

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 2023 as “Care Worker Recognition Month”;

(2) recognizes the roles and the contributions of home care workers in the United States in providing the care necessary for older adults and disabled individuals to live independently and in dignity;

(3) recognizes the role and contributions of early educators and childcare workers in the United States in providing a nurturing, enriching environment for children to grow and learn;

(4) recognizes the roles and the contributions of care workers in the United States in enabling caregivers the opportunity to pursue educational attainment and to remain in or reenter the workforce;

(5) recognizes that the care industry is crucial to economic growth; and

(6) thanks and promotes the care worker profession.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 154—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 154

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility was founded in 2009 to honor the achievements and contributions of the transgender community;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is designed to be encompassing of a large community of diverse individuals;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is a time to celebrate the lives and achievements of transgender individuals around the world and to recognize the bravery it takes to live openly and authentically;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is also a time to raise awareness of the discrimination and violence that the transgender community still faces, which make it difficult and even unsafe or fatal for many transgender individuals to be visible;

Whereas the transgender community has suffered oppression disproportionately in many ways, including through—

(1) discrimination in employment and in the workplace;

(2) discrimination in educational institutions; and

(3) violence;

Whereas forms of transgender oppression are exacerbated for transgender individuals of color, individuals with limited resources, immigrants, individuals living with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, and transgender youth;

Whereas a record number of anti-transgender State bills have been introduced in recent years, including more than 700 anti-transgender bills during the years 2021, 2022, and 2023, targeting areas including—

(1) education, including bans on books and curricula relating to gender identity;

(2) health care; and

(3) identification documents, including restrictions on realignment or correction of

birth certificates and other forms of identification documents;

Whereas the transgender community has made it clear that transgender individuals will not be erased and deserve to be accorded all of the rights and opportunities made available to all;

Whereas, before the creation of the United States, Indigenous two-spirit, transgender individuals existed across North America in many Native American communities, with specific terms in their own languages for these individuals and the social and spiritual roles they fulfilled in their communities, and, while many traditions were lost or actively suppressed by the efforts of missionaries, government agents, boarding schools, and settlers, these traditions have experienced a revival in recent decades;

Whereas transgender individuals continue to tell their stories and push for full equity under the law;

Whereas the civil rights struggle has been strengthened and inspired by the leadership of the transgender community;

Whereas transgender individuals in the United States have made significant strides in elected office and political representation;

Whereas not fewer than 29 States have at least 1 transgender elected official at the State or municipal level;

Whereas there are 17 transgender, gender-nonconforming, or nonbinary elected officials in State legislatures, specifically—

- (1) Gerri Cannon;
- (2) Emily Dievendorf;
- (3) Leigh Finke;
- (4) S.J. Howell;
- (5) Dominique Johnson;
- (6) Alicia Kozlowski;
- (7) Sarah McBride;
- (8) Samantha Montano;
- (9) Alissandra Murray;
- (10) DeShanna Neal;
- (11) Danica Roem;
- (12) James Roesener;
- (13) Taylor Small;
- (14) Izzy Smith-Wade-El;
- (15) Brianna Titone;
- (16) Mauree Turner; and
- (17) Zooeey Zephyr;

Whereas voters in the State of Virginia elected Danica Roem to be the first openly transgender female State legislator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of Delaware elected Sarah McBride as the first openly transgender State senator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of Oklahoma elected Mauree Turner as the first openly nonbinary State legislator in the United States;

Whereas, in the State of Illinois, Mike Simmons became the first openly gender-nonconforming State senator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of New Hampshire elected James Roesener as the first openly transgender male State legislator in the United States;

Whereas 8 States have at least 1 transgender jurist on the bench;

Whereas Admiral Rachel L. Levine, M.D., was the first openly transgender Federal official confirmed by the Senate and is the highest ranking openly transgender Federal Government official in the history of the United States;

Whereas more transgender individuals are appearing in movies, on television, and in all forms of media, raising awareness of their experiences and the importance of living authentically;

Whereas transgender individuals have created culture and history as artists, musicians, organizers, and leaders; and

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is a time to celebrate the

transgender community around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of International Transgender Day of Visibility;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe International Transgender Day of Visibility with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities;

(3) celebrates the accomplishments and leadership of transgender individuals; and

(4) recognizes the bravery of the transgender community as it fights for equal dignity and respect.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 155—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NEGOTIATE STRONG, INCLUSIVE, AND FORWARD-LOOKING RULES ON DIGITAL TRADE AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY WITH LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES AS PART OF ITS BROADER TRADE AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY IN ORDER TO 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 DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 155

Whereas over half of the world's population, totaling more than 5,000,000,000 people, use the internet;

Whereas the digital economy encompasses the economic and social activity from billions of online connections among people, businesses, devices, and data as a result of the internet, mobile technology, and the internet of things;

Whereas the Bureau of Economic Analysis found that the digital economy contributed nearly 10.2 percent of United States gross domestic product and supported 7,800,000 United States jobs in 2020;

Whereas the technology-commerce ecosystem added 1,400,000 jobs between 2017 and 2021, and served as the main job-creating sector in 40 States;

Whereas United States jobs supported by the digital economy have sustained annual wage growth at a rate of 5.9 percent since 2010, as compared to a 4.2 percent for all jobs;

Whereas, in 2020, United States exports of digital services surpassed \$520,000,000,000, accounting for more than half of all United States services exports and generating a digital services trade surplus for the United States of \$214,000,000,000;

Whereas digital trade bolsters the digital economy by enabling the sale of goods on the internet and the supply of online services across borders and depends on the free flow of data across borders to promote commerce, manufacturing, and innovation;

Whereas digital trade has become increasingly vital to United States workers and businesses of all sizes, including the countless small and medium-sized enterprises that use digital technology, data flows, and e-commerce to export goods and services across the world;

Whereas digital trade has advanced entrepreneurship opportunities for women, people

of color, and individuals from otherwise underrepresented backgrounds and enabled the formation of innovative start-ups;

Whereas international supply chains are becoming increasingly digitized and data driven and businesses in a variety of industries, such as construction, healthcare, transportation, and aerospace, invested heavily in digital supply chain technologies in 2020;

Whereas United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai said, “[T]here is no bright line separating digital trade from the digital 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 unfairly 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 in-

clusion 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 156—CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO RELEASE UNITED STATES CITIZEN PAUL WHELAN

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 156

Whereas United States citizen Paul Whelan is a resident of Novi, Michigan, and a veteran of the Marine Corps;

Whereas, on December 22, 2018, Paul Whelan traveled to Moscow, Russia, for the wedding of a personal friend;

Whereas, on December 28, 2018, the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation arrested Paul Whelan at the Metropol Hotel in Moscow and charged him with espionage;

Whereas the Federal Security Service has never provided any evidence of supposed wrongdoing with respect to Paul Whelan;