

work in partnership to protect and maintain these cultural sites, preserving them for generations to come: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge;

(2) recognizes the importance of this protected land to biodiversity and fragile ecosystems in Vermont and the world; and

(3) resolves to support the National Wildlife Refuge System, including the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, by providing the necessary financial and staffing resources to carry out its mission of conserving wildlife, protecting habitats, and providing access to outdoor recreational opportunities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 434—COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 434

Whereas, on December 2, 1823, President James Monroe articulated what became to be known as the “Monroe Doctrine” in his seventh annual message to Congress;

Whereas, in the Monroe Doctrine, President Monroe asserted “a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization” by foreign powers;

Whereas the Monroe Doctrine asserted a spirit of solidarity with the newly independent republics of Latin America and established the principle that autocratic influences and depredations by powers outside the region present dangers to the peace, safety, and independence of the free nations of the Western Hemisphere;

Whereas President Monroe established the defensive character of the Monroe Doctrine by asserting that, “It is only when our rights are invaded or seriously menaced that we resent injuries or make preparation for our defense.”;

Whereas President Monroe proclaimed the doctrine after the Russian Empire attempted to claim and colonize territories in present-day Alaska and the Pacific Northwest in 1821, and the seizure of the USS Pearl by the Russian sloop Apollon in 1822;

Whereas, according to the National Archives, the United States Government invoked the Monroe Doctrine in 1865 to exert diplomatic and military pressure in support of the Mexican President Benito Juárez, which enabled Juárez to lead a successful revolt against the Emperor Maximilian, who had been placed on the throne by the French Empire;

Whereas, according to the National Archives, President John F. Kennedy invoked the Monroe Doctrine when the Soviet Union built missile launch sites in Cuba in 1962, and as part of the successful actions of his administration to see the Soviet missiles withdrawn from the dismantled missile launch sites in Cuba;

Whereas, on September 17, 1987, the Senate adopted an amendment, by a bipartisan vote of 90 to 2, to S. 1174 (100th Congress), known as the “National Defense Authorization Act

for Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989”, affirming “the sense of the Senate that the policy of the United States toward Central America should be based on the principles of the Monroe Doctrine”;

Whereas the National Security Strategy dated October 2022 states that “no region impacts the United States more directly than the Western Hemisphere,” and acknowledges the threat of external interference or coercion in the Western Hemisphere from the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran;

Whereas the 2023 Posture Statement of the United States Southern Command acknowledges that external malign actors like the People’s Republic of China and the Russian Federation are aggressively exerting influence over neighboring countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and raises concerns about Iranian intelligence and security activities;

Whereas the 2023 Posture Statement of the United States Southern Command notes that the People’s Republic of China is encroaching upon sensitive critical infrastructure in the Western Hemisphere through investments, including in deep-water ports, cyber facilities, and space facilities which can have a potential dual use for malign commercial and military activities;

Whereas the 2023 Posture Statement of the United States Southern Command notes that the Russian Federation undertakes extensive disinformation campaigns in Latin America, bolsters authoritarian regimes like the Republic of Cuba, the Republic of Nicaragua, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and pursues military engagement and gray zone operations in this region;

Whereas the posture statement for 2023 of the United States Northern Command asserts “Our competitors and potential adversaries, particularly the People’s Republic of China and Russia, continue to challenge the rules-based international order” and “seek to advance their interests and gain global advantages through political intimidation, economic coercion, cyber and information operations, asymmetric attacks on infrastructure, and the direct threat or actual employment of military force”;

Whereas the letter and spirit of the Monroe Doctrine continue to inspire the efforts of the people of the United States to—

(1) maintain robust domestic, economic, and defense capabilities; and

(2) partner with democratic nations of the Western Hemisphere on a basis of mutual respect and support for shared beneficial diplomatic, commercial, and security endeavors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 200th anniversary of the promulgation of the Monroe Doctrine;

(2) reasserts the rights and interests of the United States, in accordance with the Monroe Doctrine, to oppose a foreign power extending malign influence that could endanger or undermine the democracies of the Western Hemisphere; and

(3) recognizes the principles of hemisphere freedom and independence, as enshrined in the Monroe Doctrine, as an enduring foundational cornerstone of the foreign policy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 435—RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30 THROUGH NOVEMBER 4, 2023, AS “NATIONAL VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK”

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DAINES,

Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BUDD, Mr. REED, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. Kaine, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. SCHMITT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 435

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States train individuals with the skills, discipline, and leadership necessary to establish and operate a successful business;

Whereas there are over 1,700,000 veteran-owned small businesses in the United States, employing over 2,900,000 individuals;

Whereas veteran-owned small businesses make up nearly 5 percent of all businesses in the United States;

Whereas veteran-owned small businesses account for more than \$800,000,000,000 in total receipts every year;

Whereas there are over 160,000 women veteran-owned small businesses in the United States, employing over 119,000 individuals;

Whereas the Small Business Administration hosts events honoring National Veterans Small Business Week from October 30 through November 4, 2023;

Whereas the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate celebrates National Veterans Small Business Week during the week of October 30 through November 4, 2023; and

Whereas the week of October 30 through November 4, 2023, would be an appropriate time to celebrate National Veterans Small Business Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the week of October 30 through November 4, 2023, as “National Veterans Small Business Week”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Veterans Small Business Week;

(3) recognizes the importance of creating policies that promote a business-friendly environment for small business owners that is free of unnecessary and burdensome regulations and red tape; and

(4) expresses appreciation for the continued service to the United States by the veterans of the United States through small business ownership and entrepreneurship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 436—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 24, 2023, TO OCTOBER 31, 2023, AS “BATWEEK”

