

the United States to improving the lives of all Native Americans;

Whereas the United States is committed to—

(1) strengthening the government-to-government relationship with Indian Tribes; and
(2) upholding the Federal trust responsibility to Native American communities;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy and the influence of the Iroquois Confederacy on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of—

(1) freedom of speech;
(2) the separation of governmental powers; and
(3) the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas, with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

(1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and
(2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the world in many fields, including agriculture, environmental stewardship, wayfinding, medicine, music, dance, language, and art;

Whereas contemporary applications of traditional knowledge systems of Native Americans have expanded scientific, environmental, and intercultural understanding;

Whereas Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States for centuries and have the highest per capita involvement of any population currently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used Indigenous languages to communicate an unbreakable military code, saving countless lives in both conflicts; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2022 as “National Native American Heritage Month”;

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as “Native American Heritage Day” in accordance with section 2(10) of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1923); and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 846—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2022 AS “NATIONAL COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Ms. ERNST, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 846

Whereas equality of opportunity for all people is one of the noblest aspirations of the United States;

Whereas data on the benefits of higher education demonstrates that, while disparities to access and student success persist, postsecondary education can still provide pathways to economic opportunity;

Whereas the United States built a thriving middle class by providing students with postsecondary opportunities that lead to individual economic opportunity and shared economic growth;

Whereas higher education enhances the economic mobility of individuals, which is evidenced by—

(1) a finding by the Brookings Institute that the median lifetime earnings of holders of an associate degree are uniformly greater than the median lifetime earnings of holders of solely a high school diploma; and
(2) a finding by the Pew Economic Mobility Project that, for an individual born in the lowest income quintile, obtaining a 4-year degree or a higher degree is associated with—

(A) greater likelihoods of economic mobility compared to individuals who do not earn such degrees; and
(B) a greater than threefold difference in the probability of that individual going on to earn an income in the highest income quintile;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that—

(1) the unemployment rate of high school graduates in 2021 who did not immediately matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester was 21.6 percent, 6 times higher than the overall unemployment rate of the United States;

(2) approximately 38 percent of high school graduates in 2021 did not immediately matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester, which represents a 0.9 percentage point decline from the prior year, and a 7.3 percentage point decline from 2018;

(3) the decline described in paragraph (2) was most notable among male high school graduates, who faced a 12-percent decline from 2018 in immediate matriculation to an institution of higher education; and

(4) the unemployment rate of adults with a bachelor's degree is approximately half the unemployment rate of adults whose highest credential is a high school diploma, a gap that has grown larger as a result of COVID-19;

Whereas the National Student Clearinghouse reports that undergraduate enrollment in colleges and universities continues to decline precipitously even as the United States recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for nontraditional students;

Whereas the complexity of financial aid systems and rising college costs can serve as additional deterrents or barriers for students and families as they assess the viability of higher education programs as a postsecondary option;

Whereas many students struggle to identify and compare postsecondary options due to—

(1) difficulties accessing school counseling services, which is evidenced by an estimation of the American School Counselor Association that the student-to-counselor ratio in the United States is 415 to 1;

(2) an absence of reliable programmatic and institutional outcome data; and

(3) a lack of comparable and understandable college financial aid offers;

Whereas, in addition to expanding outreach and support to recent high school graduates, colleges and universities must also expand outreach and support to all undergraduate students;

Whereas applications for State-based financial aid are available in many States for students who do not qualify for Federal student aid; and

Whereas the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities, families, and educational systems across the United States underscores and reinforces the value of ensuring that all individuals, including students enrolled in high school and working adults—

(1) understand their postsecondary options;
(2) understand college financing opportunities; and

(3) have support to navigate the college application and financial aid processes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2022 as “National College Application Month”;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) evaluate options for pursuing higher education;

(B) submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or an appropriate application for State-based financial aid in order to receive college financing opportunities; and

(C) support every student, regardless of the background, age, or resources of the student, in obtaining the skills and knowledge needed to thrive;

(3) supports efforts to better assist low-income and first-generation college students throughout the financial aid and college application process;

(4) urges public officials, educators, parents, students, and communities in the United States to observe National College Application Month with appropriate activities and programs designed to encourage students to consider, research, and apply to college and for financial aid; and

(5) commends teachers, counselors, mentors, and parents who support students throughout the college application process, as well as the organizations and institutions partnering to eliminate barriers to higher education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 847—RECOGNIZING THE 1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC ATTACK AT THE WAUKESHA CHRISTMAS PARADE ON NOVEMBER 21, 2021, AND HONORING THE 6 INDIVIDUALS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AND THE 62 OTHERS WHO WERE INJURED

