

meets 1 or more of the factors set forth in the last clause of the preamble, indicating that such agreement should take the form of a treaty requiring Senate approval.

(b) **LIMITATION OF AGREEMENT.**—The Senate declares that any agreement described in subsection (a)—

(1) involves a significant political and economic commitment of the United States to foreign countries; and

(2) does not legally bind the United States until after—

(A) the President transmits such agreement to the Senate for its consideration as a treaty, subject to the applicable constitutional advice and consent procedures; and

(B) the Senate provides its consent to such treaty through a resolution of ratification.

#### SEC. 4. ADVICE.

(a) **REFERRAL.**—Any agreement described in section 3(a) that is transmitted to the Senate pursuant to section 3(b)(2)(A) shall be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate for its consideration.

(b) **CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE SENATE.**—

(1) **CONSULTATIONS DURING NEGOTIATIONS.**—The Secretary of State, or the designee of the Secretary, shall—

(A) at the request of the Chair or the Ranking Member of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, meet with any or all Members of the Committee regarding—

(i) negotiating objectives;

(ii) the status of negotiations in progress; and

(iii) the nature of any potential changes to the laws of the United States or the administration of such laws that may be recommended to Congress to carry out—

(I) an agreement described in section 3(a); or

(II) any requirement of, amendment to, or recommendation under, such agreement; and

(B) consult closely and on a timely basis with, and keep fully apprised of the negotiations, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) **CONSULTATIONS BEFORE SIGNING AGREEMENT.**—Before signing an agreement described in section 3(a), the President shall—

(A) consult closely, and on a timely basis, with the members of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) keep such members fully apprised of the measures other nations have taken to comply with the provisions of such agreement that are to take effect on the date on which such agreement enters into force.

(c) **DESIGNATED SENATE ADVISORS.**—

(1) **DESIGNATION.**—The Secretary of State—

(A) shall designate not fewer than 2 members of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, on a bipartisan basis, to serve as Senate advisors to the negotiations regarding an agreement described in section 3(a); and

(B) may designate additional members of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate as Senate advisors, after consultation with the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee.

(2) **CONSULTATIONS WITH DESIGNATED CONGRESSIONAL ADVISORS.**—During negotiations regarding an agreement described in section 3(a), the Secretary of State or an officer of the Department of State who has been confirmed to such position by the Senate and designated by the Secretary, shall consult closely and on a timely basis (including immediately before initialing any agreement) with, and keep fully apprised of the negotiations, the Senate advisors designated pursuant to paragraph (1).

(3) **ACCREDITATION.**—Each Senator designated as a Senate advisor pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be accredited by the Sec-

retary of State on behalf of the President as an official advisor to the United States delegation to any relevant international conferences, meetings, and negotiating sessions relating to an agreement described in section 3(a).

#### SEC. 5. CONSENT.

(a) **SUBMISSION OF TREATY TO THE SENATE.**—An international convention, agreement, protocol, legal instrument, or agreed outcome with legal force relating to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response described in section 3(a) shall not become effective with respect to the United States until after the President, not later than 60 days after such agreement is signed, submits to the Senate—

(1) such agreement, including all related materials, annexes, and other relevant documents; and

(2) a certification that—

(A) the materials submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) constitute the totality of such agreement in question; and

(B) the adoption of the treaty is in the vital national security interest of the United States.

(b) **DECLARATION.**—Exercising the rule-making authority granted to the Senate under clause 2 of section 5 of article I of the Constitution of the United States, the Senate declares that it shall not be in order for the Senate to consider any bill, any joint or concurrent resolution, any amendment to such bill or amendment, or any conference report authorizing or providing budget authority to implement, in whole or in part, any international pandemic preparedness, prevention, and response convention, agreement, protocol, legal instrument, or agreed outcome with legal force of the World Health Assembly, the purpose of which is to implement, in whole or in part, an agreement described in section 3(a).

