

myotonic dystrophy, the Social Security Administration added congenital myotonic dystrophy to the Compassionate Allowance Program, which allows individuals to quickly qualify for disability benefits, including health insurance coverage;

Whereas, in 2018, Congress added myotonic dystrophy to the list of eligible conditions for research funding under the Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program of the Department of Defense, which resulted in more than \$6,000,000 in new research awards; and

Whereas a more robust scientific investment in myotonic dystrophy research will improve health outcomes, reduce disability, and increase life expectancy for individuals living with myotonic dystrophy, and holds great promise for helping individuals with similar genetic diseases: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of September 15, 2022, as “International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes the seriousness of myotonic dystrophy; and

(3) supports the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day, which include—

(A) committing to promoting and advancing the health, well-being, and inherent dignity of all children and adults with myotonic dystrophy;

(B) supporting the advancement of scientific and medical myotonic dystrophy research;

(C) fostering biopharmaceutical innovation that will lead to Food and Drug Administration-approved treatments and eventually a cure for myotonic dystrophy;

(D) advancing programs and policies that assist individuals living with myotonic dystrophy and the caregivers of such individuals; and

(E) encouraging awareness and education of myotonic dystrophy for patients, caregivers, clinicians, and researchers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 773—COMMEMORATING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS DECLARATION

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 773

Whereas, on September 15, 2020, the United States, Israel, United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain signed the historic Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on December 22, 2020, Morocco signed the Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on January 6, 2021, Sudan signed the Abraham Accords;

Whereas the Abraham Accords created formal diplomatic ties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco increasing the number of Arab states with formal diplomatic ties with Israel to six;

Whereas the Abraham Accords marked the first instance of normalized relations between Israel and Arab countries in more than two decades;

Whereas the leadership and success of prior normalization agreements between Israel and Egypt in 1979 and between Israel and Jordan in 1994 paved the way for creating formal diplomatic ties with other Arab and Muslim-majority countries;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have reduced the likelihood of armed conflict, im-

proved ties between Israel and neighboring countries, and advanced the cause of achieving lasting peace in the Middle East, including through a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that ensures mutual recognition and guarantees that Israelis and Palestinians live side-by-side with freedom, security, and prosperity;

Whereas the Abraham Accords provide an opportunity to make tangible improvements in the lives of Palestinians, including increased multilateral investment in the Palestinian economy among signatory countries of the Abraham Accords;

Whereas continued political, economic, and security cooperation between the United States, Israel, and Arab states remains vital to the prosperity and security of the Middle East;

Whereas the relationship between the United States and Israel is rooted in shared values and interests;

Whereas the Abraham Accords demonstrably have advanced religious freedom in the Middle East, including through interfaith and intercultural dialogue between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain;

Whereas new opportunities for multilateral cooperation generated by the Abraham Accords may improve the ability of the United States to meet nascent threats and emerging challenges;

Whereas the Embassy of Israel in Abu Dhabi was opened on January 24, 2021, and the United Arab Emirates became the first Gulf country to open an embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, on May 30, 2021;

Whereas Israel opened a resident embassy in Manama, Bahrain, in September 2021, and the first ambassador to Israel from Bahrain assumed his post in August 2021;

Whereas the Foreign Ministers of Israel, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and the United States convened at the Negev Summit in Sde Boker, Israel, resulting in the establishment of the Negev Forum and six working groups tasked with furthering multilateral cooperation in the areas of energy, education and coexistence, food and water security, health, regional security, and tourism;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have catalyzed increases in trade, tourism, and investment in the Middle East, benefitting the people of those countries;

Whereas, at the 2022 World Economic Forum, the Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates indicated that bilateral trade with Israel has surpassed \$2,500,000,000 since the signing of the Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on May 31, 2022, Israel and the United Arab Emirates signed a comprehensive free-trade agreement to cover 96 percent of bilateral trade, amounting to approximately \$1,000,000,000;

Whereas trade between the United Arab Emirates and Israel is expected to surpass \$10,000,000,000 within 5 years, economic conditions that were made possible by the Abraham Accords;

Whereas trade between Israel and Bahrain increased to \$1,200,000 in May 2022, up from \$0 in May 2021;

Whereas trade between Israel and Morocco increased to \$3,100,000 in May 2022, an increase of 94 percent since May 2021;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have facilitated direct commercial airline flights, improving people-to-people ties in spite of obstacles created by the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, on July 14, 2022, the United States and Israel signed the Jerusalem U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Joint Declaration, which calls for a deepening and broadening of the Abraham Accords; and

