

"8.(a) In this paragraph, the term 'covered nomination' means a nomination to a position that is not a position—

"(1) at level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United States Code;

"(2) as a judge of a court of appeals of the United States; or

"(3) as Chief Justice of the United States or as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

"(b) It shall be in order for the Majority Leader to move to proceed to the en bloc consideration of not more than 10 covered nominations that were reported to the Senate by the same committee of the Senate and placed on the calendar.

"(c) Consideration of a motion to proceed under subparagraph (b), and the en bloc consideration of the nominations that are the subject of the motion, shall be conducted in the same manner as if it were a motion to proceed to the consideration of a single nomination."

# SENATE RESOLUTION 220—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 220

Whereas the Department of Defense State Partnership Program (referred to in this preamble as the "State Partnership Program") has evolved from a program designed to assist countries emerging from behind the Iron Curtain to one that now involves 100 nations and the National Guard of every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas members of the National Guard work with partner militaries to bolster capabilities, improve interoperability, and enhance principles of responsible governance;

Whereas the State Partnership Program delivers a significant return on investment by broadening the pool of security partners who are willing and able to support defense and security cooperation objectives of the United States around the world;

Whereas most of the earliest State Partnership Program partner countries in Europe have gone on to become United States allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and many of them credit the State Partnership Program and their National Guard State partners with helping to make that possible;

Whereas the State Partnership Program helps ensure that the Department of Defense has capable, trusted, and interoperable partners;

Whereas the State Partnership Program has created 88 enduring, cost-effective partnerships with 100 nations encompassing over ½ of the countries in the world;

Whereas members of the National Guard typically engage in more than 1,000 State Partnership Program events per year;

Whereas the National Guard Bureau is working with the commanders of the combatant commands and the Department of State to increase State Partnership Program partnerships by 2 nations per year for the next 15 years; and

Whereas commanders of the combatant commands and United States ambassadors strongly endorse the State Partnership Program for cultivating long-term relationships with partners: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(2) expresses deep gratitude for the continuing service by members of the National Guard in support of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(3) recognizes the outsized influence of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in developing and supporting enduring relationships around the world that serve both the interests of the partner nations and the United States; and

(4) supports the continued expansion of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in furtherance of global security cooperation.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 221—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2023, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 221

Whereas the origin of National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2023 is "Better Health Through Better Understanding";

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to enhance and protect the health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas African American women were as likely to have been diagnosed with breast cancer as non-Hispanic White women, but African American women were 41 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women between 2015 and 2019;

Whereas African American women were twice as likely to be diagnosed with and 2.3 times more likely to die of stomach cancer than non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American men are 70 percent more likely to die from a stroke than non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanics are twice as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to be hospitalized for end-stage renal disease caused by diabetes, and are 30 percent more likely to die of diabetes, than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas Asian Americans are 40 percent more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the HIV or AIDS case rate among Hispanic men is 4 times the HIV or AIDS case rate among non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanic women are 3 times as likely as non-Hispanic White women to die of HIV infection;

Whereas, in 2019, African Americans accounted for 42.1 percent of HIV infections and Hispanic Americans accounted for almost 30 percent of HIV infections;

Whereas, in 2019, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.4 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2018, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, although the prevalence of obesity is high among all population groups in the United States, 48.1 percent of American Indian and Alaska Natives, 51.7 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, 38.3 percent of African Americans, 34.9 percent of Hispanics, 30 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, and 13 percent of Asian Americans older than 18 years old were obese;

Whereas Asian American and Pacific Islander adults accounted for 30.1 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases, and non-Hispanic White adults accounted for 13.5 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases;

Whereas heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes are some of the leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have higher prevalence and are at a higher risk of diabetes, substance use, obesity, sudden infant death syndrome, liver disease, viral hepatitis, and suicide than other groups in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 2.2 years shorter than the life expectancy of the overall population of the United States;

Whereas African American women die from childbirth or pregnancy-related causes at a rate that is 3 to 4 times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American infants are almost 4 times more likely to die due to complications related to low birth weight than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have an infant mortality rate twice as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are 2.7 times more likely to die from accidental deaths before their first birthday than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with sickle cell disease each year in the United States, with the disease occurring in approximately 1 in 365 newborn Black or African-American infants and 1 in 16,300 newborn Hispanic-American infants, and can be found in individuals of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Asian, and Indian origin;

Whereas, while more than 1 in 6 older adults have untreated cavities, non-Hispanic Black older adults have between 2 and 3 times the rate of untreated cavities as non-Hispanic White older adults;

Whereas the 2022 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report found American Indians and Alaska Natives received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for 43 percent of quality measures;

Whereas, as of 2023, with respect to hospitalizations due to COVID-19, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2.4 times more likely, African Americans are 2.1 times more likely, and Hispanics are 1.8 times more likely to be hospitalized compared to non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, as of 2023, with respect to deaths due to COVID-19, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2 times more likely, African Americans are 1.6 times more likely, and Hispanics are 1.7 times more likely to die compared to non-Hispanic Whites; and

