

economy—or the ‘traditional’ economy for that matter. Nearly every aspect of our economy has been digitized to some degree.”;

Whereas industries outside of the technology sector, such as manufacturing and agriculture, are integrating digital technology into their businesses in order to increase efficiency, improve safety, reach new customers, and remain globally competitive;

Whereas the increasing reliance on digital technologies has modernized legacy processes, accelerated workflows, increased access to information and services, and strengthened security in a variety of industries, leading to better health, environmental, and safety outcomes;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased uptake and reliance on digital technologies, data flows, and e-commerce;

Whereas 90 percent of adults in the United States say that the internet has been essential or important for them personally during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas United States families, workers, and business owners have seen how vital access to the internet has been to daily life, as work, education, medicine, and communication with family and friends have shifted increasingly online;

Whereas many individuals and families, especially in rural and Tribal communities, struggle to participate in the digital economy because of a lack of access to a reliable and affordable internet connection;

Whereas new developments in technology must be deployed with consideration to the unique access challenges of rural, urban underserved, and vulnerable communities;

Whereas digital trade has the power to help level the playing field and uplift those in traditionally unrepresented or underrepresented communities;

Whereas countries have negotiated international rules governing digital trade in various bilateral and plurilateral agreements, but those rules remain fragmented, and no multilateral agreement on digital trade exists within the World Trade Organization;

Whereas the United States, through free trade agreements or other digital agreements, has been a leader in developing a set of rules and standards on digital governance and e-commerce that has helped allies and partners of the United States unlock the full economic and social potential of digital trade;

Whereas Congress recognizes the need for agreements on digital trade, as indicated by its support for a robust digital trade chapter in the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement;

Whereas other countries are operating under their own digital rules, some of which are contrary to democratic values shared by the United States and many allies and partners of the United States;

Whereas those countries are attempting to advance their own digital rules on a global scale;

Whereas examples of the plethora of non-tariff barriers to digital trade that have emerged around the globe include—

(1) overly restrictive data localization requirements and limitations on cross border data flows that do not achieve legitimate public policy objectives;

(2) intellectual property rights infringement;

(3) policies that make market access contingent on forced technology transfers or voluntary transfers subject to coercive terms;

(4) web filtering;

(5) economic espionage;

(6) cybercrime exposure; and

(7) government-directed theft of trade secrets;

Whereas certain countries are pursuing or have implemented digital policies that un-

fairly discriminate against innovative United States technology companies and United States workers that create and deliver digital products and services;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China is currently advancing a model for digital governance and the digital economy domestically and abroad through its Digital Silk Road Initiative that permits censorship, surveillance, human and worker rights abuses, forced technology transfers, and data flow restrictions at the expense of human and worker rights, privacy, the free flow of data, and an open internet;

Whereas the 2020 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices of the Department of State highlighted significant human rights issues committed by the People's Republic of China in the digital realm, including “arbitrary interference with privacy; pervasive and intrusive technical surveillance and monitoring; serious restrictions on free expression, the press, and the internet, including physical attacks on and criminal prosecution of journalists, lawyers, writers, bloggers, dissidents, petitioners, and others as well as their family members, and censorship and site blocking”;

Whereas the United States discourages digital authoritarianism, including practices that undermine human and worker rights and result in other social and economic coercion;

Whereas allies and trading partners of the United States in the Indo-Pacific region have urged the United States to deepen economic engagement in the region by negotiating rules on digital trade and technology standards;

Whereas the digital economy has provided new opportunities for economic development, entrepreneurship, and growth in developing countries around the world;

Whereas negotiating strong digital trade principles and commitments with allies and partners across the globe enables the United States to unite like-minded economies around common standards and ensure that principles of democracy, rule of law, freedom of speech, human and worker rights, privacy, and a free and open internet are at the very core of digital governance;

Whereas United States leadership and substantive engagement is necessary to ensure that global digital rules reflect United States values so that workers are treated fairly, small businesses can compete and win in the global economy, and consumers are guaranteed the right to privacy and security;

Whereas the United States supports rules that reduce digital trade barriers, promote free expression and the free flow of information, enhance privacy protections, protect sensitive information, defend human and worker rights, prohibit forced technology transfer, and promote digitally enabled commerce; and

Whereas the United States supports efforts to cooperate with allies and trading partners to mitigate the risks of cyberattacks, address potentially illegal or deceptive business activities online, promote financial inclusion and digital workforce skills, and develop rules to govern the use of artificial intelligence and other emerging and future technologies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States should negotiate strong, inclusive, forward-looking, and enforceable rules on digital trade and the digital economy with like-minded countries as part of a broader trade and economic strategy to address digital barriers and ensure that the United States values of democracy, rule of law, freedom of speech, human and worker rights, privacy, and a free and open

internet are at the very core of the digital world and advanced technology;

(2) in conducting such negotiations, the United States must—

(A) pursue digital trade rules that—

(i) serve the best interests of workers, consumers, and small and medium-sized enterprises;

(ii) empower United States workers;

(iii) fuel wage growth; and

(iv) lead to materially positive economic outcomes for all people in the United States;

(B) ensure that any future agreement prevents the adoption of non-democratic, coercive, or overly restrictive policies that would be obstacles to a free and open internet and harm the ability of the e-commerce marketplace to continue to grow and thrive;

(C) coordinate sufficient trade-related assistance to ensure that developing countries can improve their capacity and benefit from increased digital trade; and

(D) consult closely with all relevant stakeholders, including workers, consumers, small and medium-sized enterprises, civil society groups, and human rights advocates; and

(3) with respect to any negotiations for an agreement facilitating digital trade, the United States Trade Representative and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies must—

(A) consult closely and on a timely basis with the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives about the substance of those negotiations and the requisite legal authority to bind the United States to any such agreement;

(B) keep both committees fully apprised of those negotiations; and

(C) provide to those committees, including staff with appropriate security clearances, adequate access to the text of the negotiating proposal of the United States before presenting the proposal in the negotiations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 728—COMMENDING THE BRAVERY, COURAGE, AND RESOLVE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRO-DEMOCRACY ACTIVISTS IN CUBA ONE YEAR AFTER THE HISTORIC MARCH LED BY SUCH ACTIVISTS THROUGH THE STREETS OF CUBA TO EXERCISE THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO PEACEFULLY ASSEMBLE AND SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE BRUTAL, TOTALITARIAN, AND ILLEGITIMATE COMMUNIST REGIME IN CUBA

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 728

Whereas July 11, 2022, marked 1 year since the largest anti-government demonstration in Cuba when thousands of brave protestors took to the streets in more than 40 cities to peacefully demand access to fundamental freedoms and civil liberties and call for an end to communism, censorship, and the oppressive leadership of the Communist regime in Cuba;

Whereas the regime, in an attempt to silence the Cuban people, responded to the demonstration with a wave of terror, repression, and criminalization and detained and persecuted more than 1,400 protestors;

Whereas more than 700 of such protestors, including children, remain unjustly imprisoned and are subjected to torture and inhumane living conditions, with many of such protestors having been sentenced to decades-long prison sentences;

Whereas the ongoing imprisonment of Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia, a Cuban human rights and democracy activist who has worked tirelessly to advocate for fundamental civil liberties for the Cuban people, is representative of the tactics of the brutal and despotic regime;

Whereas Garcia was among the hundreds of protestors who were unlawfully detained, were denied due process, and received unfair trials conducted by secret tribunals;

Whereas, according to a statement by the family of Garcia in January 2022, Garcia was subjected to months of solitary confinement, physical and psychological torture, and inhumane treatment from Cuban operatives, resulting in dire health conditions;

Whereas Garcia has suffered from severe headaches, mouth bleeding, malnutrition, bouts of coughing, and the inability to sleep;

Whereas, more than 1 year into the unjust imprisonment of Garcia by the Communist regime in Cuba, Garcia continues to be subjected to brutal, torturous, and inhumane conditions by the regime, including isolation and confinement to a small-walled cell with no access to natural light, denial of physical or verbal contact with family for months at a time, and denial of daily contact with other individuals;

Whereas, according to the family of Garcia, Garcia is now suffering from breathing problems and vision loss and shows bodily signs of ongoing torture;

Whereas the deteriorating and dire health conditions of Garcia are directly attributable to the cruel and inhumane conditions to which the regime has subjected Garcia, solely for engaging in peaceful demonstrations and calling for freedom and democracy for the people of Cuba;

Whereas hundreds of pro-democracy activists have been imprisoned solely for peacefully exercising their God-given right to freedom of expression, including—

(1) Luis Manuel Otero Alcantara and Maykel “Osorbo” Castillo of the San Isidro Movement;

(2) Jose Diaz Silva of the Opposition Movement for a New Republic;

(3) Arianna Lopez Roque of the Julio Machado Academy;

(4) Emiyosian Roman Rodriguez, a 17-year-old who shouted “Patria y Vida” and was sent to a forced labor camp for 5 years;

(5) Duannis Dabel Leon Taboada, a 22-year-old barber who was sentenced to 14 years; and

(6) young women such as Lisandra Gongora Espinosa and the Garrido sisters, Loreto Hernandez and Donaida Perez;

Whereas the illegitimate Communist regime in Cuba—

(1) is terrified of brave and courageous leaders who stand resolute in speaking out against the crimes against humanity committed by the regime; and

(2) will persecute, kidnap, torture, and eventually kill anyone who stands up against the tyranny of the regime; and

Whereas, by working together, freedom-loving nations can help bring positive change and democracy to the people of Cuba: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the bravery, courage, and resolve of the pro-democracy movement and all freedom activists in Cuba for risking everything to bring freedom to the Cuban people;

