

Business Enterprise Supportive Services Program already provides training, assistance, and services to minority- and women-owned businesses to help them develop into self-sufficient organizations that viably compete for federally assisted highway project contracts. Unfortunately, Congress has not allowed this program to keep up with the needs of our underserved businesses.

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Supportive Services Expansion Act would increase this program's annual funding cap for the first time in 50 years from \$10 million to \$25 million. Additionally, the bill would create similar programs at the Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Local, regional, and State agencies have also been leaders in developing innovative programs to prioritize disadvantaged businesses, invest in efforts to create equitable competition, and promote diverse economic development initiatives.

The Accelerating Small Business Growth Act would create a new grant program to help transportation agencies across our Nation carry out these innovative programs to help underserved businesses grow and achieve proficiency to compete on an equal basis for contracts and subcontracts in federally funded transportation projects. Agencies that receive funding through this grant program would be required to submit reports to the Department of Transportation evaluating the effectiveness of their activities, which would help inform future Federal procurement policymaking.

I want to thank Representatives PETE AGUILAR and JIMMY GOMEZ for co-leading these bills with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this legislation to help minority-owned, women-owned, and disadvantaged businesses compete for contracts to develop and build Federal infrastructure projects funded by the bipartisan infrastructure law.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 480—RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2023 AS “NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH”

Mr. CASEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 480

Whereas, in 2020, 53,000,000 family caregivers in the United States provide essential care to millions of people each year, providing unpaid care worth an estimated \$600,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas family caregivers play a vital role in the healthcare system of the United States, supporting loved ones who have chronic illnesses, disabilities, and are aging;

Whereas family caregivers, who are disproportionately women of color, often face significant challenges including financial

strain, physical and emotional exhaustion, and social isolation; and

Whereas “National Family Caregivers Month” is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the contributions of family caregivers and to advocate for policies that support family caregivers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes November 2023 as “National Family Caregivers Month”;

(2) commends the 53,000,000 family caregivers in the United States who provide essential care to their loved ones and chosen family each day;

(3) encourages Federal agencies, States, and the private sector to swiftly implement the steps described in the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers;

(4) urges investment in policies that support family caregivers, including—

(A) economic tax credits;

(B) paid family and medical leave;

(C) respite care;

(D) home and community-based services; and

(E) access to quality healthcare; and

(5) encourages all people of the United States to learn more about family caregiving and to support their loved ones and neighbors who are providing care.

SENATE RESOLUTION 481—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

S. RES. 481

Whereas stomach cancer, also known as gastric cancer, is 1 of the most difficult cancers to detect in the early stages of the disease, which contributes to high mortality rates;

Whereas stomach cancer occurs when cancer cells develop in the lining of the stomach;

Whereas stomach cancer is the fifth most commonly diagnosed type of cancer worldwide;

Whereas, in 2023, an estimated—

(1) 26,500 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed in the United States; and

(2) 11,130 individuals in the United States will die from stomach cancer;

Whereas the estimated 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer is only 35.7 percent, and the 5-year survival rate is just 6.6 percent when diagnosed at a late, or distant, stage;

Whereas, in the United States, stomach cancer is more prevalent among racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas the initial diagnosis of stomach cancer is often delayed because up to 80 percent of patients are asymptomatic during early stages;

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer among patients and health care providers could improve timely recognition of stomach cancer symptoms;

Whereas more research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer is needed; and

Whereas November 2023 is an appropriate month to observe Stomach Cancer Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month;

(2) supports efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer among the general public of the United States;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer; and

(4) encourages States, territories, and localities of the United States to support the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 482—COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF WORLD AIDS DAY

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 482

Whereas, as of the end of 2022, an estimated 39,000,000 people were living with human immunodeficiency virus (referred to in this preamble as “HIV”) or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (referred to in this preamble as “AIDS”), including 1,700,000 children;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 770,000 people with AIDS have died since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, including over 19,000 deaths among people with diagnosed HIV in 2021, with the disease disproportionately affecting communities of color;

Whereas, in 2021, over 35,000 people became newly diagnosed with HIV in the United States;

Whereas communities of color are disproportionately affected by HIV in the United States;

Whereas, in order to address the HIV epidemic in the United States, on August 18, 1990, Congress enacted the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act (Public Law 101-381; commonly referred to as the “Ryan White CARE Act”) to provide primary medical care and essential support services for people living with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured;

Whereas the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides services and support for over half of all people diagnosed with HIV in the United States;

Whereas, to further focus attention on the HIV/AIDS epidemic among minority communities in the United States, in 1998 the Minority AIDS Initiative was established to provide funds to State and local institutions and organizations to best serve the health care costs and support the needs of racial and ethnic minorities living with HIV;

Whereas the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals established a global target to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030;

Whereas, in order to further address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic, in 2003, Congress and the White House created the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (referred to in this preamble as “PEPFAR”);