(c) **SUNSET.**—This section shall remain in effect until the date on which the President submits the agreement and certification required under subsection (a) to the Senate as a treaty for its constitutional advice and consent.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 82—CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY AND COMMENDING THE DEDICATION SHOWN FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND CONTINUED SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

#### S. RES. 82

Whereas, in 1938, a group of employees in Wisconsin banded together to eliminate political influence in the jobs of those employees as revenue collectors, marking the beginning of the National Treasury Employees Union (referred to in this preamble as “NTEU”);

Whereas that group persisted for 14 years and finally won civil service protections, leading to the establishment of the professional workforce at the Internal Revenue Service that exists today;

Whereas, in 1972, NTEU signed the first negotiated bargaining agreement of NTEU, which developed a shared set of responsibilities for managers and bargaining unit employees that were designed to improve the workforce and achieve the mission of the Internal Revenue Service;

Whereas, since that initial agreement, NTEU has promoted new and innovative workplace policies that benefit Federal employees and agencies, such as alternative work schedules and telework policies;

Whereas NTEU—

(1) serves as a powerful voice for the members of NTEU and for Federal employees in general;

(2) has successfully sought to promote and defend Federal service as a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions; and

(3) has fought tirelessly to ensure that Federal employees are free from discrimination, politicization, and retaliation for disclosing Federal Government waste, fraud, and abuse;

Whereas the work of NTEU and the knowledge and skills of the highly trained individuals represented by NTEU who work for the Federal Government contribute significantly to the greatness and prosperity of the United States;

Whereas NTEU has grown to represent approximately 150,000 employees from 34 different Federal agencies, and the members of NTEU, among other things—

(1) collect the revenue that funds the Federal Government;

(2) help protect the borders of the United States;

(3) ensure that individuals in the United States have clean air and water;

(4) protect consumers, investors, bank depositors, and agriculture commodity traders;

(5) serve the beneficiaries of important health and social programs and ensure the safety of food and drugs in the United States; and

(6) protect and preserve the national parks and public lands of the United States;

Whereas the mission of NTEU, to help create workplaces in which every Federal employee is treated with dignity and respect, has been met by the efforts of NTEU to—

(1) advocate for fair pay and benefits;

(2) negotiate for work-life balance initiatives; and

(3) ensure a merit-based, nonpartisan civil service;

Whereas, whether advocating on Capitol Hill, at the bargaining table, or in workplaces across the United States, NTEU continues to make history through its accomplishments; and

Whereas, in 2023, NTEU is celebrating its 85th anniversary; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the National Treasury Employees Union on its 85th anniversary; and

(2) commends—

(A) the work of the National Treasury Employees Union; and

(B) the members of the National Treasury Employees Union for their outstanding contributions to the United States.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 83—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6 THROUGH 10, 2023, AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. COLINS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KING, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr.

PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 83

Whereas school counselors are more important now than ever, as the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the mental health crisis among the youth of the United States;

Whereas the American School Counselor Association has designated February 6 through 10, 2023, as “National School Counseling Week”;

Whereas school counselors have long advocated for all students;

Whereas school counselors help develop well-rounded students by guiding students through academic learning, social and emotional development, and career exploration;

Whereas personal and social growth can help lead to increased academic achievement;

Whereas school counselors play a vital role in ensuring that students are ready for both college and careers;

Whereas school counselors play a vital role in making students aware of opportunities for financial aid and college scholarships;

Whereas school counselors assist with and coordinate efforts to foster a positive school climate, resulting in a safer learning environment for all students;

Whereas school counselors have been instrumental in helping students, teachers, and parents deal with personal trauma as well as tragedies in their communities and the United States;

Whereas students face myriad challenges every day, including peer pressure, bullying, mental health issues, the deployment of family members to serve in conflicts overseas, and school violence;

Whereas a school counselor is one of the few professionals in a school building who is trained in both education and social and emotional development;

Whereas the roles and responsibilities of school counselors are often misunderstood;

Whereas the school counselor position is often among the first to be eliminated to meet budgetary constraints;

Whereas the national average ratio of students to school counselors is 408 to 1, almost twice the 250 to 1 ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association, the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and other organizations; and

Whereas the celebration of National School Counseling Week will increase awareness of the important and necessary role school counselors play in the lives of students in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of February 6 through 10, 2023, as “National School Counseling Week”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe National School Counseling Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role school counselors play in schools and the community at large in preparing students for fulfilling lives as contributing members of society.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 84—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 28, 2023, AS “RARE DISEASE DAY”

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr.

