

(ii) tailoring protection measures to account for the specific challenges of conducting journalistic work;

(B) to ensure a thorough and impartial investigation into all threats of violence reported by journalists and the provision of immediate access to protective measures for journalists who make such reports;

(C) to refrain from actions and statements that create a more hostile environment for the free press and journalists;

(D) to pursue public awareness campaigns to recognize and elevate journalistic work and the freedom of the press;

(E) to pursue effective measures, in close coordination with local and state entities and civil society organizations, to strengthen deterrent, protective, and accountability measures to address violence against journalists; and

(F) to conduct comprehensive and transparent investigations into the deaths of journalists to ensure all responsible parties are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law;

(4) encourages further efforts by the Government of Mexico—

(A) to address deficiencies within the Federal Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists (referred to in this resolution as the “Federal Protection Mechanism”);

(B) to bolster the capability of the Federal Protection Mechanism to achieve its stated purpose; and

(C) to develop additional measures that incorporate relevant recommendations by civil society groups, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to safeguard journalists and the free press;

(5) supports efforts by civil society groups, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights—

(A) to monitor violence against journalists and media workers in Mexico;

(B) to provide technical assistance and other support to the Government of Mexico to address concerns about such violence; and

(C) to disseminate accurate information on the state of freedom of the press in Mexico; and

(6) calls on the Department of State and United States Agency for International Development to prioritize the protection of the media and efforts to prevent, investigate, and prosecute cases of violence against journalists in diplomatic engagement with, and foreign assistance to, Mexico.

SENATE RESOLUTION 703—DESIGNATING JUNE 2022 AS “NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS MONTH” AND JUNE 27, 2022, AS “NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 703

Whereas the brave men and women of the Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States—

(1) risk their lives to protect the freedom, health, and welfare of the people of the United States; and

(2) deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being;

Whereas, since the events of September 11, 2001, nearly 2,800,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed overseas and served in places such as Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas the current generation of men and women in the Armed Forces has sustained a high rate of operational deployments, with many members of the Armed Forces serving overseas multiple times, placing those members at high risk of enduring traumatic combat stress;

Whereas, when left untreated, exposure to traumatic combat stress can lead to severe and chronic post-traumatic stress responses, which are commonly referred to as post-traumatic stress disorder (referred to in this preamble as “PTSD”) or post-traumatic stress injury;

Whereas many men and women of the Armed Forces and veterans who served before September 11, 2001, live with mental health needs from post-traumatic stress and remain at risk for responses to that stress;

Whereas many post-traumatic stress responses remain unreported, undiagnosed, and untreated due to a lack of awareness about post-traumatic stress and the persistent stigma associated with mental health conditions;

Whereas post-traumatic stress significantly increases the risk of post-traumatic stress responses, including anxiety, depression, homelessness, substance abuse, and suicide, especially if left untreated;

Whereas the Secretary of Veterans Affairs reports that—

(1) between 11 and 20 percent of veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom have post-traumatic stress in a given year;

(2) approximately 12 percent of veterans who served in the Persian Gulf War have post-traumatic stress in a given year; and

(3) approximately 30 percent of veterans who served in the Vietnam era have had post-traumatic stress in their lifetimes;

Whereas public perceptions of post-traumatic stress as a mental health disorder create unique challenges for veterans seeking employment;

Whereas the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, and the private and public medical community have made significant advances in the identification, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of post-traumatic stress and the symptoms of post-traumatic stress, but many challenges remain;

Whereas increased understanding of post-traumatic stress can help eliminate stigma

attached to the mental health issues of post-traumatic stress;

Whereas additional efforts are needed to find further ways to eliminate the stigma associated with post-traumatic stress, including—

(1) an examination of how post-traumatic stress is discussed in the United States; and

(2) a recognition that post-traumatic stress is a common injury that is treatable;

Whereas timely and appropriate treatment of post-traumatic stress responses can diminish complications and avert suicides;

Whereas post-traumatic stress—

(1) can result from any number of stressors other than combat, including rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse, car accidents, train wrecks, plane crashes, bombings, natural disasters, or global pandemics; and

(2) affects approximately 12,000,000 adults in the United States annually;

Whereas the diagnosis of PTSD was first defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to commonly and more accurately understand and treat survivors of physical and psychological trauma, including veterans who had endured severe traumatic combat stress;

Whereas the word “disorder” can perpetuate the stigma associated with combat stress, so the more general term “post-traumatic stress” is often preferred; and

Whereas the designation of a National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month and a National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day raises public awareness about issues relating to post-traumatic stress, reduces the stigma associated with post-traumatic stress, and helps ensure that individuals suffering from the invisible wounds of war receive proper treatment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates—

(A) June 2022 as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month”; and

(B) June 27, 2022, as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day”;

(2) supports the efforts of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Defense, and the entire medical community to educate members of the Armed Forces, veterans, the families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and the public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress;

(3) supports efforts by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to foster—

(A) cultural change around the issue of post-traumatic stress; and

(B) understanding that personal interactions can save lives and advance treatment;

(4) welcomes the efforts of the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder of the Department of Veterans Affairs and local Vet Centers (as defined in section 1712A(h) of title 38, United States Code) to provide assistance to veterans who are suffering from the effects of post-traumatic stress;

(5) encourages the leadership of the Armed Forces to support appropriate treatment of men and women of the Armed Forces who suffer from post-traumatic stress;

(6) recognizes the impact of post-traumatic stress on the spouses and families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans; and

(7) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to—

(A) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

(B) the Secretary of Defense.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 42—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL ON THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022, FOR THE LYING IN HONOR OF THE REMAINS OF HERSHEL WOODROW “WOODY” WILLIAMS, THE LAST SURVIVING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT FOR ACTS PERFORMED DURING WORLD WAR II

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. TESTER, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 42

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. HONORING THE LAST SURVIVING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT OF WORLD WAR II

In recognition of Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams, the last surviving recipient of the Medal of Honor for acts performed during World War II, his remains shall be permitted to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol on Thursday, July 14, 2022, in order to honor the Greatest Generation and the more than 16,000,000 men and women who served in the Armed Forces of the United States from 1941 to 1945. The Architect of the Capitol, under the direction of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall take all necessary steps for the accomplishment of that purpose.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of

the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TOURISM, TRADE, AND EXPORT PROMOTION

The Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I have with me today some summer associates from my office, and I ask unanimous consent that the following of my colleagues be granted floor privileges until August 12, 2022: Mr. John Luke Lary, Mr. Maximo Valobra, Mr. Jakob Greer, Mr. Jase McDonald, and Mr. Matthias Brantley—here in the back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until August 31, 2022: Cameron Hall, Jacob Tipton, AnnAdair Blackledge, Preston Dibbley, and Olivia Hardwick.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2022 second quarter Mass Mailing report is Monday, July 25, 2022. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states “none.”

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass_mailing_form.htm or e-mailed to OPR_MassMailings@sec.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 653.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 653) recognizing the significance of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 653) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 26, 2022, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS MONTH

NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 703, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 703) designating June 2022 as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month” and June 27, 2022, as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 703) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL ON THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022, FOR THE LYING IN HONOR OF THE REMAINS OF HERSHEL WOODROW “WOODY” WILLIAMS, THE LAST SURVIVING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT FOR ACTS PERFORMED DURING WORLD WAR II

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate