

commission of hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Federal ‘Good Neighbor Plan’ for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards”.

S. RES. 74

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 74, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran’s state-sponsored persecution of the Baha’i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2051. A bill to reauthorize the Missing Children’s Assistance Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2051

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Missing Children’s Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. MISSING CHILDREN’S ASSISTANCE ACT AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 403 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11292) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) the term ‘child sexual abuse material’ has the meaning given the term ‘child pornography’ in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code;

“(6) the term ‘child sexual exploitation’ means the sexual victimization or abuse of a child;

“(7) the term ‘sexting’ means sending and receiving messages containing sexually explicit, nude, or partially nude images by cell phone or messaging application;

“(8) the term ‘sextortion’—

“(A) means sexual exploitation in which coercion, a threat, or blackmail, is used to cause a child to—

“(i) provide child sexual abuse material; or

“(ii) agree to engage in sexual activity; and

“(B) may involve a threat to publicly disclose nude or sexual images of a child if the child does not comply with a demand to—

“(i) engage in conduct described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A); or

“(ii) provide financial payment; and

“(9) the term ‘sexually exploited child’ means a child who has been victimized by any form of sexual exploitation, including—

“(A) the live-streaming, production, distribution, or possession of child sexual abuse material;

“(B) enticement for sexual abuse;

“(C) sexual molestation or abuse;

“(D) sextortion; and

“(E) child sex trafficking.”.

(2) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.—Section 404 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11293) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(6)(E), by striking “the tipline established” and inserting “the CyberTipline established”; and

(B) in subsection (b)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “hotline by which” and inserting “call center to which”; and

(bb) by striking “individuals may report” and all that follows and inserting “individuals may—

“(I) report child sexual exploitation and the location of any missing child; and

“(II) request information pertaining to procedures necessary to reunite such child with such child’s parent.”;

(II) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii); and

(III) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

“(i) manage the AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution Program; and”;

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking “with their families” and inserting “with their parents”;

(iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking “to families” and inserting “to parents”;

(iv) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:

“(G) provide technical assistance and case-related resources, including—

“(i) referrals to—

“(I) child-serving professionals involved in helping to recover missing and exploited children; and

“(II) law enforcement officers in their efforts to identify, locate, and recover missing and exploited children; and

“(ii) searching public records databases and publicly accessible open source data to—

“(I) locate and identify potential abductors and offenders involved in attempted or actual abductions; and

“(II) identify, locate, and recover abducted children.”;

(v) in subparagraph (H), by inserting “on long-term missing child cases” after “techniques to assist”;

(vi) by striking subparagraph (I) and inserting the following:

“(I) provide training, technical assistance, and information to—

“(i) nongovernmental organizations with respect to procedures and resources to conduct background checks on individuals working with children; and

“(ii) law enforcement agencies with respect to identifying and locating noncompliant sex offenders.”;

(vii) in subparagraph (J), by striking “with their families” and inserting “with their parents”;

(viii) in subparagraph (K)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “tipline” and inserting “CyberTipline”;

(bb) in subclause (I)—

(AA) in item (aa), by striking “child pornography” and inserting “child sexual abuse material”; and

(BB) in item (ee), by striking “extra-familial”; and

(cc) in subclause (II)—

(AA) by striking “tipline” and inserting “CyberTipline”; and

(BB) by adding “and” at the end;

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by striking “child pornography” and inserting “child sexual abuse material”;

(bb) by inserting “and” after “other sexual crimes”; and

(cc) by striking “; and” at the end and inserting “, including by providing information on legal remedies available to such victims.”; and

(III) by striking clause (iii);

(ix) by redesignating subparagraphs (L) through (O) as subparagraphs (M) through (P), respectively;

(x) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the following:

“(L) provide support services, consultation, and assistance to missing and sexually exploited children, parents, their families, and child-serving professionals on—

“(i) recovery support, including counseling recommendations and community support;

“(ii) family and peer support;

“(iii) the removal of child sexual abuse material and sexually exploitive content depicting children from the internet, including by facilitating requests to providers (as defined in section 2258E of title 18, United States Code) to remove visual depictions of victims that—