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 847

Whereas, on November 21, 2021, the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and the City of Waukesha Chamber of Commerce held the 58th annual Waukesha Christmas Parade, which has for more than 50 years brought residents of Wisconsin together to celebrate the holiday season with family, friends, and neighbors;

Whereas attendees and participants of the parade included hundreds of children, families, and valued community institutions such as local law enforcement, public safety professionals, school groups, business leaders, and dance troupes, including the beloved “Dancing Grannies”;

Whereas, on the day of the parade, a perpetrator committed a senseless attack, driving through the parade barricades and ramming into the crowd of attendees and parade participants;

Whereas police officers bravely attempted to intervene to stop the ongoing attack;

Whereas the perpetrator caused the death of 6 individuals and the injury of 62 other individuals, including 17 children;

Whereas local hospitals and health professionals cared for many of the injured, several of whom continue to suffer long term effects from their injuries;

Whereas countless individuals were injured by the immeasurable and lasting trauma of witnessing the attack;

Whereas, on October 26, 2022, a jury of 12 Wisconsinites found the accused perpetrator guilty on 76 counts, including 6 counts of first-degree intentional homicide;

Whereas the Waukesha community continues to contend with the aftermath of the tragic attack and will do so for years to come;

Whereas members of the Waukesha community will be stronger for having supported one another during and in the aftermath of the attack; and

Whereas, despite such tragedy, the City of Waukesha and Waukesha Chamber of Commerce will continue the tradition of hosting the Waukesha Christmas Parade, which has brought joy to the community for more than half a century: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 1-year anniversary of the tragic attack at the Waukesha Christmas Parade on November 21, 2021, and condemns the attack in the strongest possible terms;

(2) honors the memories of Tamara Durand, Wilhelm Hospel, Jane Kulich, Leanna Owen, Virginia Sorenson, and Jackson Sparks;

(3) recognizes the strength of the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and the resilience of the community in response to the attack;

(4) applauds the bravery of the first responders and medical professionals who responded to the attack and cared for the injured; and

(5) offers heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, and neighbors who lost loved ones in the attack.

SENATE RESOLUTION 848—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 16, 2022, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 848

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including from schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young individuals are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that individuals do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, institutions and individuals that influence youth must make conscientious efforts to help young individuals develop the essential

traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young individuals to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of the young individuals in the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 16, 2022, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe National Character Counts Week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 49—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GENEVA CONSENSUS DECLARATION ON PROMOTING WOMEN’S HEALTH AND STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY AND URGING THAT THE UNITED STATES BE ADDED AS A SIGNATORY

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 49

Whereas the United States strongly supports women reaching the highest attainable outcomes for health, life, dignity, and well-being throughout their lives;

Whereas the historic coalition that issued the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this preamble referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) was formed by a diverse group of countries committed to charting a more positive path to advance the health of women, protect the family as foundational to any healthy society, affirm the value of life in all stages of development, and uphold the sovereign right of countries to make their own laws to advance those core values, without external pressure;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration was signed on October 22, 2020, by 35 countries from every region of the world, representing more than 1,600,000,000 people, which committed to working together on the core pillars enshrined in the Declaration, and 3 countries have subsequently signed;

Whereas, although President Joseph R. Biden removed the United States as a signatory to the Geneva Consensus Declaration, at least temporarily, 36 countries remain signatories, and longstanding Federal laws that prohibit the United States from conducting or funding abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries remain in effect;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “all are equal before the law” and “human rights of women are an inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms the inherent “dignity and worth of the human person” and that “every human being has the inherent right to life”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “there is no international right to abortion, nor any international obligation on the part of States to finance or facilitate abortion”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State”; and

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration coalition strengthens the collective voice of the signatory countries to prevent any country from being intimidated, isolated, or muted on the core values expressed in the Declaration: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) affirms the commitments to protect life and the family made in the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this resolution referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) and applauds the signatory countries for their dedication to advancing women’s health, protecting life at every stage while affirming that there is no international right to abortion, and upholding the importance of the family as foundational to society;

(2) declares that the principles affirming life and the family recognized by the Geneva Consensus Declaration remain universally valid;

(3) welcomes opportunities to strengthen support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(4) will defend the sovereignty of every country to adopt national policies that promote women’s health, protect the right to life, and strengthen the family, as enshrined in the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(5) will conduct oversight of the United States executive branch to ensure that the United States does not conduct or fund abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries, consistent with longstanding Federal law;