

of the Director, the Commissioner shall consult with or otherwise furnish specific, available information to the Office with respect to certain applications, responses, or affidavits after rejections in order to assist patent examiners in carrying out the duties of those patent examiners.

“(e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in subsection (d)(3)(B) shall be construed as—

“(1) directing the Office to interfere with, delay, or supersede the ministerial function of the Food and Drug Administration of listing patents;

“(2) indicating the position of the Office regarding the ability to assert a patent in infringement litigation; or

“(3) changing the ministerial function of the Food and Drug Administration of listing patents.

“(f) **CONFIDENTIALITY.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—With respect to any record or other information of the Food and Drug Administration or the Office that is confidential, either such agency may share any such information with the other agency in furtherance of the activities described in this section, which shall remain subject to such protections as if the information were held by the Food and Drug Administration.

“(2) **PROTOCOLS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The task force shall establish appropriate protocols to safeguard confidentiality and prevent the inappropriate disclosure of information when sharing information between the Office and the Food and Drug Administration.

“(B) **CONTENTS.**—The protocols established under subparagraph (A) shall provide that—

“(i) before sharing any information described in paragraph (1), the sponsor of the human drug or biological product to which that information relates shall be provided notice of that sharing by the applicable agency and with a period of 30 days to consult with the agency sharing that information; and

“(ii) the Director shall, in order to protect against the inadvertent disclosure of information, maintain any information shared with the Director by the Commissioner separate from pending patent applications and establish procedures for the identification of confidential information.

“(C) **POTENTIAL REMEDIES.**—In establishing protocols under this paragraph, the task force shall identify appropriate remedies for any potential injury suffered when confidential information is made available, including inadvertently, through the sharing of information described in this subsection.

“(3) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed as superseding any other remedy available for the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information.”

(b) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“15. Interagency Task Force on Patents.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 13—RAISING AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING THE PREVENTION OF STALKING BY DESIGNATING JANUARY 2023 AS “NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH”

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the

following resolution; which was ordered held at the desk:

S. RES. 13

Whereas approximately 1 in 3 women in the United States, at some point during her lifetime, has experienced stalking victimization, causing her to feel very fearful or believe that she or someone close to her would be harmed or killed;

Whereas it is estimated that, each year, 13,400,000 individuals in the United States report that they have been victims of stalking;

Whereas more than 85 percent of victims of stalking report that they have been stalked by someone they know;

Whereas nearly 70 percent of intimate partner stalking victims are threatened with physical harm by stalkers;

Whereas stalking is a risk factor for intimate partner homicide;

Whereas 3 in 4 female victims of intimate partner homicides were stalked during the year preceding the homicide by their killers;

Whereas 11 percent of victims of stalking report having been stalked for 5 or more years;

Whereas ⅔ of stalkers pursue their victims at least once a week;

Whereas many victims of stalking are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, including relocating, changing jobs, or obtaining protection orders;

Whereas the prevalence of anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction, and severe depression is much higher among victims of stalking than the general population;

Whereas many victims of stalking do not report stalking to the police or contact a victim service provider, shelter, or hotline;

Whereas stalking is a crime under Federal law, the laws of all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories of the United States, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice;

Whereas stalking affects victims of every race, age, culture, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas national organizations, local victim service organizations, campuses, prosecutor's offices, and police departments stand ready to assist victims of stalking and are working diligently to develop effective and innovative responses to stalking, including online stalking;

Whereas there is a need to improve the response of the criminal justice system to stalking through more aggressive investigation and prosecution;

Whereas there is a need for an increase in the availability of victim services across the United States, and those services must include programs tailored to meet the needs of victims of stalking;

Whereas individuals between 18 and 24 years old experience the highest rates of stalking victimization, and a majority of stalking victims report their victimization first occurred before the age of 25;

Whereas up to 75 percent of women in college who experience behavior relating to stalking also experience other forms of victimization, including sexual or physical victimization;

Whereas college students with disabilities are twice as likely as college students without disabilities to experience stalking;

Whereas there is a need for an effective response to stalking on each campus;

Whereas almost twice as many victims of stalking are stalked using technology, such as phone calls, text messages, social media platforms, internet posts, emails, and electronic tracking, as victims of stalking who are stalked without the use of technology; and

Whereas the Senate finds that “National Stalking Awareness Month” provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about stalking: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates January 2023 as “National Stalking Awareness Month”;

(2) applauds the efforts of service providers, police, prosecutors, national and community organizations, colleges and universities, and private sector entities that combat stalking, support victims, and bring awareness to this crime;

(3) encourages policymakers, criminal justice officials, victim service and human service agencies, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations to increase awareness of stalking and continue to support the availability of services for victims of stalking; and

(4) urges national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote awareness of the crime of stalking through “National Stalking Awareness Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 14—AMENDING RULE XLIV OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO INCLUDE AMENDMENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE REQUIREMENTS FOR IDENTIFYING SPENDING ITEMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. DAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 14

Resolved, That rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended—

(1) in paragraph 2(a)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (1)—

(i) by striking “Senate”; and

(ii) by inserting “or a message from the House of Representatives” after “by committee”; and

(B) in clause (1)—

(i) by striking “or joint resolution” each place it appears and inserting “, joint resolution, or message”; and

(ii) by striking “Senator” and inserting “Member of Congress”;

(2) in paragraph 3(a)(1), by striking “Senator” and inserting “Member of Congress”;

(3) in paragraph 5(a), by striking “Senator” and inserting “Member of Congress”; and

(4) in paragraph 7, by striking “or conference report” and inserting “conference report, or message from the House”.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1—REQUIRING THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL, THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, AND THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONTRACT WITH FOOD SERVICE CONTRACTORS AND VENDING MACHINE CONTRACTORS FOR THE CAPITOL COMPLEX THAT ACCEPT CRYPTOCURRENCY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. CRUZ submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 1

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Adopting Cryptocurrency in Congress as an Exchange of Payment for Transactions Resolution” or the “ACCEPT Resolution”.

SEC. 2. ACCEPTING OF CRYPTOCURRENCY AT RESTAURANTS, VENDING MACHINES, AND GIFT SHOPS IN THE CAPITOL COMPLEX.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “Capitol Buildings” means the Capitol Buildings described in section 5101 of title 40, United States Code; and

(2) the term “digital asset” means a native electronic asset that—

(A) is recorded on a cryptographically secured distributed ledger; and

(B) is designed to confer only economic or access rights.

(b) **ACCEPTANCE OF CRYPTOCURRENCY.**—The Architect of the Capitol, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall each, for the Capitol Buildings that are under their jurisdiction—

(1) subject to subsection (c), solicit and enter into contracts to provide food service and vending machines in such Capitol Buildings with persons that will accept digital assets as payment for goods; and

(2) encourage the gift shops in such Capitol Buildings to accept digital assets as payment for goods.

(c) **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.**—The Architect of the Capitol, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives may not enter into contracts described in subsection (b)(1) if the Architect of the Capitol, in con-

sultation with the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, reports to the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives that entering into such contracts would preclude the selection of alternatives that are cost-effective and value-centered for patrons.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Madam President, I have three 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a classified briefing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session

of the Senate on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

**ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2023**

Mr. MURPHY. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Thursday, January 26; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Klobuchar-Grassley resolution as provided under the previous order.

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

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW**

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:16 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 10 a.m.