Whereas the United States PEPFAR program remains the largest commitment in history by any country to combat a single disease;

Whereas 25,000,000 lives have been saved through PEPFAR;

Whereas, as of September 30, 2022, PEPFAR has supported treatment for more than 20,000,000 people, and has enabled 5,500,000 infants of mothers living with HIV to be born HIV-free;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2021, PEPFAR directly supported HIV testing and counseling for 64,700,000 people;

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was launched in 2002, and, as of 2022, has helped provide antiretroviral therapy to approximately 24,500,000 people living with HIV/AIDS and to

710,000 pregnant women to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS to their children, saving an estimated 59,000,000 lives;

Whereas the United States is the largest donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and every \$1 contributed by the United States leverages an additional \$2 from other donors, as required by law;

Whereas, with United States leadership, global partners pledged record amounts to combat infectious diseases at the seventh replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS in September 2022;

Whereas considerable progress has been made in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including a nearly 40-percent reduction in new HIV infections, a nearly 60-percent reduction in new HIV infections among children, and a 50-percent reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths between 2010 and 2022;

Whereas approximately 29,800,000 people had access to antiretroviral therapy in 2022, compared to only 7,800,000 people who had access to such therapy in 2010;

Whereas research funded by the National Institutes of Health found that HIV treatment not only saves the lives of people living with HIV, but people living with HIV on effective antiretroviral therapy and who are durably virally suppressed cannot sexually transmit HIV, proving that HIV treatment is prevention;

Whereas it is estimated that, without treatment, half of all infants living with HIV will die before their second birthday;

Whereas, despite the remarkable progress in combating HIV, significant challenges remain;

Whereas there were approximately 1,300,000 new HIV infections in 2022 globally, structural barriers continue to make testing and treatment programs inaccessible to highly vulnerable populations, and an estimated 5,400,000 people living with HIV globally still do not know their HIV status;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that over 35,000 people were diagnosed with HIV in the United States in 2021 and 13 percent of the 1,200,000 people in the United States living with HIV are not aware of their HIV status;

Whereas men who have sex with men (referred to in this preamble as “MSM”), particularly young MSM of color, are the population most affected by HIV in the United States;

Whereas southern States bear the greatest burden of HIV in the United States, accounting for 52 percent of new infections in 2021;

Whereas people living with HIV are frequently susceptible to other infections, such as hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis;

Whereas the opioid and heroin epidemics have led to increased numbers of new HIV infections among people who inject drugs, and the crisis has disproportionately affected nonurban areas, where HIV prevalence rates have been low historically and have limited services for HIV prevention and treatment and substance use disorder treatment;

Whereas 2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the PEPFAR program, an initiative launched by President George W. Bush with bi-partisan support that has become the primary policy instrument of the United States to address HIV/AIDS in the developing world;

Whereas December 1 of each year is internationally recognized as “World AIDS Day”; and

Whereas, in 2023, commemorations for World AIDS Day recognize the essential role of communities in the global HIV/AIDS response: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World AIDS Day, including the goal to achieve zero new human immunodeficiency virus (re-

ferred to in this resolution as “HIV”) infections, zero discrimination, and zero acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (referred to in this resolution as “AIDS”)-related deaths;

(2) commends achievements in combating HIV/AIDS through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act, the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Office of Minority Health, and the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(3) commends achievements in combating HIV/AIDS made by the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(4) supports efforts to end the HIV epidemic in the United States and around the world by 2030;

(5) supports continued funding for prevention, care, and treatment services, and research programs for communities impacted by HIV and people living with HIV in the United States and globally;

(6) urges, in order to ensure that an AIDS-free generation is achievable, rapid action by all countries toward further expansion and scale-up of antiretroviral treatment programs, including efforts to reduce disparities and improve access for children to life saving medications;

(7) encourages the scaling up of comprehensive prevention services, including biomedical and structural interventions, to ensure inclusive access to programs and appropriate protections for all people at risk of contracting HIV, especially in communities disproportionately impacted;

(8) calls for greater focus on the HIV-related vulnerabilities of women and girls, including women and girls at risk for or who have survived violence or faced discrimination as a result of the disease;

(9) supports continued leadership by the United States in domestic, bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to fight HIV;

(10) encourages input from civil society in the development and implementation of domestic and global HIV policies and programs that guide the response;

(11) encourages and supports greater degrees of ownership and shared responsibility by developing countries in order to ensure the sustainability of the domestic responses to HIV/AIDS by those countries; and

(12) urges other members of the international community to sustain and scale up their support for and financial contributions to efforts around the world to combat HIV.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator RON WYDEN, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Lt. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade of general, dated November 30, 2023.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. KAINÉ. Madam President, I have four 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 au-

thorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. KAINÉ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 481, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 481) expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KAINÉ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 481) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

Mr. KAINÉ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 4; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the