

coaches and staff: Ryan Wellner, Chris Wojcik, Ryder Garnsey, Rob Simpson, Joshua Skube, Mandy Merritt, Robby Hamman, Zach Korten, Ron Powlus, Tayler Davis, and Marshall Terres;

Whereas the full roster of the 2023 national championship Fighting Irish team comprises the following players: Jeffery Ricciardelli, Thomas Ricciardelli, Fulton Bayman, Jack Simmons, Colin Hagstrom, Bryce Walker, Fisher Finley, Chris Fake, Eric Dobson, Emmett Barger, Maximus Schalit, Ronan Doherty, Brian Tevlin, Jake Taylor, Kevin Lynch, Quinn McCahon, Maxim Manyak, Reilly Gray, Michael Lynch, Christian Alacqua, Chris Conlin, Carter Parlette, Will Lynch, Max Busenkell, Ben Ramsey, Will Maheras, Jalen Seymour, Ross Burgmaster, Casey Doyle, Will Angrick, Marco Napolitano, Griffin Westlin, Ridge Johnson, Sam Assaf, Jack Conroy, Jake Sommer, Jeremy Hopsicker, Thomas Porell, Declan Cooke, Mick Lee, Christian Gallaher, Michael Ridgway, Liam Entenmann, Ryan Sforzo, Jose Boyer, Will Gallagher, Jonathan Ford, Chris Kavanagh, Pat Kavanagh, Alex Zepf, Mason Wordelman, Pat Eilers, Nick Harris, Will Donovan, Conrad Delgado, Griffin Grant, and Logan Gutzwiller;

Whereas senior goalie Liam Entenmann was named the Most Outstanding Player of the 2023 NCAA Championships, having finished with a season-high of 18 saves while allowing just 9 goals to propel the Fighting Irish to the championship;

Whereas Jake Taylor, Chris Kavanagh, Eric Dobson, Quinn McCahon, Jeffery Ricciardelli, and Brian Tevlin each scored twice and Jack Simmons added a goal and 2 assists; and

Whereas the tradition of the Fighting Irish of excelling in both athletics and academics continues to advance the sport of men's lacrosse and provide inspiration for future generations of young athletes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Notre Dame men's lacrosse team for its victory in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this resolving clause as the "NCAA") tournament claiming the 2023 NCAA Division I title; and

(2) recognizes the dedication, perseverance, and hard work of the players, coaches, students, alumni, administration, and support staff that directly contributed to the victory of the University of Notre Dame in the NCAA men's lacrosse championship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 293—DESIGNATING JUNE 12, 2023, AS "WOMEN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY"

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 293

Whereas, throughout every period of the history of the United States, women have proudly served the United States to secure and preserve freedom and liberty for—

- (1) the people of the United States; and
- (2) the allies of the United States;

Whereas women have formally been a part of the Armed Forces since the establishment of the Army Nurse Corps in 1901 but have informally served since the inception of the United States military;

Whereas 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 356, chapter 449), legally allowing women to serve in all 4 branches of the military;

Whereas more than 3,000,000 women have served the United States honorably and with valor on land, on sea, in the air, and in space, including—

(1) as "Molly Pitchers" during the American Revolution, providing support to the Continental Army and taking their place on the artillery gun lines as soldiers fell;

(2) by passing as men to serve as soldiers during the Revolutionary War, the Early Republic, and the Civil War;

(3) as doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, and Signal Corps telephone operator "Hello Girls" during World War I;

(4) during World War II—

(A) as members of the Women's Army Corps (commonly known as "WACs");

(B) as Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (commonly known as "WAVES");

(C) as members of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (commonly known as "SPARS");

(D) as Women Airforce Service Pilots (commonly known as "WASPs"); and

(E) as nurses;

(5) as permanent members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, serving as nurses, physicians, physical therapists, air traffic controllers, intelligence specialists, communications specialists, logisticians, and clerks during the Korean War and Vietnam War; and

(6) as fixed and rotary wing combat pilots, surface warfare sailors, submariners, artillerymen, air defenders, engineers, military police, intelligence specialists, civil affairs specialists, logisticians, and, most recently, in all combat roles in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan;

