

S. 3075. A bill to amend the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to strengthen adult education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Madam President, we have a longstanding adult literacy crisis that affects the quality of life for individuals and families and holds our economy back. It is time for a major expansion of adult education. Today, I am proud to introduce bipartisan legislation—the Adult Education Workforce Opportunity and Reskilling for Knowledge and Success Act, or the Adult Education WORKS Act—with my colleague Senator YOUNG.

Adult education provides numeracy, literacy, digital literacy, English language skills, work readiness, soft skills, high school equivalency, and numerous wraparound services to millions of adult learners nationwide. These essential skills can make the difference between earning a family-sustaining wage and struggling to make ends meet. A study commissioned by the Barbara Bush Foundation estimated that getting all U.S. adults to the equivalent of a sixth-grade reading level would generate an additional \$2.2 trillion in annual income for the country. Without the opportunities provided through adult education programs, many adults will be left on the sidelines.

Estimates from the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, PIACC, indicate that 43 million adults are low-skilled in literacy and 63 million are low-skilled in numeracy. Building a sustainable economy that truly works for everyone is going to require helping these individuals acquire the basic skills they need to succeed. Unfortunately, we are reaching only a fraction of these individuals today. PIACC data show that 23 to 30 percent of working-age adults with low literacy or numeracy skills wanted to participate in adult education but were unable to do so. The Department of Education calculates that this means there are up to 16 million adults seeking education opportunities from programs that currently serve fewer than 1 million individuals.

In my home State of Rhode Island, there are over 61,000 adults who could benefit from English language instruction and over 64,000 working-age adults without a high school credential. Yet, under current funding levels, the adult education program serves just over 4,500 individuals.

The Adult Education WORKS Act provides a roadmap for addressing this crisis. It calls for increased resources, doubling funding for adult education by 2029. At the same time, it makes significant improvements to the adult education system. It calls for a new emphasis on digital and information literacy, which are essential for success in the workplace and in navigating everyday life. It enhances the role of adult education providers, with a spe-

cial focus on public libraries and community-based organizations throughout the workforce development system, ensuring coordination and efficient use of resources. It invests in the professionalization of the adult education field, strengthening State certification policies, encouraging full-time staffing models, and expanding professional development opportunities and career pathways for adult educators. It provides support for college and career navigators in public libraries and community-based organizations to support adult learners where they live. Finally, it invests in innovation and accountability through pilot projects that test new approaches for measuring program performance and learner outcomes.

In developing this legislation, Senator YOUNG and I worked closely with key stakeholders, working on the frontlines in the adult education community. I am pleased to count the American Library Association, the Center for Law and Social Policy, the Coalition on Adult Basic Education, the National Coalition for Literacy, National Skills Coalition, ProLiteracy, and TESOL among the supporters of this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and work with us to ensure it is part of any legislation to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 412—SUPPORTING THE NEARLY 150,000 UNITED AUTO WORKERS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS WITH THE “BIG THREE” AUTOMAKERS

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 412

Whereas the United Auto Workers (referred to in this preamble as “UAW”) are on strike for better wages, benefits, and working conditions at the Big Three automakers (General Motors, Stellantis, and Ford);

Whereas the Big Three automakers have made \$21,000,000,000 in profits over the first 6 months of 2023, an increase of 80 percent from the same time period last year;

Whereas the Big Three automakers have made \$250,000,000,000 in profits over the past decade in North America;

Whereas the Big Three automakers are providing their Chief Executive Officers with exorbitant compensation packages, while autoworkers continue to fall further and further behind;

Whereas the average wage for an autoworker has decreased by 30 percent over the past 20 years, after adjusting for inflation;

Whereas the Big Three spent \$9,000,000,000 last year on stock buybacks and dividends, while the average starting wage at these companies is just \$17 an hour;

Whereas many UAW members today cannot afford to buy the cars they make and struggle to afford the basic necessities of life, including groceries, housing, child care, and prescription drugs;

Whereas UAW members are fighting against corporate greed and to finally receive a fair share of the record-breaking profits that their labor has produced, including for cost-of-living adjustments, an end to the 2-tier wage system, and the restoration of pension benefits; and

Whereas, since the passage of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) in 1935, it is the clear policy of the United States to encourage collective bargaining and protect the fundamental right of workers to seek better working conditions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands with the United Auto Workers in their fight against corporate greed;

(2) supports every worker's fundamental right to organize and collectively bargain for better wages, benefits, and working conditions; and

(3) calls on the Big Three automakers—General Motors, Stellantis, and Ford—to negotiate in good faith and offer their workers a fair contract.

