

(3) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the Armed Forces, wherever the members serve, past, present, and future; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe the “Day of the Deployed” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 403—RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USA RICE-DUCKS UNLIMITED RICE STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIP

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

S. RES. 403

Whereas the USA Rice-Ducks Unlimited Rice Stewardship Partnership (referred to in this preamble as the “Rice Stewardship Partnership”) is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2023;

Whereas the Rice Stewardship Partnership is a unique collaboration between an agricultural commodity group and a conservation organization that has led to historic outcomes for both United States rice farmers and migratory shorebirds and waterfowl, namely ducks;

Whereas, since its inception, the Rice Stewardship Partnership has beneficially impacted more than 800,000 acres of rice and rice rotation lands on more than 1,000 farms, primarily through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program of the Department of Agriculture;

Whereas additional conservation funding has been provided to United States rice farmers to conduct on-the-ground conservation efforts, contributing exponentially to the environment; and

Whereas the work of Ducks Unlimited and USA Rice, along with tremendous support from more than 100 partners and the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture, has made the Rice Stewardship Partnership possible: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes—

(1) the contributions of Ducks Unlimited and USA Rice to environmental stewardship for rice farmers, conservationists, and duck hunters alike; and

(2) the 10th anniversary of the USA Rice-Ducks Unlimited Rice Stewardship Partnership.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 404—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 4, 2023, AS “ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY” IN CELEBRATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY PRIVATE SECTOR INNOVATION AND FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. REED, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 404

Whereas October has been designated as “National Energy Awareness Month”;

Whereas improvements in energy efficiency technologies and practices, along with policies of the United States enacted since the 1970s, have resulted in energy savings of more than 60,000,000,000,000 British thermal units and energy cost avoidance of more than \$800,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas energy efficiency has enjoyed bipartisan support in Congress and in administrations of both parties for more than 40 years;

Whereas bipartisan legislation enacted since the 1970s to advance Federal energy efficiency policies includes—

(1) the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.);

(2) the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-12; 101 Stat. 103);

(3) the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13201 et seq.);

(4) the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801 et seq.);

(5) the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17001 et seq.);

(6) the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-11; 129 Stat. 182);

(7) the Energy Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 2418); and

(8) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58; 135 Stat. 429);

Whereas energy efficiency has long been supported by a diverse coalition of businesses (including manufacturers, utilities, energy service companies, and technology firms), public interest organizations, environmental and conservation groups, and State and local governments;

Whereas, since 1980, the United States has more than doubled its energy productivity, realizing twice the economic output per unit of energy consumed;

Whereas more than 2,000,000 individuals in the United States are currently employed across the energy efficiency sector, as the United States has doubled its energy productivity, and business and industry have become more innovative and competitive in global markets;

Whereas the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy is the principal Federal agency responsible for renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency efforts;

Whereas cutting energy waste saves the consumers of the United States billions of dollars on utility bills annually; and

Whereas energy efficiency policies, financing innovations, and public-private partnerships have contributed to a reduction in energy intensity in Federal facilities by nearly 50 percent since the mid-1970s, which results in direct savings to United States taxpayers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 4, 2023, as “Energy Efficiency Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe Energy Efficiency Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 405—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023, AS “NATIONAL VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY”

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KING, and Mr. VANCE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 405

Whereas the wounds sustained through armed service to the United States are both visible and invisible;

Whereas the wounds sustained through armed service to the United States may be invisible, but those wounds are treatable if the bearers of those wounds are connected to the right resources;

Whereas the Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that an average of nearly 17 veterans die by suicide each day;

Whereas veterans account for a disproportionate percentage of all adult suicides in the United States;

Whereas the surviving family members of veterans who succumb to the invisible wounds of armed service to the United States must not be forgotten and isolated but instead must be directed to available resources and support;

Whereas, after the loss of a veteran family member to the invisible wounds of armed service to the United States, the family members of that veteran must not lose their link to the support and strength of the military and veteran communities;

Whereas the families of veterans who die by suicide hold valuable “lessons learned on the lookback” that can be used to prevent future suicides in veteran populations;

Whereas the voices of the surviving family members of veterans who die by suicide are useful and should be leveraged in prevention efforts;

Whereas formal recognition of the families of veterans who succumb to the invisible wounds of armed service to the United States is vital to the strength, health, and survival of the veteran community;

Whereas those families should be recognized, supported, and heard on National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day and throughout the year; and

Whereas September 30, 2023, is an appropriate day to designate as “National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the designation of September 30, 2023, as “National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day”.

