

members of the WAC were “[his] best soldiers”, noting their dedication to hard work and discipline;

Whereas General and future President Dwight D. Eisenhower said that the WAC’s “contributions in efficiency, skill, spirit, and determination are immeasurable”;

Whereas the WAC served as an important precursor to the complete gender integration of the military in 1978; and

Whereas the brave women who served in the WAAC and the WAC are owed a great debt of gratitude for their service to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the women who served the United States in the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corp (referred to in this resolution as the “WAAC”) and the Women’s Army Corp (referred to in this resolution as the “WAC”) during World War II;

(2) commends the women of the WAAC and the WAC who, through their dedication to the United States and perseverance through significant social pressure, served in critical military positions to aid the war effort, freeing male soldiers for combat duty; and

(3) recognizes that the WAAC and the WAC overcame stereotypes to open up more opportunities for women and made significant contributions to the victory of the United States and the allies in World War II.

SENATE RESOLUTION 736—CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA TO HOLD FREE, FAIR, AND PEACEFUL ELECTIONS ON AUGUST 24, 2022, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 736

Whereas the Republic of Angola will hold a general election to elect its President and National Assembly on August 24, 2022;

Whereas this year’s election will be Angola’s fifth multiparty election since 1992;

Whereas Angola’s 2 main political parties, the People’s Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), were the principal belligerents in the country’s 26-year civil war;

Whereas Angola experienced its first presidential electoral transition in 2017, when President Joao Lourenco of the MPLA succeeded Jose Eduardo dos Santos, also of the MPLA, who ruled Angola for 38 years;

Whereas, despite holding regular elections and having active political opposition parties, Angola is classified as “Not Free” by Freedom House due to the ruling MPLA’s abuse of state institutions to control political processes and limit free expression;

Whereas mass media in Angola is controlled or highly influenced by the state, independent journalists face harassment, opposition parties are subject to bureaucratic interference, and fewer than half of Angolans feel free to speak their mind, according to a 2019 poll by Afrobarometer;

Whereas Angola is in a period of economic and social crisis, with widespread frustration over the poor state of the oil-based economy and persistently high rates of poverty, inequality, and public corruption;

Whereas, since 2020, Angolans have expressed their dissatisfaction through frequent public protests, which have been met with arrests and police violence against protesters; and

Whereas the failure to hold a credible election will dangerously exacerbate political tensions in Angola: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Government of Angola to hold free, fair, and peaceful elections on August 24, 2022;

(2) urges the Government of Angola to ensure the credibility of elections by—

(A) allowing for all parties and candidates to campaign without undue restriction, harassment, or intimidation;

(B) publishing and freely disseminating electoral information, including voter rolls and election results;

(C) permitting the unrestricted participation of independent election monitors, including by inviting the European Union to send an election observation mission, as the European Union has stated it is prepared to do;

(D) ceasing the use of state resources and institutions to support or promote particular political parties or candidates; and

(E) reversing the ban on opinion polling during elections;

(3) urges all political parties in Angola to pledge that they will not use violence during or after the election, will respect the outcome of the vote, and will investigate any disputes peacefully, using legal mechanisms;

(4) urges the people of Angola to exercise their right to vote on election day;

(5) calls on all parties to work together, whatever the outcome of the election, to develop and implement a broad-based reform agenda, undertaken in collaboration with civil society, that will address the most urgent issues facing Angola, including by pursuing policies that—

(A) reduce inequality and poverty including by increasing employment opportunities, especially for youth, women, and other marginalized groups;

(B) diversify the economy, privatize state-owned enterprises in a fair and transparent manner, attract foreign investment, improve public financial management and oversight, and protect labor and property rights;

(C) seek to eliminate public corruption at all levels, including by prosecuting corrupt actors without exception; and

(D) enhance and improve civil liberties, human rights, and free expression for all Angolans;

(6) calls on the United States Government to hold Angolan officials accountable for any attempts to subvert the electoral process; and

(7) stands with the people of Angola and supports their aspirations for a free, democratic election.