SENATE RESOLUTION 413—CONDEMNING FOREIGN NATIONALS IN THE UNITED STATES WHO HAVE ENDORSED AND ESPOUSED THE ACTIONS OF FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS (FTO) IN GAZA WHO, ON OCTOBER 7, 2023, LAUNCHED ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL, AND KILLED INNOCENT ISRAELI AND UNITED STATES CITIZENS

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. VANCE, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 413

Whereas entry into the United States for foreign nationals to study, work, and travel is a privilege and intended to benefit the national interest of the United States;

Whereas section 212(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII)) mandates that certain aliens be ineligible for entry into the United States, including anyone who “endorses or espouses terrorist activity or persuades others to endorse or espouse terrorist activity or support a terrorist organization”;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, members of the Iran-backed Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other designated FTOs from the Gaza Strip invaded the State of Israel in force by land, air, and sea;

Whereas Iran-backed FTO Hezbollah has taken responsibility for firing mortar shells and anti-tank missiles towards Israeli positions along the Lebanese border;

Whereas leaders of Hamas have openly thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its consistent provision of funding, weapons, and support in the weeks before the attack;

Whereas the terrorist invaders unleashed slaughter and cruelty against the residents of southern Israel, reminiscent of the worst pogroms of history;

Whereas the terrorists operated death squads tasked with exterminating Jews, as well as hostage-taking squads tasked with abducting Jews for ransom, propaganda, and torture, if not simply sadistic pleasure;

Whereas the terrorists murdered at least 1,300 innocent victims, including children;

Whereas the terrorists murdered at least 30 United States citizens;

Whereas the terrorists continue to hold hostage dozens of Israeli and United States citizens;

Whereas the October 7, 2023, terrorist attacks represent the deadliest and most savage assault on the Jewish people since the Holocaust;

Whereas students at our most elite colleges and universities, including foreign nationals, have celebrated this pogrom and blamed the Jews for their own slaughter at the hands of a savage enemy;

Whereas Hamas called for a “Day of Rage” on October 13, 2023, and some individuals in the United States have responded to this call and incited others to endorse and espouse Hamas’ actions against Israeli and American civilians;

Whereas there have been violent, anti-Semitic, pro-Hamas riots in the streets of South Florida, Washington, D.C., New York City, Pittsburgh, Portland, Los Angeles, and other cities;

Whereas individuals, including foreign nationals, participating in these riots have made calls for intifada, decolonization, jihad, and other similar calls to eliminate the State of Israel; and

Whereas organizers and participants of these riots could include foreign nationals who are in the United States on visas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the President of the United States to enforce existing law to revoke visas and initiate deportation proceedings for any foreign national who has endorsed or espoused the terrorist activities of Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, or other PTOs that have participated in terrorist attacks against Israel and United States citizens before, on, or after October 7, 2023;

(2) affirms that there is no equivalence between the terrorism of Hamas and its backers, on the one hand, and the military action taken by Israel in self-defense, on the other;

(3) rejects anti-Semitism in all its forms and guises, from full-throated Jew hatred to the subtle anti-Semitism that holds the State of Israel to a different standard than any other nation; and

(4) commits to honoring the memory of the deceased and never forgetting the unwarranted and unjustified assault on Israel and the Jewish people on October 7, 2023.

SENATE RESOLUTION 414—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2023, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 414

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant element in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, safe, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, trains, military vehicles, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide businesses and other energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can mimic the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year;

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen; and

Whereas the ingenuity of the people of the United States is essential to paving the way for the future use of hydrogen technologies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates October 8, 2023, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 415—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. SAMSEL

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

S. RES. 415

Whereas, in the case of *United States v. Samsel*, Cr. No. 21-537, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the prosecution has requested the production of testimony from Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former officers and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for evidence relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, is authorized to provide relevant testimony in the case of *United States v. Samsel*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Mr. Schwager, and any current or former officer or employee of the Secretary’s office, in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 416—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. SULLIVAN

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

S. RES. 416

Whereas, in the case of *United States v. Sullivan*, Cr. No. 21-078, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the prosecution has requested the production of testimony from Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former officers and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for evidence relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, is authorized to provide relevant testimony in the case of *United States v. Sullivan*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Mr. Schwager, and any current or former officer or employee of the Secretary’s office, in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.