

(1) estimated annual instances of excavation-related damages to underground facilities were on-par or higher than the approximately 486,000 damages from the prior year; and

(2) failing to contact 811 in advance of a digging project caused 26 percent of these damages;

Whereas, in 2021, the Common Ground Alliance conducted a survey of active diggers who have completed a project during the prior year and found that 74 percent of the more than 1,800 respondents were aware of the “One Call”/811 program; and

Whereas the Common Ground Alliance has designated April as “National Safe Digging Month” to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the United States and to celebrate the anniversary of 811, the national “Contact Before You Dig” number: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month;

(2) encourages all homeowners and excavators throughout the United States to contact 811 by phone or online before digging; and

(3) encourages all damage prevention stakeholders to help educate homeowners and excavators throughout the United States about the importance of contacting 811 to have the approximate location of buried utilities marked with paint or flags before digging.

SENATE RESOLUTION 183—CELEBRATING THE 151ST ANNIVERSARY OF ARBOR DAY

Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 183

Whereas Arbor Day was founded on April 10, 1872, to recognize the importance of planting trees;

Whereas Arbor Day is a time to recognize the importance of trees and an opportunity for communities to gather and plant for a greener future;

Whereas Arbor Day is observed in all 50 States and across the world;

Whereas participating in Arbor Day activities promotes civic participation and highlights the importance of planting and caring for trees and vegetation;

Whereas such activities provide an opportunity to convey to future generations the value of land and stewardship;

Whereas working forests have contributed to an increase in the number of trees planted in the United States and are sustainably managed, with less than 2 percent of working forests nationally harvested each year;

Whereas a key factor in preventing forest conversion and deforestation is keeping forests productive;

Whereas working forests are a critical part of a nature-based solution to climate change, and by providing a continuous cycle of growing, harvesting, and replanting, active forest management maximizes the ability to sequester and store carbon and improves forest resilience;

Whereas private forests play an important role in conserving at-risk and declining species, and collaborative conservation efforts can benefit species while also helping to keep forests as forests;

Whereas sustainably grown wood can be used in a wide variety of resilient infrastruc-

ture and building applications—from traditional timber framing to high-tech mass timber—and as a natural, renewable, and biodegradable material, the significant use of wood building materials in buildings and bridges helps decrease global carbon emissions;

Whereas the Arbor Day Foundation and the Tree City USA program have been committed to greening cities and towns across the country since 1976, and, in that time, more than 3,600 communities have made the commitment to becoming Tree City USA communities;

Whereas Tree City USA communities are home to more than 153,000,000 individuals in the United States who are dedicated to core standards of sound urban forestry management and who dedicate resources and time to urban forestry initiatives, which helps make their communities and our country a better place to live;

Whereas National Arbor Day is observed on the last Friday of April each year; and

Whereas April 28, 2023, marks the 151st anniversary of Arbor Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes April 28, 2023, as “National Arbor Day”;

(2) celebrates the 151st anniversary of Arbor Day;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of National Arbor Day; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to participate in National Arbor Day activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 184—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2023 AS “PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH”

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 184

Whereas Parkinson’s disease—

(1) affects more than 1,000,000 individuals in the United States;

(2) is the fastest-growing and second most common neurodegenerative disease in the world;

(3) is believed to be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown; and

(4) is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

Whereas it is estimated that, by 2037, the number of individuals with Parkinson’s disease in the United States will nearly double, and the disease will cost the United States at least \$80,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease can include dementia and cognitive impairment, tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulties, speech and swallowing difficulties, depression, and a variety of other symptoms;

Whereas there are millions of family caregivers, friends, and loved ones whose lives are greatly affected by Parkinson’s disease; and

Whereas more research, education, and community support services are needed to—

(1) find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease; and

(2) maintain dignity for those living with the disease today: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 2023 as “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson’s Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson’s disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the country working to improve the quality of life of people living with Parkinson’s disease and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 185—DESIGNATING APRIL 2023 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 185

Whereas, according to the report entitled “Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2021” by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, a noted increase in financial well-being occurred broadly as the United States recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, but existing gaps in education, ethnicity, and disability persisted;

Whereas, according to the 2021 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households—

(1) approximately 4.5 percent of households, representing 5,900,000 households in the United States, are unbanked and, therefore, have limited or no access to savings, lending, and other basic financial services; and

(2) an estimated 14.1 percent of households, representing 18,700,000 million households in the United States, are underbanked;

Whereas, according to the 2021 Consumer Financial Literacy and Preparedness Survey of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling and Wells Fargo—

(1) 47 percent of the general population in the United States report having credit card debt;

(2) 38 percent of adults in the United States report carrying credit card balances from month-to-month; and

(3) 44 percent of the general population in the United States have a budget and keep close track of expenses, such as food, housing, and entertainment;

Whereas, according to a report entitled “Financial Capability of Adults with Disabilities” by the National Disability Institute and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, people with disabilities were more likely to struggle with the key components of financial capability, which are making ends meet, planning ahead, managing financial products, and financial knowledge and decision-making, and could benefit from targeted financial education;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2022 entitled “Household Debt and Credit”—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States has increased by \$2,750,000,000,000 since the end of 2019;

(2) outstanding student loan balances have more than doubled in the last decade to nearly \$1,600,000,000,000; and

(3) the share of debt newly transitioning into delinquency increased for nearly all debt types, following 2 years of historically low delinquency transitions;