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 21—RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EQUAL PAY AND THE DISPARITY IN WAGES PAID TO LATINA WOMEN IN COMPARISON TO MEN

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BENNET, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. KELLY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 21

Whereas October 5, 2023, is Latina Equal Pay Day to observe the pay gap between Latina women and White, non-Hispanic men;

Whereas Latina women make up the second-largest group of women workers in the United States, after White women;

Whereas there are 13,900,000 Hispanic women in the labor force, representing slightly more than 10 percent of all women in the labor force today;

Whereas section 6(d) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(d)(1)) prohibits discrimination in wages on the basis of sex for equal work;

Whereas title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.) prohibits discrimination in compensation because of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex;

Whereas despite the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 (29 U.S.C. 206 note) more than six decades ago, which establishes that employers shall not discriminate in wages on the basis of sex, but shall provide equal pay for equal work, Bureau of the Census data show that Latina women working full-time and year-round are paid 57 cents for every dollar paid to White, non-Hispanic men, while the average wage differential for all Latina women with reported earnings working full-time, part-time and part-year is 52 cents for every dollar paid to White, non-Hispanic men;

Whereas the National Women's Law Center has calculated that, on average, Latina women lose over \$1,200,000 in potential earnings over a 40-year career to the wage gap;

Whereas, at the rate observed in 2023, Latinas will not reach equal pay with White non-Hispanic men for 183 years, or until 2206;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of the Census reported the median annual pay for all Latina women in the United States working full-time, part-time, and part-year was \$31,600 in 2022, compared to the median annual pay of \$60,830 for White, non-Hispanic men;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of the Census reported the median annual pay for all Latina women working full-time and part-time is \$26,485, placing a working mother of two on the brink of poverty;

Whereas job loss during the COVID-19 pandemic distorted measurements of average wages as women with lower earnings in sectors such as leisure, hospitality, and retail were more likely to experience job loss and leave the labor force;

Whereas lost wages mean Latina women have less money to support themselves and their families, save and invest for the future, and spend on goods and services;

Whereas approximately 51 percent of Latina women are unable to earn sick days through their jobs;

Whereas the lack of access to affordable, quality child care, paid family and medical leave, and other family friendly workplace policies forces many Latina women to choose between their paycheck or job and getting quality care for themselves or their family members, a dynamic that contributes to the wage gap and was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially as Latina women disproportionately work in essential jobs that put them at greater risk of exposure to COVID-19;

Whereas if the annual wage gap were eliminated, on average, a Latina woman working full-time and year-round would have enough money to pay for nearly three years of childcare, to pay for 38 months of food, or more than 22 months of rent;

Whereas women face disproportionate sexual harassment in the workplace and data shows that women filed 78.2 percent of the 27,291 sexual harassment charges filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission between fiscal year 2018 and fiscal year 2021;

Whereas workplace harassment forces many women to leave their occupation or industry—targets of harassment were 6.5 times as likely as nontargets to change jobs—or pass up opportunities for advancement, and this contributes to the gender wage gap;

Whereas there is a high-personal cost for women who have been sexually harassed, in-

cluding unemployment, under-employment, and financial stress resulting from changing jobs, which lead to long-term consequences for earnings and career attainment;

Whereas more than two-thirds of workers paid the minimum wage or less in 2022 are women, and there is a disproportionate concentration of women of color in low-wage and tipped jobs;

Whereas the pay disparity Latina women face is part of a wider set of disparities Latina women face in homeownership, unemployment, poverty, access to childcare, and the ability to build wealth;

Whereas the underpayment of Latina women workers causes businesses and the economy to suffer;

Whereas true pay equity requires a multifaceted strategy that addresses the gender and racial injustices that Latina women face daily; and

Whereas many national organizations have designated October 5, 2023, as Latina Equal Pay Day to recognize the additional time that Latina women must work into the next calendar year to receive the earnings of White, non-Hispanic men in the prior Census year: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the disparity in wages paid to Latina women and its impact on women, families, the economy, and our entire country; and

(2) reaffirms its support for ensuring equal pay and closing the gender wage gap.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have five requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA, THE PACIFIC, AND INTERNATIONAL CYBERSECURITY POLICY

The Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecu-

rity Policy of the Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the junior Senator from Virginia and the junior Senator from Maryland be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from October 5, 2023, through October 16, 2023.

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

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 398, S. Res. 399, S. Res. 401, S. Res. 402, S. Res. 403, S. Res. 404, and S. Res. 405.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 398, S. Res. 399, S. Res. 401, S. Res. 402, S. Res. 403, S. Res. 404, and S. Res. 405) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to. (The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DIANNE FEINSTEIN, THE LATE SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 400, which was submitted earlier today.

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