

Whereas, according to Human Rights Watch, government operatives in states ruled by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party have resorted to summary punishments by demolishing Muslim homes and businesses without legal authorization;

Whereas, according to Federation of Indian American Christian Organizations, India's 40,000,000 Christians are increasingly targeted by police and vigilante mobs throughout India, leading to a steep rise in incidents of violence against Christians, with 1,198 incidents recorded in 2022, which represents a staggering increase from the 761 such incidents reported in 2021;

Whereas International Christian Concern, a United States-based nongovernmental organization, has reported that anti-blasphemy and anti-forced conversion laws, which effectively criminalize minority religious beliefs and freedom of conscience, are becoming increasingly common throughout India and have led to numerous cases of violence against religious minorities;

Whereas a culture of impunity for radical Hindu nationalists has led to an unprecedented level of violence against Christian, Muslims, and other vulnerable religious minorities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the security challenges faced by the Government of India and the continuing threat of state-supported cross-border terrorism;

(2) encourages the Government of India to amend the discriminatory laws and executive orders based on the love, jihad conspiracy theory, including the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, by treating Muslims the same as other religious groups, and the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act;

(3) urges the Government of India—

(A) to end the discriminatory and undemocratic NRC and return citizenship to the estimated 1,900,000 people who declared non-citizens in a wholly dubious manner;

(B) to immediately release individuals unnecessarily detained in detention centers, protect the right to health of such individuals, and ensure access to healthcare and safe, sanitary conditions for anyone who remains detained;

(C) to immediately release any unjustly detained human rights defenders, journalists, and other critics, many of whom have been held in custody for longer than 1 year without being charged with a crime;

(D) to establish accountability for the brutal police violence against the anti-CAA protesters by prosecuting the policemen and others in the chain of command who are found to be complicit in such violence;

(E) to repeal the anti-conversion and anti-blasphemy laws that are widely misused against religious minorities, especially Christians;

(F) to repeal the hijab ban in Karnataka and allow thousands of Muslim girls and women to attend classes, as students or teachers, while wearing the hijab;

(G) to end the demolition of homes, businesses, and places of worship belonging to Muslims and Christians; and

(H) to allow unrestricted access to Jammu and Kashmir by independent human rights observers and international press; and

(4) calls on the Government of India to repeal the colonial-era sedition law (section 124 of the Indian Penal Code) that is used to stifle dissent and debate and has been used against individuals who express their opposition to the CAA.

SENATE RESOLUTION 425—EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE DESIGNATION OF “PUBLIC RADIO MUSIC DAY” AND DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE ROLE OF PUBLIC RADIO MUSIC STATIONS IN SERVING LISTENERS, MUSICIANS, AND HUNDREDS OF COMMUNITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 425

Whereas more than 25,000,000 listeners in the United States tune in weekly to local noncommercial radio stations to discover, learn about, and enjoy music selections, artists, and genres that are, in many cases, available only on public radio;

Whereas approximately 697 public radio music stations serve rural and urban communities in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam;

Whereas local public radio music stations celebrate a broad collection of sounds and styles, including jazz, blues, classical, Americana, alternative, folk, roots, bluegrass, and other genres;

Whereas 95 percent of over-the-air broadcasts of classical music in the United States come from local public radio stations;

Whereas local, noncommercial, not-for-profit, public radio music stations develop local artists and audiences, sustain music and performers, and educate and enrich their audiences and communities;

Whereas local public radio music stations are locally staffed and programmed, are connected to the unique culture of their community, and share core values of music discovery, curation, preservation, and performance with their audiences;

Whereas knowledgeable local hosts, live announcers, and expert curation on public radio music stations have a proven track record of—

(1) helping audiences discover new and emerging homegrown musicians; and

(2) providing deep explorations into the history and cultural impact of music;

Whereas public radio music stations—

(1) tailor their content and programming to reflect regional tastes and talent;

(2) make music more accessible through local performances, studio sessions, artist interviews, and music journalism; and

(3) broadcast news and information about the local music industry;

Whereas public radio music stations connect musicians and artists with local audiences through an expanding range of platforms, including free over-the-air broadcasts, podcasts, videos, digital, and on-stage;

Whereas the emphasis of public radio on music presentation adds to the journey of lifelong music enjoyment;

Whereas public radio music stations serve as cultural hubs in their communities by providing a place for listeners to come together for the shared enjoyment of music and to support the local music economy;

Whereas local public radio stations partner with schools, hospitals, and other community organizations to promote broad access to music for the public;

Whereas the values and collective commitment of public radio music stations to community service, education, and cultural support separate these nonprofit, noncommercial radio stations from other music providers; and

Whereas, October 25, 2023, would be an appropriate day to designate as “Public Radio Music Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “Public Radio Music Day”; and

(2) expresses its deep appreciation for the role of public radio music stations in serving listeners, musicians, and hundreds of communities in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 426—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 4, 2023, AS “NATIONAL BISON DAY”

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MORAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TESTER, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 426

Whereas, on May 9, 2016, the North American bison was adopted as the national mammal of the United States;

Whereas bison are considered a historical and cultural symbol of the United States;

Whereas bison are integrally linked with the economic and spiritual lives of many Indian Tribes through trade and sacred ceremonies;

Whereas there are approximately 82 Indian Tribes participating in the InterTribal Buffalo Council, which is a Tribal organization incorporated pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”) (48 Stat. 988, chapter 576; 25 U.S.C. 5124);

Whereas numerous members of Indian Tribes are involved in bison restoration on Tribal land;

Whereas members of Indian Tribes have a combined herd of almost 25,000 bison on more than 1,000,000 acres of Tribal land in 22 States;

Whereas bison play an important role in the health of the wildlife, landscapes, and grasslands of the United States;