CASEY, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 84

Whereas a rare disease or disorder is a disease or disorder that affects a small number of patients;

Whereas, in the United States, a rare disease or disorder affects fewer than 200,000 individuals;

Whereas, as of the date of the adoption of this resolution, more than 25,000,000 individuals in the United States are living with at least 1 of the more than 7,000 known rare diseases or disorders;

Whereas children with rare diseases or disorders account for a significant portion of the population affected by rare diseases or disorders in the United States;

Whereas many rare diseases and disorders are serious and life-threatening;

Whereas this year marks the 40th anniversary of the enactment of the Orphan Drug Act (Public Law 97-414; 96 Stat. 2049), a landmark law enabling tremendous advances in the research and treatment of rare diseases and disorders;

Whereas, in 2022, the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, in the Food and Drug Administration (referred to in this preamble as “FDA”), established the Accelerating Rare disease Cures program with a vision of speeding and increasing the development of effective and safe treatment options to address the unmet needs of patients with rare diseases;

Whereas the 117th Congress passed into law as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328; 136 Stat. 4459), provisions creating the rare disease endpoint advancement pilot program in the FDA to support the development of novel efficacy endpoints to help facilitate the development and timely approval of rare disease treatments;

Whereas, although the FDA has approved more than 1,100 drugs and biological products for an orphan indication for the treatment of a rare disease or disorder, approximately 90 percent of rare diseases do not have a treatment approved by the FDA for their condition;

Whereas limited treatment options and financing life-altering and lifesaving treatments can be challenging for individuals with rare diseases or disorders and their families;

Whereas rare diseases and disorders include sickle cell anemia, spinal muscular atrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, thyroid eye disease, myotonic dystrophy, t-cell prolymphocytic leukemia, Sanfilippo syndrome, microtia, cystinosis, meatal atresia, and conductive deafness;

Whereas individuals with rare diseases or disorders can experience difficulty in obtaining accurate diagnoses and finding physicians or treatment centers with expertise in their rare disease or disorder;

Whereas the 116th Congress passed the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-16; 133 Stat. 852), which included provisions for improving access to coordinated, patient-centered health care for children with complex and rare medical conditions in Medicaid, and became effective October 1, 2022;

Whereas the FDA and the National Institutes of Health support innovative research on the treatment of rare diseases and disorders;

Whereas Rare Disease Day is observed each year on the last day of February;

Whereas Rare Disease Day is a global event that was first observed in the United States on February 28, 2009, and was observed in more than 100 countries in 2022; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day is expected to be observed globally for years to come, providing hope and information for rare disease and disorder patients around the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 28, 2023, as “Rare Disease Day”; and

(2) recognizes the importance of, with respect to rare diseases and disorders—

(A) improving awareness;

(B) encouraging accurate and early diagnosis; and

(C) supporting national and global efforts to develop effective treatments, diagnostics, and cures.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 85—DESIGNATING MARCH 1, 2023, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY”

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

S. RES. 85

Whereas assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of an individual with a disability or an older adult;

Whereas an assistive technology service is any service that directly assists an individual with a disability or an older adult in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device;

Whereas, in 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 1 in 4 individuals in the United States, or almost 61,000,000 individuals, has a disability;

Whereas, in the 2020-2021 school year, the Department of Education reported that there were more than 7,200,000 children with disabilities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, among adults 65 years of age and older, 2 in 5 have a disability;

Whereas assistive technology enables individuals with disabilities and older adults to be included in their communities and in inclusive classrooms and workplaces;

Whereas assistive technology devices and services are necessities, not luxury items, for millions of individuals with disabilities and older adults, without which they would be unable to live in their communities, access education, or obtain, retain, and advance gainful, competitive, and integrated employment;

Whereas the availability of assistive technology in the workplace promotes economic self-sufficiency, enhances work participation, and is critical to the employment of individuals with disabilities and older adults; and

Whereas State assistive technology programs support a continuum of services that include—

(1) the exchange, repair, recycling, and other reutilization of assistive technology devices;

(2) device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, and others;

(3) the demonstration of devices to inform decision making; and

(4) State financing to help individuals purchase or obtain assistive technology through a variety of initiatives, such as financial loan programs, leasing programs, and other financing alternatives, that give individuals affordable, flexible options to purchase or obtain assistive technology: Now, therefore, be it