Whereas, according to the 2022 report entitled “Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation’s Schools” by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 25 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 23 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to make sound money management decisions about credit, debt, insurance, financial transactions, and planning for the future; and

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas financial education in schools in the United States is critical to a long-term financial inclusion strategy to reach students who are not able to get sufficient personal finance guidance at home;

Whereas, according to the 2021 report entitled “Game Changer: The Evaluation of the JumpStart Financial Foundations for Educators Professional Development Program” by the Financial Literacy Group, teacher training regarding financial education improves student outcomes significantly, especially among historically underserved students;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2023 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 9—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THERE IS A CLIMATE EMERGENCY WHICH DEMANDS A MASSIVE-SCALE MOBILIZATION TO HALT, REVERSE, AND ADDRESS ITS CONSEQUENCES AND CAUSES

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. CON. RES. 9

Whereas the 8 warmest years on record have now occurred since 2014, with 2016 as the hottest year recorded, and each of the past 4 decades have been warmer than the one preceding;

Whereas global atmospheric concentrations of the primary global warming pollutant, carbon dioxide—

(1) have increased, primarily due to human activities, including the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation, by 40 percent since preindustrial times, from 280 parts per million to 415 parts per million;

(2) are rising at a rate of 2 to 3 parts per million annually; and

(3) must be reduced to not more than 350 parts per million, and likely lower, “if humanity wishes to preserve a planet similar to that on which civilization developed and to which life on Earth is adapted”, according to former National Aeronautics and Space Administration climatologist Dr. James Hansen;

Whereas global atmospheric concentrations of other global warming pollutants, including methane, nitrous oxide, and hydrofluorocarbons, have also increased substantially since preindustrial times, primarily due to human activities, including the burning of fossil fuels;

Whereas climate science and observations of climate change impacts, including ocean warming, ocean acidification, floods, droughts, wildfires, and extreme weather, demonstrate that a global rise in concentrations of global warming pollutants is already having dangerous impacts on human populations and the environment;

Whereas, with the current 1.1 degrees Celsius of warming above preindustrial levels, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration finds that climate change is already increasing the frequency of extreme weather and other climate-related disasters, including drought, wildfire, and storms that include precipitation;

Whereas the overall costs of these disasters for the United States in 2022 was roughly \$165,000,000,000, the third highest recorded total costs, including 18 separate weather and climate disasters which cost at least \$1,000,000,000 each and caused at least 474 direct or indirect known fatalities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finds that there are wide-ranging, acute, and fatal public health consequences from climate change that impact communities across the United States;

Whereas, according to the National Climate and Health Assessment of the United States Global Change Research Program, climate change is a significant threat to the health of the people of the United States, leading to increased—

(1) temperature-related deaths and illnesses;

(2) air quality impacts;

(3) extreme weather events;

(4) numbers of vector-borne diseases;

(5) waterborne illnesses;

(6) food safety, nutrition, and distribution complications; and

(7) mental health and well-being concerns;

Whereas environmental and public health threats from climate change and climate disasters are not randomly distributed and disproportionately affect low-income communities and communities of color;

Whereas the consequences of climate change are felt most severely by frontline communities and endanger populations made especially vulnerable by existing exposure to extreme weather events, such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing disabilities and health conditions;

Whereas individuals and families on the frontlines of climate change across the United States, including territories, living with income inequality and poverty, institutional racism, inequity on the basis of gender and sexual orientation, poor infrastructure, and lack of access to health care, housing, clean water, and food security are often in close proximity to environmental stressors or sources of pollution, particularly communities of color, indigenous communities, and low-income communities, which—

(1) are often the first exposed to the impacts of climate change;

(2) experience outsized risk because of the close proximity of the community to environmental hazards and stressors, in addition to collocation with waste and other sources of pollution; and

(3) have the fewest resources to mitigate those impacts or to relocate, which will exacerbate preexisting challenges;

Whereas climate change holds grave and immediate consequences not just for the population of the United States, including territories, but for communities across the world, particularly those communities in the Global South on the frontlines of the climate crisis that are at risk of forced displacement;

Whereas the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the intelligence community have identified climate change as a threat to national security, and the Department of Homeland Security views climate change as a top national security risk;

Whereas the climatic changes resulting from global warming above 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, including changes resulting from global warming of more than 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, are projected to result in irreversible, catastrophic changes to public health, livelihoods, quality of life, food security, water supplies, human security, and economic growth;

Whereas, even with global warming up to 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, the planet is projected to experience—

(1) a significant rise in sea levels;

(2) extraordinary loss of biodiversity; and

(3) intensifying droughts, floods, wildfires, and other extreme weather events;

Whereas, according to climate scientists, addressing the climate emergency will require a just phase-out of the use of oil, gas, and coal in order to keep the carbon that is the primary constituent of fossil fuels in the ground and out of the atmosphere;

Whereas, in 2022, some of the largest oil and gas companies in the world reported record annual profits and rewarded shareholders with buybacks while knowingly exacerbating the ongoing climate crisis;

Whereas the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has determined that limiting warming through emissions reduction and carbon sequestration will require rapid and immediate acceleration and proliferation of “far-reaching, multilevel, and cross-sectoral climate mitigation” and “transitions in energy, land, urban and rural infrastructure (including transport and buildings), and industrial systems”;