Whereas the health innovations of the United States present a unique opportunity to improve public health and health care practices across the United States and to reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the recognition of National Minority Health Month in April 2023, which includes bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations in the United States, such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 222—EXPRESSING THE APPROVAL OF CONGRESS FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE HOMECOMING OF UNITED STATES PRISONERS OF WAR FROM VIETNAM AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF SUCH PRISONERS OF WAR DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. MORAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 222

Whereas more than 2,700,000 members of the United States Armed Forces served in the Vietnam War;

Whereas more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives and more than 300,000 were wounded;

Whereas, during the conflict, approximately 766 members of the Armed Forces of the United States were taken captive as prisoners of war by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the allies of that Government;

Whereas prisoners of war, the majority of which were aviators, included members of the Air Force, Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and United States civilians, and during captivity the prisoners endured brutal conditions, including torture, forced labor, and prolonged solitary confinement;

Whereas prisoners of war were held in more than a dozen prisons throughout North Vietnam and elsewhere, including in the infamous prison camp known to the prisoners of war from the United States as the “Hanoi Hilton”, but despite the challenging conditions, many of the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese and the allies of the North Vietnamese maintained their honor, resilience, and loyalty to their country and fellow members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the return of the prisoners of war was a nonnegotiable condition for President Richard Nixon as his administration negotiated an end to the Vietnam War;

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam (commonly known as the “Paris Peace Accords”) was signed, requiring the return of the United States prisoners of

war within 60 days of the signing of the agreement;

Whereas, between February and April 1973, 591 prisoners of war were released by the North Vietnamese and their allies;

Whereas 116 prisoners of war died in captivity;

Whereas the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (referred to in this preamble as “POW/MIA”) movement in the United States, and the National League of POW/MIA Families, made a tremendous effort to return the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese and their allies to the United States;

Whereas, in 1972, the National League of POW/MIA Families adopted the National POW/MIA flag, which flies over Federal buildings, including the United States Capitol, on days the United States flag is flown;

Whereas, 50 years after the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese gained their freedom, the resilience, courage, and patriotism of the prisoners of war continues to inspire generations of citizens of the United States; and

Whereas the Richard Nixon Presidential Library will host the official 50th Anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States POWs from Vietnam, from May 23 to 25, 2023, in Yorba Linda, California: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses approval for the 50th anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States prisoners of war from Vietnam; and

(2) recognizes the extraordinary service and sacrifices of the United States prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 223—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 21 THROUGH MAY 27, 2023, AS “NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK”

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KELLY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 223

Whereas public works professionals work around the clock to ensure the vital infrastructure, facilities, and services of communities to deliver dependable, sustainable, and resilient human needs that include the health, safety, and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas public works infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals who represent Federal, State, and local governments and private sector organizations throughout the United States;

Whereas public works professionals design, build, operate, and maintain the transportation systems, water infrastructure, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, sanitation and waste management systems, and other structures and facilities that are vital to the people and communities of the United States;

Whereas public works first responders are the first to arrive and last to leave a natural disaster area or incident scene; and

Whereas understanding the role that public infrastructure plays in protecting the environment, improving public health and safety, contributing to economic vitality, and enhancing the quality of life of every community of the United States is in the interest of the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 21 through May 27, 2023, as “National Public Works Week”;

(2) recognizes and celebrates the important contributions that public works professionals make every day to improve—

(A) the public infrastructure of the United States; and

(B) the communities that public works professionals serve; and

(3) urges individuals and communities throughout the United States to join with representatives of the Federal Government and the American Public Works Association in activities and ceremonies that are designed—

(A) to pay tribute to the public works professionals of the United States; and

(B) to recognize the substantial contributions that public works professionals make to the United States.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 224—DESIGNATING MAY 2023 AS “ALS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 224

Whereas amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this preamble as “ALS”) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord;

Whereas the life expectancy for an individual with ALS is between 2 and 5 years after the date on which the individual receives an ALS diagnosis;

Whereas ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender, or socioeconomic boundaries;

Whereas ALS may affect any individual in any location;

Whereas the cause of ALS is unknown in up to 90 percent of cases;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of ALS cases have a strong known genetic driver;

Whereas, on average, the period between the date on which an individual first experiences symptoms of ALS and the date on which the individual is diagnosed with ALS is more than 1 year;

Whereas the onset of ALS often involves muscle weakness or stiffness, and the progression of ALS results in the further weakening, wasting, and paralysis of—

(1) the muscles of the limbs and trunk; and

(2) the muscles that control vital functions, such as speech, swallowing, and breathing;

Whereas ALS can strike individuals of any age, but it predominantly strikes adults;

Whereas it is estimated that tens of thousands of individuals in the United States have ALS at any given time;

Whereas, based on studies of the population of the United States, more than 5,000 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each year, and 15 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each day;

Whereas, every 90 minutes, someone dies from ALS in the United States;

Whereas the majority of individuals with ALS die of respiratory failure;

Whereas, in the United States, military veterans are more likely to be diagnosed with ALS than individuals with no history of military service;