Whereas, as of 2021, women constituted approximately 17 percent of Armed Forces personnel on active duty, including—

(1) 21 percent of active duty personnel in the Air Force;

(2) 21 percent of active duty personnel in the Navy;

(3) 16 percent of active duty personnel in the Army;

(4) 9 percent of active duty personnel in the Marine Corps;

(5) 15 percent of active duty personnel in the Coast Guard; and

(6) 20 percent of active duty personnel in the Space Force;

Whereas, as of 2021, women constituted more than 21 percent of personnel in the National Guard and Reserves;

Whereas women were critical to COVID-19 relief, including as part of the personnel in the National Guard and Reserves activated to support COVID-19 response efforts;

Whereas women have been critical to responding to the unjustified invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, including as members of the National Guard and as active duty personnel in the Armed Forces who have been deployed to contribute to foreign assistance efforts;

Whereas 13 members of the Armed Forces, including 2 women, were killed during Operation Allies Refuge, in which more than 120,000 people were evacuated in the largest civilian airlift in the history of the United States;

Whereas, in 2023—

(1) the population of women veterans is more than 2,066,000, which represents a significant increase from 713,000 women veterans in 1980; and

(2) women veterans constitute approximately 11 percent of the total veteran population;

Whereas women are the fastest growing group in the veteran population;

Whereas an estimated 1 in 3 women veterans who are enrolled in the healthcare system of the Department of Veterans Affairs

report having experienced military sexual trauma (MST) during their military service;

Whereas the United States is proud of, and appreciates, the service of all women veterans, who have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which the United States was founded and which the United States continues to uphold;

Whereas women veterans have unique stories and should be encouraged to share their recollections through the Veterans History Project, a part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, which has worked since 2000 to collect and share the personal accounts of wartime veterans in the United States; and

Whereas, by designating June 12, 2023, as "Women Veterans Appreciation Day", the Senate can—

(1) highlight the growing presence of women in the Armed Forces and the National Guard; and

(2) pay respect to women veterans for their patriotic military service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates June 12, 2023, as "Women Veterans Appreciation Day" to recognize the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 12—RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR A SUSTAINABLE, ECONOMICALLY VIABLE, AND FAIR DEBT RESTRUCTURING PLAN FOR THE PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. CON. RES. 12

Whereas the electrical system of Puerto Rico has been fragile and suffered from a lack of investment for years, since well before Hurricane Maria destroyed the system in 2017;

Whereas, despite local and Federal efforts to rebuild the electrical grid of Puerto Rico, that electrical grid remains extremely fragile and vulnerable;

Whereas, in September 2022, category-1 Hurricane Fiona triggered an island-wide blackout for 1,500,000 customers;

Whereas the population of Puerto Rico, the median household income of which is less than ½ of that of the population of the poorest State, pays among the highest electric rates in the United States;

Whereas the transition to renewable energy is key to reducing electric rates in Puerto Rico by eliminating dependence on imported, price-volatile fossil fuels, which constitute up to 60 percent of the budget of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (referred to in this preamble as the "PREPA"), but currently only 3 percent of the energy on the island of Puerto Rico comes from clean sources;

Whereas, between 1974 and 2016, the PREPA made numerous bond issuances pursuant to the Trust Agreement between the Puerto Rico Water Resources Authority and First National City Bank dated January 1, 1974, reaching \$8,300,000,000 in outstanding bond debt;

Whereas the PREPA is considered to have the largest debt of all public entities in Puerto Rico;

Whereas the retirement system of the PREPA warned that, by April 2023, it would

run out of funds to cover the obligations owed to its nearly 12,000 pension holders, and has yet to articulate a plan that ensures future monthly payments for retirees;

Whereas, in July 2017, the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (referred to in this preamble as the “FOMB”) filed a petition pursuant to title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2161 et seq.), commencing a debt adjustment proceeding for the PREPA;

Whereas, in 2019, the FOMB negotiated an agreement with bondholders that would have resulted in a 10- to 16-percent increase over current electric rates for the following 47 years;

Whereas that agreement was ultimately rejected in 2022 by the local legislature and Governor of Puerto Rico, who recognized that the agreement was unaffordable and would impose costs that would undermine the recovery and future economic growth of Puerto Rico;