(2) condemns the repression of the hundreds of pro-democracy activists and polit-

ical prisoners, including children, that the Cuban regime is unjustly detaining and subjecting to physical and psychological torture, and calls for the immediate and unconditional release of such prisoners;

(3) condemns the brutal torture and inhumane treatment of Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia by the Cuban regime, and calls for an immediate humanitarian medical visit to Garcia and all political prisoners who have been unjustly and illegally detained since July 11, 2021;

(4) condemns the brutal totalitarian Communist dictatorship in Cuba, and demands an end to the suffering of the Cuban people and the impunity of the human rights abusers of the regime;

(5) calls for the international community to stand with the Cuban people and speak out against the totalitarian Communist regime in Cuba for infringing on the freedom of thought, will, expression, assembly, and prosperity of the Cuban people; and

(6) urges the President to firmly declare that the United States Government will not consider any more concessions or sanctions relief to the brutal, illegitimate Communist regime in Cuba until all conditions for removing sanctions are met in accordance with the laws of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 729—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING NOVEMBER 7, 2022, AS “NATIONAL PREGNANCY CENTER WEEK” TO RECOGNIZE THE VITAL ROLE THAT COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED PREGNANCY CENTERS PLAY IN SAVING LIVES AND SERVING WOMEN AND MEN FACED WITH DIFFICULT PREGNANCY DECISIONS

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SASSE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. THUNE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 729

Whereas, for more than 100 years, young women facing unplanned pregnancies have found support from charitable organizations ranging from Catholic Charities and Jewish maternity homes to the Salvation Army;

Whereas many charitable organizations banded together on November 13, 1971, to form the first United States association of nonprofit organizations dedicated to rescuing as many lives as possible from abortion;

Whereas, as of 2019, there were approximately 2,700 pregnancy centers (also known as “pregnancy care and resource centers”) in the United States;

Whereas women in every part of the United States turn to pregnancy centers for help, hope, and healing;

Whereas pregnancy centers are local, nonprofit organizations that provide vital and compassionate support to women and men faced with difficult pregnancy decisions;

Whereas pregnancy centers reach almost 2,000,000 people each year through a combination of client services, including—

- (1) pregnancy tests;
- (2) ultrasound and medical services;
- (3) options counseling and education; and

(4) parenting and childbirth classes;

Whereas the estimated value of services provided in 2019 to women and men of all ages and backgrounds was nearly \$270,000,000;

Whereas some pregnancy centers offer specific medical services, including—

(1) consultation with a licensed medical professional;

(2) a limited ultrasound for pregnancy confirmation; and

(3) testing for sexually transmitted infections and diseases;

Whereas the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates—

(1) provides life-affirming pregnancy centers with legal counsel, education, and training;

(2) has assisted hundreds of pregnancy centers in becoming medical clinics; and

(3) has represented nearly 1,300 pregnancy centers that currently operate as medical clinics;

Whereas more than 53,000 people in the United States volunteer at community-supported pregnancy centers each year;

Whereas more than 2,130 medical pregnancy centers provide a limited ultrasound at little or no cost to women;

Whereas, in 2019, more than 486,000 ultrasounds were performed at medical pregnancy centers;

Whereas pregnancy centers understand that pregnancy can be emotional for mothers and fathers, and the compassionate staff and trained volunteers of pregnancy centers—

(1) provide each patient with educational materials; and

(2) offer each patient emotional support and care to help each patient through difficult situations;

Whereas close to 86 percent of pregnancy centers in the United States offer specialized parenting education—

(1) through direct services on premises; or

(2) in nearby churches, schools, or other locations;

Whereas nearly every pregnancy care and resource center provides clients with material support for pregnancy and infant care, which may include—

- (1) maternity clothing;
- (2) baby clothes and furniture;
- (3) housing assistance; or

(4) nutritional counseling and resources;

Whereas pregnancy centers—

(1) do not discriminate based on age, race, nationality, creed, religious affiliation, disability, or arbitrary circumstances; and

(2) take special care to provide help to underserved minority populations;

Whereas pregnancy centers have committed to engaging fathers so that they can acquire the skills necessary to become involved and responsible fathers;

Whereas Care Net-affiliated pregnancy centers have saved more than 823,000 babies since 2008;

Whereas Heartbeat International reports that the Abortion Pill Rescue Network has saved more than 2,000 lives;

Whereas, in the last 12 years, 8 of 10 women considering abortion when they entered a Care Net-affiliated pregnancy care and resource center ended up choosing life;

Whereas, in the last 12 years, Care Net-affiliated pregnancy centers—

(1) provided 1,300,000 free ultrasound scans;

(2) provided parenting support and education to 1,100,000 individuals;

(3) provided material resources to more than 1,700,000 individuals; and

(4) administered 3,200,000 pregnancy tests;

Whereas the 24-hour Option Line of Heartbeat International—

(1) helps carry out a mission of reaching and rescuing as many lives as possible around the world through an effective network of life-affirming pregnancy centers; and