SENATE RESOLUTION 737—DESIGNATING AUGUST 10, 2022, AS “TOXIC EXPOSURE AWARENESS DAY”

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 737

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, the United States sprayed between 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 gallons of Agent Orange, potentially exposing millions of members of the Armed Forces stationed in Vietnam and elsewhere to this toxic mixture of herbicides;

Whereas, after the Vietnam War, it took the United States Government years to recognize the link between Agent Orange and the health conditions being experienced by thousands of returning members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Agent Orange Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-4; 38 U.S.C. 1116 note), provided Vietnam veterans with a presumption of service connection for diseases associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces have been exposed to toxic substances while serving at home, including at Camp Lejeune, where as many as 1,000,000 members of the Armed Forces, family members, and staff may have been exposed to drinking water containing contaminants that have been linked to adverse health effects;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces have been exposed to toxic radiation while engaged in cleanup operations, including in—

- (1) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;
- (2) Thule, Greenland; and
- (3) Palomares, Spain.

Whereas, from 1985 to 2001, at Naval Air Facility Atsugi in Atsugi, Japan, personnel and family members of members of the Armed Forces, including dependent children, may have been exposed to environmental contaminants from off-base waste incinerators.

Whereas the Armed Forces used burn pits in Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm;

Whereas more than 250 burn pits were used during military operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Djibouti after September 11, 2001;

Whereas veterans encountered hazardous exposures while serving at the Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, commonly known as K2, in Uzbekistan from 2001 to 2005;

Whereas there were no regulations restricting what the Armed Forces could burn in burn pits until 2009;

Whereas the open air burn pits used by the Armed Forces in many overseas operations may have exposed members of the Armed Forces to a variety of potentially harmful substances;

Whereas the Department of Defense estimates that approximately 3,500,000 members of the Armed Forces, who served in the Southwest Asia theater of military operations after August 2, 1990, or in Afghanistan after September 11, 2001, may have been exposed to airborne hazards;

Whereas an Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America survey found that 86 percent of post-9/11 veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan say they were exposed to burn pits or airborne toxic materials;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of members of the Armed Forces and other personnel who served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, United Arab Emirates, and certain sea locations have signed up for a burn pit registry created in 2014 by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans to register health problems associated with exposure to burn pits; and

Whereas designating August 10, 2022, as “Toxic Exposure Awareness Day” would be an appropriate way to honor the members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to toxic substances while serving in defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 10, 2022, as “Toxic Exposure Awareness Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes the contributions of the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were exposed to toxic substances;

(3) encourages States and local governments to designate August 10, 2022, as “Toxic Exposure Awareness Day”;

(4) encourages the Department of Veterans Affairs (referred to in this resolution as “VA”) to conduct additional outreach and promote awareness of the resources that the

VA offers for those to exposed to toxic substances, including—

- (A) offering no-cost health screenings;
 - (B) registering for the VA Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry;
 - (C) providing information on the Electronic Health Record (commonly known as “EHR”);
 - (D) reviewing the VA insurance and benefits, including review of disability claims;
 - (E) connecting with County Veteran Service Officers; and
 - (F) promoting awareness campaigns;
- (5) encourages veterans to use the available resources at the VA and Veteran Service Organizations (referred to in this resolution as “VSOs”);
- (6) encourages VSOs to continue outreach efforts to connect veterans with available health resources, from both VSOs and the United States Government;
- (7) promotes continued medical research regarding burn pit exposure risks, whether through the Airborne Hazards and Burn Pits Center of Excellence or other partnership programming with the VA or the United States Government;
- (8) encourages the people of the United States to observe Toxic Exposure Awareness Day, whether by familiarizing themselves with resources available to all veterans or thanking members of the Armed Forces for their sacrifice; and
- (9) demonstrates the resolve that the people of the United States shall never forget the sacrifices and service of the generations of veterans who served in the Armed Forces at home and around the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 738—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADEMARKS IN THE ECONOMY AND THE ROLE OF TRADEMARKS IN PROTECTING CONSUMER SAFETY, BY DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF AUGUST AS “NATIONAL ANTI-COUNTERFEITING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS MONTH”

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

S. RES. 738

Whereas public awareness is crucial to safeguard consumers and businesses from unsafe and unreliable products that, through illicit activity, threaten intellectual property rights, the economic market, and even the health and well-being of consumers;

Whereas Federal statutes such as the Act of July 5, 1946 (commonly referred to as the “Trademark Act of 1946” or the “Lanham Act”) (60 Stat. 427, chapter 540; 15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) (referred to in this preamble as the “Lanham Act”) and the Trademark Counterfeiting Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-473; 98 Stat. 2178) regulate the unlawful act of producing and selling counterfeit products;