Whereas bison hold significant economic value for private producers and Tribal and rural communities;

Whereas, as of 2017, the Department of Agriculture estimates that 182,780 head of bison were under the stewardship of private producers, creating jobs and contributing to the food security of the United States by providing a sustainable and healthy meat source;

Whereas a bison has been depicted on the official seal of the Department of the Interior since 1912;

Whereas the Department of the Interior has launched the Bison Conservation Initiative, a 10-year cooperative initiative to coordinate the conservation and restoration of wild American bison;

Whereas a bison is portrayed on 2 State flags;

Whereas the bison has been adopted by 3 States as the official mammal or animal of those States;

Whereas the buffalo nickel played an important role in modernizing the currency of the United States;

Whereas several sports teams and businesses have the bison as a mascot, which highlights the iconic and cultural significance of bison in the United States;

Whereas Indigenous communities and a group of ranchers helped save bison from extinction in the late 1800s by gathering the remaining bison of the diminished herds;

Whereas, on December 8, 1905, William Hornaday, Theodore Roosevelt, and others

formed the American Bison Society in response to the near extinction of bison in the United States;

Whereas, on October 11, 1907, the American Bison Society sent 15 captive-bred bison from the New York Zoological Park, now known as the “Bronx Zoo”, to the first big game refuge in the United States, now known as the “Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge”;

Whereas, in 2005, the American Bison Society was reestablished, bringing together bison ranchers, Native American leaders and bison herd managers, Federal and State agencies, conservation organizations, artists and writers, young people, and natural and social scientists from the United States, Canada, and Mexico to create a vision for the North American bison in the 21st century;

Whereas there are bison herds in national wildlife refuges, national parks, and national forests, and on other Federal land;

Whereas there are bison in State-managed herds across 11 States;

Whereas private, public, and Tribal bison leaders are working together to continue bison restoration throughout North America;

Whereas there is a growing effort to celebrate and officially recognize the historical, cultural, and economic significance of the North American bison to the heritage of the United States; and

Whereas members of Indian Tribes, bison producers, conservationists, sportsmen, educators, and other public and private partners have celebrated the annual National Bison Day since 2012 and are committed to continuing this tradition annually on the first Saturday of November: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 4, 2023, the first Saturday of November, as “National Bison Day”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GENEVA CONSENSUS DECLARATION ON PROMOTING WOMEN’S HEALTH AND STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY AND URGING THAT THE UNITED STATES REJOIN THIS HISTORIC DECLARATION

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 22

Whereas the United States strongly supports women reaching the highest attainable outcomes for health, life, dignity, and well-being throughout their lives;

Whereas the historic coalition that issued the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this preamble referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) was formed by a diverse group of countries committed to charting a more positive path to advance the health of women, protect the family as foundational to any healthy society, affirm the value of life in all stages of development, and uphold the sovereign right of countries to make their own laws to advance those core values, without external pressure;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration was signed on October 22, 2020, by 32 coun-

tries from every region of the world, representing more than 1,600,000,000 people, which committed to working together on the core pillars enshrined in the Declaration, and 36 countries are now part of this coalition;

Whereas, although President Joseph R. Biden removed the United States as a signatory to the Geneva Consensus Declaration, at least temporarily, longstanding Federal laws that prohibit the United States from conducting or funding abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries remain in effect;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “all are equal before the law” and “human rights of women are an inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms the inherent “dignity and worth of the human person” and that “every human being has the inherent right to life”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “there is no international right to abortion, nor any international obligation on the part of States to finance or facilitate abortion”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State”; and

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration coalition strengthens the collective voice of the signatory countries to prevent any country from being intimidated, isolated, or muted on the core values expressed in the Declaration: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) affirms the commitments to protect life and the family made in the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this resolution referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) and applauds the signatory countries for their dedication to advancing women’s health, protecting life at every stage while affirming that there is no international right to abortion, and upholding the importance of the family as foundational to society;

(2) declares that the principles affirming life and the family recognized by the Geneva Consensus Declaration remain universally valid;

(3) welcomes opportunities to strengthen support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(4) will defend the sovereignty of every country to adopt national policies that promote women’s health, protect the right to life, and strengthen the family, as enshrined in the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(5) will conduct oversight of the United States executive branch to ensure that the United States does not conduct or fund abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries, consistent with longstanding Federal law;

(6) urges the signatory countries to the Geneva Consensus Declaration to defend the universal principles affirming life and the family expressed in the Declaration;

(7) calls on President Joseph R. Biden to once again add the United States as a signatory to the Geneva Consensus Declaration; and

(8) calls on all subsequent Presidents to continue support of the Geneva Consensus Declaration.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1355. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment

SA 1092 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1356. Mr. KAINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill H.R. 4366, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1355. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division C, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to withhold approval of a surface transportation project of a State or metropolitan planning organization for failing to meet a target as described in the proposed rulemaking entitled “National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure” (87 Fed. Reg. 42401 (July 15, 2022)) (or a successor rulemaking).

SA 1356. Mr. KAINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall publish a written enforcement plan describing how the Secretary will remove from the market any disposable flavored ENDS product—

(1) for which no premarket tobacco application was submitted to the Secretary pursuant to section 910(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 387j(b)) on or before September 9, 2020; or

(2) that is the subject of a denial of a premarket tobacco application pursuant to section 910(c) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 387j(c)), unless such denial is otherwise stayed by the Secretary or through court order.

(b) The plan under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(1) Detailed guidance to wholesalers, distributors, and retailers on how to identify any disposable flavored ENDS product described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a).

(2) Clearly defined and detailed enforcement strategies, including directed communications regarding a detailed escalating penalty structure, designed to deter manufacturers and wholesalers of disposable flavored ENDS products from manufacturing,