“(I) constitute or are associated with child sexual abuse material; or

“(II) do not constitute child sexual abuse material but are sexually suggestive.”;

(xi) in subparagraph (M), as so redesignated—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “educational” before “information to families”; and

(II) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “child abduction and” and inserting “missing children and child”; and

(bb) by adding “and” at the end; and

(III) by striking clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting the following:

“(ii) internet safety, including tips and strategies to promote safety for children using technology (including social media) and reduce risk relating to—

“(I) cyberbullying;

“(II) child sex trafficking;

“(III) youth-produced child sexual abuse material or sexting;

“(IV) sextortion; and

“(V) online enticement.”;

(xii) in subparagraph (N), as so redesignated, by inserting “and preventing child sexual exploitation” after “recovering such children”;

(xiii) by striking subparagraph (O), as so redesignated, and inserting the following:

“(O) assist the efforts of law enforcement agencies and State child welfare agencies to—

“(i) coordinate on the reporting, documentation, and resolution of cases involving children missing from a State child welfare system; and

“(ii) respond to foster children missing from a State child welfare system; and”;

(xiv) in subparagraph (P), as so redesignated, by inserting “and recovery support services” after “technical assistance”.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 409(a) of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11297(a)) is amended by striking “\$40,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2023, up to \$32,200,000” and inserting “\$49,300,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028, up to \$41,500,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on October 1, 2023.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 258—RE-AFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES PROMOTING THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 258

Whereas June 20, 2023, is an international day designated by the United Nations as “World Refugee Day,” to honor refugees around the globe and celebrate the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their homes to escape conflict or persecution due to their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group;

Whereas July 28, 2023, is the 72nd anniversary of the adoption of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva July 28, 1951, which defines the term “refugee” and outlines the rights of refugees and the legal obligations of nation states to protect such rights;

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (referred to in this preamble as “UNHCR”) has recently reported that—

(1) there are more than 108,000,000 displaced people who have been forced from their homes worldwide, which is more displaced people than at any other time in recorded history, including more than 35,200,000 refugees and 62,500,000 internally displaced persons;

(2) 67 percent of the world’s refugees originate from just Syria, Ukraine, Afghanistan, or Venezuela;

(3) more than 50 percent of the population of Syria (at least 13,000,000 people) have been displaced since the beginning of the Syrian civil war in 2011, either exiting Syria across the international border or going to other areas within Syria, and this displacement crisis has been exacerbated by major earthquakes that struck Türkiye and Syria in early February 2023;

(4) more than 14,000,000 Ukrainian nationals and other third country nationals are currently displaced as a result of Russia’s ongoing invasion of Ukraine;

(5) there are an estimated 5,700,000 Afghan refugees around the world, of whom more than 90 percent are hosted in either Iran or Pakistan, while an additional 3,500,000 Afghans are internally displaced, having fled their homes searching for refuge within Afghanistan;

(6) Latin America and the Caribbean currently host 84 percent of the more than 7,000,000 Venezuelan refugees and migrants globally, and the Americas currently host approximately 20,000,000 refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless people from around the world;

(7) more than 1,800,000 people are currently displaced due to the ongoing conflict in Sudan, and a large majority of such people

are women and children who are traveling to neighboring countries; and

(8) 76 percent of all refugees worldwide are hosted in low and middle income countries and fewer than 1 percent of vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement have had such opportunity due to lack of sufficient resettlement places;

Whereas welcoming people from around the world who have been oppressed and persecuted is a central tenet of our great Nation, and the United States is home to a diverse population of refugees and immigrants who have added to the economic strengths and cultural richness of our communities;

Whereas since seeking asylum is a protected right under United States domestic and international law, the United States is legally obligated to contribute to the maintenance of a humane and functioning international asylum system;

Whereas the principle of non-refoulement is also a central tenet of the United States refugee and asylum systems, and thousands of people living in the United States who immigrated from countries around the world would be subject to harm if they were deported to their countries of origin due to widespread conflict or persecution in such countries;