Whereas, on December 16, 2022, the FOMB filed a new restructuring plan for the PREPA that proposes to reduce almost ½ of the debt of the PREPA and impose a “legacy charge” for consumers who do not benefit from subsidized electric rates;

Whereas that plan was amended on February 9, 2023, advocating for the issuance of \$5,700,000,000 in bonds, or \$13,000,000,000 over 35 years with accrued interest, to partially compensate the creditors of the PREPA, including bondholders;

Whereas the debt service on the new bonds will be paid off via the “legacy charge”, which includes both fixed monthly charges and charges that depend on the consumption of electricity;

Whereas the estimated “legacy charge” for nonexempt, residential customers would, on average, be around \$19 per month;

Whereas the fixed charge would be between \$16 and \$1,800 per month for commercial and industrial customers;

Whereas those charges represent an increase in monthly bills for average residents and small businesses of 12 to 13 percent, on top of rates that are already double the average price for electricity in the continental United States;

Whereas, according to estimates by small business representatives in Puerto Rico, once the increases in energy bills under the current restructuring plan are enforced, nearly 12,000 small businesses would be forced to close, a number 3 times higher than in 2020, a year marked by the onset of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

Whereas, according to the 2017 testimony of Andrew Wolfe, an economic expert representing the FOMB, those increases would “eventually contribute to a downward economic spiral that would result in Puerto Rico returning to a path of declining economic activity, which would in turn adversely impact the demand for electricity and in the end lead to another debt service payments crisis for PREPA”;

Whereas the FOMB proposes to raise electric rates in Puerto Rico in spite of a prior economic analysis of the FOMB showing that electric rates in Puerto Rico are unsustainable at current levels;

Whereas, in 2022, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-82; 48 U.S.C. 2178) to impose disclosure requirements on all of the advisers and consultants of the FOMB, closing the loophole in the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) that has disadvantaged the people of Puerto Rico in the debt restructuring process for the island;

Whereas, in 2022, the Wall Street Journal reported that stakeholders hired to consult on the bankruptcy proceedings for Puerto Rico initially failed to disclose connections to companies involved in the PREPA debt restructuring deal, raising the potential for conflicts of interest;

Whereas the latest restructuring plan for the PREPA filed by the FOMB does not represent a “durable solution for Puerto Rico’s fiscal and economic crisis [including] permanent, pro-growth fiscal reforms”, as instructed by Congress in title VII of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2241);

Whereas, in June 2023, the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico suspended the proceedings to evaluate and confirm that latest restructuring plan; and

Whereas, on June 23, 2023, the FOMB filed a 2023 Certified Fiscal Plan for the PREPA acknowledging that the latest proposed restructuring plan is not sustainable, and announced that it would present an amended restructuring plan for the PREPA by July 14, 2023: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes that the debt adjustment proceeding for the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (referred to in this resolution as the “PREPA”) has been and continues to be of great interest to Puerto Ricans and to Congress;

(2) recognizes that the continuity of unsustainable electric rates will result in—

(A) accelerated out-migration from the island of Puerto Rico; and

(B) business closures and unemployment in Puerto Rico;

(3) recognizes that the continuity of unsustainable electric rates will further shrink the demand-base and revenues of the PREPA, increasing pressure on the electrical system to cut labor and maintenance costs and inhibiting the reconstruction of the system and the transition to renewable energy;

(4) urges the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico to put forth a restructuring plan for the PREPA that—

(A) is economically viable for the PREPA, customers of the PREPA, and PREPA retirees;

(B) allows for the rehabilitation of the electrical system of Puerto Rico; and

(C) does not impose additional increases to electric rates for residents, business owners, and users of the electric grid; and

(5) reaffirms the intent of Congress to create “durable solution[s] for Puerto Rico’s fiscal and economic crisis” through the adoption of “permanent, pro-growth fiscal reforms”, as stated in title VII of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2241).

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 155. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 156. Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 157. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 158. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 159. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 160. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 161. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 162. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 163. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 164. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 165. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 166. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 167. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 168. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 169. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 170. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 171. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 172. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 173. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 174. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 175. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 176. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 177. Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 178. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.