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 the amount of confusingly similar products, and making the marketplace more fair, competitive, and safe for all;

Whereas, according to the World Intellectual Property Organization, there was an estimated 64,400,000 active trademark registrations around the world in 2020, an 11.2 percent increase from the previous year;

Whereas counterfeit products undermine laws, including the Lanham Act, that ensure the safety of consumers, businesses, and brand owners against illegitimate products in the marketplace, from which criminal groups and bad actors are benefitting at the expense of the public and private sector;

Whereas counterfeiters use different online platforms to attract consumers to buy illegitimate goods, usually enticing consumers through cheaper prices;

Whereas the growth of both global commerce and electronic commerce has expedited the evolving problem because it has given third-party actors an enhanced opportunity to reach consumers that they may have not previously been able to reach;

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, according to the 2021 Special 301 Report issued by the Office the United States Trade Representative, counterfeit items often do not comply with regulated safety standards, and as a result, vast amounts of unsafe products are constantly circulating the market;

Whereas goods originating in China and Hong Kong account for approximately 80 percent of all global customs seizures of dangerous counterfeit goods, including foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and other goods;

Whereas many international criminals have used the pandemic to exploit the market with numerous counterfeits, and as a result, have defrauded United States citizens;

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation has stressed the need to educate the healthcare industry, private organizations, and the public of the United States on the increased potential for counterfeit medical equipment that is used in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas counterfeit medical products pose a particular threat to the safety and health of consumers in the United States because the counterfeit product does not provide the same level of protection as an authentic article;

Whereas these dangers were elevated during the COVID-19 pandemic by significant trafficking in counterfeit personal protective equipment, medical devices, and COVID-19 treatments;

Whereas, according to the World Trade-mark review, “as of 25 March 2021, there have been 2,054 covid-19-related seizures, including counterfeit masks and medicines totaling in excess of \$47.2 million, with 265 arrests”;

Whereas, in September 2021, the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) issued its first Public Safety Alert in 6 years to warn the public about the alarming increase in the availability and lethality of fake prescription pills in the United States, pills that often contain deadly doses of fentanyl, and in 2021 the DEA seized a staggering 20,400,000 fake prescription pills;

Whereas counterfeit products threaten the United States economy and job creation, and according to United States Customs and Border Protection, counterfeiting and piracy cost businesses in the United States more than \$200,000,000,000 per year and has led to the loss of 750,000 jobs;

Whereas, in 2021, the United States Customs and Border Protection reported 20,252 counterfeit good seizures, with “an estimated manufacturer’s suggested retail price (MSRP) of over \$2.15 billion if the goods were authentic [, which] equates to about \$5.88 million in counterfeit goods seizures every day”;

Whereas the manufacturing, trade, and consumption of counterfeit products are on the rise;

Whereas, according to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, as of 2020, at least 20 percent of counterfeit and pirated goods sold abroad displace sales in the United States, and of the \$143,000,000,000 sold of such goods, the United States economy suffers a loss of around \$29,000,000,000 per year;

Whereas businesses of all sizes collectively spend millions of dollars to protect and enforce their own brand and products by removing counterfeit products from both online and physical marketplaces;

Whereas businesses must devote resources to combating counterfeit products instead of using those resources to grow their business by hiring new employees and developing new products;

Whereas 1 of the most effective ways to protect consumers of the dangers of counterfeit products is through educational campaigns and awareness programs; and

Whereas organizations such as the Congressional Trademark Caucus, Federal enforcement agencies, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, and State enforcement agencies are actively working to raise awareness of the value of trademarks and the impact and harms caused by counterfeit products on both the national and State economies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of August 2022 as “National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month”;

(2) 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;

(3) 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 needed to safeguard against illegal counterfeit products in traditional commerce, internet commerce, and other electronic commerce platforms; and

(4) 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 739—AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF A DOCUMENT ENTITLED “COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, UNITED STATES SENATE, 1867–2022”

Mrs. MURRAY (for Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. SHELBY)) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 739

Resolved, That there be printed with illustrations as a Senate document a compilation of materials entitled “Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, 1867–2022”, and that there be printed six hundred additional copies of such document for the use of the Committee on Appropriations.