

For American Indian and Alaska Native adults, the death rate from suicide is about 20 percent higher than the White population. In 2019, suicide was the leading and second leading cause of death for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and African Americans aged 15 to 24, respectively. High school-aged Asian American males were 30 percent more likely to consider attempting suicide than White male students. This is why I continue to work with my colleagues to improve access to behavioral healthcare for everyone.

Prior to the pandemic, people of color and other underserved groups faced longstanding disparities in health, and today, many of these inequities continue to persist. Across a variety of health measures, including infant mortality, pregnancy-related deaths, overall physical and mental health status, and prevalence of chronic conditions, minority groups continue to fare worse than white individuals. Life expectancy is another area where racial and ethnic disparities are clearly apparent. Today, life expectancy among Black people is nearly 6 years lower than White people, with the lowest expectancy among Black men.

When we consider chronic diseases like diabetes, minority populations also fare worse than White people. Diabetes rates for Black, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native adults are all higher than the rate for White adults. These disparities can often be exacerbated for people of color who identify as LGBTQ, who are more likely to experience certain health challenges like substance abuse, mental health conditions, violence, and sexually transmitted infections at increased rates. I could go on and on.

To address health inequities, we must tackle their underlying causes, many of which are born out of inadequate access to care for minority populations, high costs of healthcare, and other social, economic, and environmental factors, which are known as “social determinants of health.” Factors like one’s income level, as well as access to transportation, education, and housing play a key role in health and well-being.

Accessible and affordable health coverage is key to addressing health inequities. I am proud of the work we did to pass the Affordable Care Act—ACA—which expanded health coverage to millions of Americans across the country. I am also pleased that we built on the success of the ACA through the American Rescue Plan to extend care to an additional 5.8 million Americans, including 181,000 Marylanders. We have unfinished business, however, as recent Census Bureau data show that minority groups are still less likely to have health insurance than their White counterparts.

I am proud of the work that the National Institutes of Health—NIH—based in Maryland, and NIH’s National Institute for Minority Health & Health

Disparities—NIMHD—are doing to advance the field of scientific research into health disparities.

The evidence-based research that NIMHD invests in at institutions throughout the country is expanding the scientific knowledge base and informing practice and policy to reduce health disparities. Some recent work of NIMHD has focused on the benefits of Medicaid expansion for young adults; the prevention, treatment, and management of co-morbid chronic diseases; and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy within communities of color. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to build on this progress.

As we recognize April as National Minority Health Month, let us rededicate ourselves to ensuring that all Americans have access to affordable, high-quality healthcare and renew our pledge to do everything possible to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity once and for all.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 221) was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

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. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 222, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 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.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered

made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 222) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023, THROUGH TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned to convene for pro forma sessions, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times: Friday, May 19, at 9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, May 23, at 12 noon; Thursday, May 25, at 12:30 p.m.; and Friday, May 26, at 9 a.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, the 26th, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Papillion nomination; further, that the confirmation vote occur at 5:30 p.m. and that if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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 3:52 p.m., adjourned until Friday, May 19, 2023, at 9:45 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 18, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

NANCY G. ABUDU, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF NATHAN J. POWELL, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTINE B. OLIVARES, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FRANCISCA A. ALAKA LAMPTON AND ENDING WITH VICTORIA M. WEIGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRITNEY M. ALONZO AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN MATTHEW WOODS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARIA L. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH MITCHELL H. YUAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL A. ADAMS II AND ENDING WITH PHILLIP A. ZENCEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS A. BIEDIGER AND ENDING WITH RYAN D. NUDI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 9, 2023.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF GILBERTO DELEON, JR., TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRADLEY M. MRAVIK, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JUSTIN L. PURVIS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN J. ADAMS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PAUL M. TOBIN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JON P. ALEXANDER AND ENDING WITH ADAM M. ZIHAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID J. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH BRIAN H. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINA-

TIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEFAN E. ADAMCIK AND ENDING WITH ANDREW D. ZUPFER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TONY B. FEARS AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL S. SHARP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RYAN R. POMMIER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SEBASTIAN A. COATES, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. CALDWELL, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RYAN K. ALDRICH AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY W. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF STEVEN M. ANGELINE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF BRADLEY B. KELLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF NICHOLAS B. STAITON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOSEPH P. BALL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF MARK J. DEAL, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF RICHARD C. EYTEL, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF DAVID WAGENBORG, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JAMES O. SAMMAN, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHARLES G. EMOND, JR., TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CASSANDRA D. THOMPSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ARRON J. WILSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.