Whereas the United States Refugee Admissions Program, which was established in 1980—

(1) is a lifesaving pillar of global humanitarian efforts;

(2) advances United States national security and foreign policy goals; and

(3) supports regional host countries;

Whereas resettlement is an essential part of a comprehensive strategy to respond to refugee crises, promote regional stability, and strengthen United States national security;

Whereas resettlement to the United States is available for the most vulnerable refugees who undergo rigorous security vetting and medical screening processes;

Whereas the United States supports the efforts of the UNHCR to increase protection for, and the global resettlement of, LGBTQI+ refugees overseas;

Whereas women and girls have an increased risk of sexual violence, exploitation, and trafficking while they are traveling to seek safe living conditions;

Whereas through the United States Refugee Resettlement Program—

(1) only 11,411 refugees arrived in the United States during fiscal year 2021, which is the lowest number of refugees for any fiscal year since the program began;

(2) only 25,465 refugees arrived in the United States during fiscal year 2022 despite an admissions goal of 125,000; and

(3) as of May 30, 2023, only 31,797 refugees had arrived in the United States during fiscal year 2023;

Whereas resettlement organizations, businesses, and other community and faith-based groups offer support for refugees who resettled in the United States;

Whereas, between 2005 and 2014, refugees who have resettled in the United States contributed an estimated \$269,100,000,000 to the national economy, which far surpasses the \$206,100,000,000 spent by the United States to assist refugees worldwide during such period; and

Whereas most refugees integrate and quickly become self-sufficient by joining the workforce, paying taxes, supporting local commerce, helping to fill labor shortages in critical industries, and creating new jobs; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the urgency to establish and follow comprehensive, fair, and humane policies to address forced migration and refugee challenges;

(2) reaffirms the bipartisan commitment of the United States to promote the safety, health, and well-being of millions of refugees and asylum seekers, including the education of refugee children and displaced persons fleeing war, persecution, or torture in search of protection, peace, hope, and freedom;

(3) recognizes the many individuals who have risked their lives working, either individually or on behalf of nongovernmental organizations or international agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (referred to in this resolution as “UNHCR”), to provide lifesaving assistance and protection for people around the world who have been displaced from their homes;

(4) reaffirms the imperative to fully restore United States asylum protections enshrined in the Refugee Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-212) by rejecting harmful bans and restrictions that limit refugees’ access to protections and due process at the United States border;

(5) reaffirms the importance of the United States Refugee Resettlement Program as a critical tool of the United States Government—

(A) to strengthen national and regional security; and

(B) to encourage international solidarity with host countries; and

(6) calls upon the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the United States Ambassador to the United Nations—

(A) to uphold the United States’ international leadership role in responding to displacement crises with humanitarian assistance, and restoring its leadership role in the protection of vulnerable refugee populations that endure gender-based violence, human trafficking, persecution, and violence against religious minorities, forced conscription, genocide, and exploitation;

(B) to work in partnership with the international community to find solutions to existing conflicts, prevent new conflicts from emerging, and tackle the root causes of involuntary migration;

(C) to continue supporting the efforts of the UNHCR and advance the work of nongovernmental organizations to protect refugees and asylum seekers regardless of their country of origin, race, ethnicity, or religious beliefs;

(D) to continue to alleviate pressures, through humanitarian and development assistance, on frontline refugee host countries that absorb the majority of the world’s refugees, while effectively advocating for refugee well-being, including access to education and livelihoods;

(E) to meaningfully include refugees and displaced populations in creating and achieving the policy solutions affecting them;

(F) to respond to the global refugee crisis by meeting robust refugee admissions goals;

(G) to actively participate in the Global Refugee Forum scheduled to take place in Geneva in December 2023 to advance United States goals and gain commitments from the global community to expand refugee protection; and

(H) to reaffirm the goals of “World Refugee Day” and reiterate the United States’ strong commitment to protect refugees and asylum seekers who live without adequate material, social, or legal protections.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 136. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 112-8, The Convention between the Government of the United States of America and