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

S. RES. 436

Whereas bats are vital to the sustainability of natural ecosystems, national economies, and human health by controlling

damaging insect pests, pollinating plants that produce fruits and vegetables, dispersing seeds to ensure healthy functioning forests and fields, and saving farmers in the United States more than \$3,000,000,000 in pest control every year;

Whereas bats have captured the human imagination through backyard sightings, folklore, art, myths, and legends, making outreach and education about the importance of bats instrumental;

Whereas bats are present throughout the world, except in extremely cold regions, and are the second-largest order of mammals with over 1,400 species;

Whereas white-nose syndrome, a fungal disease that has killed millions of bats in North America, has now spread to 40 States and 12 species of hibernating bats;

Whereas the disease has caused significant declines in populations of the tricolored bat, the little brown bat, and the northern long-eared bat, which is listed as endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

Whereas the Department of the Interior, through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Geological Survey, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, is leading the international response to the disease in partnership with the United States Forest Service and more than 150 Federal and State agencies, Tribes, nongovernmental organizations, and universities;

Whereas the United States Geological Survey and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service co-lead the multinational, multi-agency North American Bat Monitoring Program, which, since 2015, has consolidated nearly 89,000,000 records from partners in 49 States, 9 Canadian Provinces, and 19 Tribal organizations, demonstrating the power of collaborative conservation science to monitor changes in North American bat populations;

Whereas the United States Geological Survey conducts scientific research on bats that helps resource managers and policymakers make informed decisions regarding the conservation of bats across North America; and

Whereas, in the past decade, the international partnership of States, Tribes, Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other institutions has made extraordinary progress to understand white-nose syndrome, slow the spread of the disease, and develop treatments that hold promise for ending this epidemic: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of “BatWeek”;

(2) encourages the observance of BatWeek with appropriate events and activities;

(3) acknowledges the important role bats play as pollinators and pest control for agriculture; and

(4) intends to—

(A) continue working to conserve bat species and their habitat; and

(B) work to defeat the disease known as white-nose syndrome.

SENATE RESOLUTION 437—CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND ENCOURAGING COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LEADERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND FACULTY TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. VAN

HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 437

Whereas, in the aftermath of the terrorist attack on Israel by Hamas on October 7, 2023, there has been a rise in incidents of antisemitism, including hate speech and intimidation, on college campuses and universities in the United States, creating an atmosphere of fear for Jewish students and faculty;

Whereas the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance has developed a widely accepted working definition of antisemitism which can serve as a helpful tool for education administrators and faculty to identify antisemitism;

Whereas acts of hate, discrimination, and violence based on religion or ethnicity have no place at institutions that exist to further education and understanding between diverse student bodies; and

Whereas freedom of speech and expression are foundational principles of institutions of higher education in the United States, but when these principles are used to promote violence, hatred, or discrimination on the basis of religious beliefs, national origin, or ancestry, higher education leaders have the right and an obligation to respond: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns any instances of antisemitism occurring at colleges and universities in the United States;

(2) encourages higher education leaders, including presidents, deans, and administrators, to publicly condemn speech that incites or celebrates violence against any people based on religious beliefs, national origin, or ancestry; and

(3) encourages institutions of higher education to engage with Jewish student organizations and ensure that Jewish students, faculty, and staff can pursue their academic and personal aspirations without fear.

SENATE RESOLUTION 438—CONGRATULATING COCO GAUFF FOR HER INSPIRING VICTORY AT THIS YEAR'S US OPEN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 438

Whereas, on September 9, 2023, Coco Gauff won her first Grand Slam title at the US Open;

Whereas, on March 13, 2004, Coco Gauff was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and grew up in Delray Beach, Florida, where she still lives today;

Whereas, while still living in Atlanta, Coco Gauff began playing tennis at the age of 6;

Whereas, on June 9, 2018, Coco Gauff won the girls' singles title at Roland-Garros;

Whereas, on March 19, 2019, Coco Gauff made her Women's Tennis Association (referred to in this preamble as the “WTA”) Tour debut at the Miami Open;

Whereas, on July 1, 2019, Coco Gauff shocked the tennis world by defeating Venus Williams at The Championships, Wimbledon at the age of 15 years old;

Whereas, on October 13, 2019, Coco Gauff won her first WTA singles title at the Upper Austria Ladies Linz;

Whereas, on September 9, 2023, Coco Gauff's US Open victory made her the youngest American to win a Grand Slam since Serena Williams won the US Open in 1999;

Whereas, on September 11, 2023, Coco Gauff rose to number 3 in the WTA's world rankings;

Whereas, on September 11, 2023, Coco Gauff became the number 1 ranked doubles player in the world alongside her doubles partner, fellow American, Jessica Pegula;

Whereas Coco Gauff's talent led her to win her first US Open Tennis Championships women's singles title;

Whereas Coco Gauff has won 6 WTA Tour singles titles and 8 WTA Tour doubles titles; and

Whereas Coco Gauff is an inspiration to millions of young girls and boys across the country with her passion for the sport, faith and victories; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates Coco Gauff for her inspiring victory at this year's US Open Tennis Championships.

SENATE RESOLUTION 439—SUPPORTING AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS AND LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 2023

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 439

Whereas millions of children in the United States have parents who work outside the home;

Whereas high-quality programs that expand learning opportunities for children, such as afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning opportunities, provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences, including experiences that encourage the study of science, technology, engineering, and math that help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs and high-quality expanded learning opportunities provide students with hands-on, engaging lessons that are aligned with the school day;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs complement regular and expanded school days and support working families by ensuring that the children of those families are safe and productive during the hours parents are working;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of children and youth in the United States;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs that partner with high-quality community-based organizations build stronger communities by integrating schools with the larger community; and

Whereas Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning opportunities programs was held on October 26, 2023, to highlight the critical importance of those high-quality programs to children and the families and communities of those children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 26, 2023.