Whereas destabilizing developments in the Middle East continue to demonstrate the importance of the Abraham Accords: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the second anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords;

(2) reaffirms the enduring and ironclad alliance between the United States and Israel;

(3) believes that the United States should—

(A) prioritize the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to encourage other countries to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries;

(B) with other signatory countries of the Abraham Accords, promote and develop new areas of regional collaboration including maritime security, defense cooperation, clean energy initiatives, water security initiatives, and direct flights; and

(C) build on the Abraham Accords to help advance prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians, make tangible improvements in the lives of the Palestinian people, and make progress toward a negotiated solution that ensures mutual recognition;

(4) supports efforts to increase security and prosperity in the Middle East and North Africa via continued security and defense cooperation in furtherance of the Abraham Accords;

(5) encourages the expansion of the Abraham Accords to include countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel, and urges the President to take the necessary steps to secure comparable agreements with other Arab and Muslim-majority countries; and

(6) supports opportunities to expand economic ties between the United States, Israel, and Arab states through comprehensive economic partnerships and other trade initiatives.

SENATE RESOLUTION 774—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2022 AS NATIONAL DEMOCRACY MONTH AS A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO A MORE FREE AND STABLE WORLD

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 774

Whereas, 2,000 years after the ancient Greeks laid the groundwork for democracy, the founders of the United States built an even greater system of government, a democratic republic, propelling the United States to become the most advanced nation in human history;

Whereas the model of government of the United States has been reproduced around the world;

Whereas Presidents Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln described democracy, respectively, as the “light that led us out of gothic darkness” and the “last best hope” of humankind;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, more than 1 in 3 people in the world do not live in states considered free;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights, including the addition of the Reconstruction Era amendments, enshrine the rights and civil liberties of citizens of the United States, including the right to vote in free and fair elections;

Whereas the perpetuation of the ideals of democracy does not happen on its own and can be stalled or reversed;

Whereas surveys show that citizens of the United States are losing faith in the democratic system;

Whereas former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, "The practice of democracy is not passed down through the gene pool. It must be taught and learned anew by each generation of citizens.";

Whereas President John F. Kennedy said, "Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to untiring effort, to continual sacrifice and to the willingness, if necessary, to die in its defense.";

Whereas President Ronald Reagan said, "Democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man.";

Whereas Congressman John R. Lewis said, in his final words to the United States, "Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.";

Whereas World War II demonstrated the fragility of democracy and the civilized life that accompanies democracy;

Whereas British Prime Minister Winston Churchill observed that, "Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. . . .";

Whereas President George Washington said the United States must recognize the immense value of the national Union and work towards preservation of that Union with "jealous anxiety" and wrote that the security of a free Constitution may be accomplished by "teaching the people themselves to know and to value their own rights";

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Educate and inform the whole mass of the people. . . . They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.";

and

Whereas the Government of the United States must teach and educate the people by taking appropriate actions to highlight and emphasize the importance of democratic principles and the essential role of democratic principles in the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2022 as "National Democracy Month";

(2) encourages States and local governments to designate September 2022 as "National Democracy Month";

(3) recognizes the celebration of "National Democracy Month" as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe "National Democracy Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities that—

(A) provide appreciation for the system of government of the United States; and

(B) demonstrate that the people of the United States shall never forget the sacrifices made by past generations of people of the United States to preserve the freedoms and principles of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. Lummis to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Sub-

stances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5505. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

SA 5506. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5499 submitted by Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. LUMMIS to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert "AND A CONDITION" after "DECLARATION".

In section 1, insert "and the condition of section 3" after "declaration of section 2".

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer shall amend their Decision I/12E, "Clarification of terms and definitions: developing countries," made at the First Meeting of the Parties to remove the People's Republic of China.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on

October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, strike "DECLARATION" and insert "DECLARATIONS".

In section 1, insert "declaration of section 2" and insert "declarations of section 2".

In section 2, in the section heading, strike "DECLARATION" and insert "DECLARATIONS".

In section 2, strike "following declaration" and all that follows through the period at the end and insert the following: "following declarations:

(1) The Kigali amendment is not self-executing.

(2) The People's Republic of China is not a developing country, and the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations should not treat the People's Republic of China as such.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert "AND A CONDITION" after "DECLARATION".

In section 1, insert "and the condition of section 3" after "declaration of section 2".

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: Prior to November 6, 2022, the Secretary of State shall transmit to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change a proposal to amend the list in Annex I to the Convention by adding the name of the People's Republic of China.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution of ratification shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after ratification.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, 0; Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows: