

(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(c) STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws (including regulations), appoint and terminate such personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(2) COMPENSATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Chairperson of the Commission may fix the compensation of personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

(B) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The rate of pay for personnel shall not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

**SEC. 104. FUNDING.**

The Commission shall use amounts in the Fund to pay for all administrative expenses of the Commission.

**SEC. 105. TERMINATION.**

The Commission shall terminate on such date as the Commission determines after the Commission carries out the duties of the Commission under section 102.

**TITLE II—CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY FUND**

**SEC. 201. CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY FUND.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States the “Climate Change Resiliency Fund”.

(2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not less than 40 percent of the amounts in the Fund to fund projects that benefit communities that experience disproportionate impacts from climate change, including environmental justice communities, frontline communities, and low-income communities.

(B) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—All amounts deposited in the Fund in accordance with section 301(a) shall only be used—

(i) to fund new projects in accordance with this section; and

(ii) for administrative expenses of the Commission authorized under section 104.

(3) RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall take such action as the Secretary determines necessary to assist in implementing the Fund in accordance with this section.

(b) CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECTS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, shall carry out a program to provide funds to eligible entities to carry out projects for a qualified climate change adaptation purpose.

(c) APPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity desiring funds under subsection (b) shall, with respect to a project, submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by an eligible entity under this subsection shall include data relating to any benefits the eligible entity expects the project to provide to the community in which the applicable project is performed, such as—

(A) an economic impact; or

(B) improvements to public health.

(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall offer technical assistance to eligible entities preparing applications under this subsection.

(d) SELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select eligible entities to receive funds to carry out projects under this section based on criteria and guidelines determined and published by the Commission under section 102.

(2) PRIORITY.—In selecting eligible entities under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities planning to perform projects that will serve areas with the greatest need.

(e) NON-FEDERAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), in order to receive funds under this section, an eligible entity shall provide funds for a project in an amount that is equal to not less than 25 percent of the amount of funds provided under this section.

(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive all or part of the matching requirement under paragraph (1) for an eligible entity, especially an eligible entity performing a project benefitting a low-income community or an environmental justice community, if the Secretary determines that—

(A) there are no reasonable means available through which the eligible entity can meet the matching requirement; or

(B) the probable benefit of the project outweighs the public interest of the matching requirement.

(3) NO-MATCH PROJECTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award not less than 10 percent and not more than 40 percent of the total funds awarded under this section to eligible entities to which the matching requirement under paragraph (1) shall not apply.

(B) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority for funding under subparagraph (A) to an eligible entity performing a project in a community experiencing a disproportionate impact of climate change, including—

(i) an environmental justice community;

(ii) a low-income community; or

(iii) a community of color.

(f) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to waive the requirements of any Federal law or regulation that would otherwise apply to a project that receives funds under this section.

**SEC. 202. COMPLIANCE WITH DAVIS-BACON ACT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—All laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by, or assisted in whole or in part by and through, the Fund shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of part A of title 40, United States Code.

(b) LABOR STANDARDS.—With respect to the labor standards described in this section, the Secretary of Labor shall have the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1267; 5 U.S.C. App.) and section 3145 of title 40, United States Code.

**SEC. 203. FUNDING.**

To carry out the program under section 201(b), the Secretary, in addition to amounts in the Fund, may use amounts that have been made available to the Secretary and are not otherwise obligated.

**TITLE III—REVENUE**

**SEC. 301. CLIMATE CHANGE OBLIGATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate (referred to in this title as

the “Secretary”) shall issue obligations under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code (referred to in this title as “climate change obligations”), the proceeds from which shall be deposited in the Fund.

(b) FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.—Payment of interest and principal with respect to any climate change obligation issued under this section shall be made from the general fund of the Treasury of the United States and shall be backed by the full faith and credit of the United States.

(c) EXEMPTION FROM LOCAL TAXATION.—All climate change obligations issued by the Secretary, and the interest on or credits with respect to such obligations, shall not be subject to taxation by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority.

(d) AMOUNT OF CLIMATE CHANGE OBLIGATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the aggregate face amount of the climate change obligations issued annually under this section shall be \$200,000,000.

(2) ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—For any calendar year in which all of the obligations issued pursuant to paragraph (1) have been purchased, the Secretary may issue additional climate change obligations during such calendar year, provided that the aggregate face amount of such additional obligations does not exceed \$800,000,000.

(e) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall use funds made available to the Secretary and not otherwise obligated to carry out the purposes of this section.

**SEC. 302. PROMOTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promote the purchase of climate change obligations through such means as are determined appropriate by the Secretary, with the amount expended for such promotion not to exceed \$10,000,000 for any fiscal year during the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

(b) DONATED ADVERTISING.—In addition to any advertising paid for with funds made available under subsection (c), the Secretary shall solicit and may accept the donation of advertising relating to the sale of climate change obligations.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For each fiscal year during the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2028, there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this section.

**SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**

**SENATE RESOLUTION 487—COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION**

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

**S. RES. 487**

Whereas the American Battle Monuments Commission, also known as the “ABMC”, was founded by Congress on March 4, 1923, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of the United States Armed Forces through perpetually maintained cemeteries and memorials;

Whereas the American Battle Monuments Commission, for 100 years, has maintained the vision of General of the Armies John J. Pershing that “time will not dim the glory of their deeds”;

Whereas, in 1927, then-Major Dwight D. Eisenhower, of Abilene, Kansas, was assigned to the American Battle Monuments Commission and helped compose “A Guide to the

American Battle Fields in Europe'', which he later helped to revise and expand to "American Armies and Battlefields in Europe: A History, Guide, and Reference Book'', a guidebook for Americans traveling overseas to visit battle sites, cemeteries, and memorials of World War I;

Whereas, in 1928 and 1929, during the revision and expansion of that guidebook in Paris, France, then-Major Eisenhower gained critical geographic and cultural knowledge of Europe that would prove crucial during World War II;

Whereas, in 1944, during World War II, the temporary American St. Laurent Cemetery was established as the first American cemetery on European soil, eventually becoming the Normandy American Cemetery, which is the most visited cemetery maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission;

Whereas, in 2023, the American Battle Monuments Commission celebrates 100 years of service to members of our Armed Forces and their families;

Whereas the workforce of the American Battle Monuments Commission is comprised of dedicated civil service professionals and locally engaged staff in countries around the globe;

Whereas the American Battle Monuments Commission administers, operates, and maintains 26 permanent American military cemeteries and 32 Federal memorials, monuments, and markers, which are located in 17 foreign countries and territories, primarily commemorating the American war dead from World War I and World War II;

Whereas approximately 124,000 American war dead are buried in cemeteries operated by the American Battle Monuments Commission, and more than 94,000 Americans who were lost, missing in action, or buried at sea during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War are remembered by name on stone tablets at cemeteries and memorials maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission; and

Whereas the American Battle Monuments Commission seeks to educate the public on the history and sacrifices of members of the Armed Forces of the United States honored at cemeteries and memorials around the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the century of service by the American Battle Monuments Commission and their personnel who have worked to honor the service and sacrifices of our fallen warriors and those who fought at their side;

(2) commends the work done by the American Battle Monuments Commission to oversee and execute commemorative events at cemeteries and memorials, especially for the benefit of veterans and families who return to those sacred grounds on milestone anniversaries or dates of personal significance;

(3) supports the efforts of the American Battle Monuments Commission to educate the coming generations, young Americans, and young people from around the world on the sacrifices made by those American soldiers, sailors, aviators, Marines, and members of the Coast Guard who died during military service and are buried or memorialized on the sacred grounds they steward;

(4) encourages all people of the United States to visit and pay their respects to those interred in cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission overseas who died fighting against tyranny;

(5) lauds the continued mission carried out with excellence by the American Battle Monuments Commission; and

(6) wishes the American Battle Monuments Commission continued success for another 100 years and beyond.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 488—RECOGNIZING JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES FOR HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE OF TRULY GREAT PROMISE IN THE UNITED STATES SUCCEED IN SCHOOL, ON THE JOB, AND IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, LEADING TO GENERATIONS OF PRODUCTIVE AND REWARDING CAREERS

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 488

Whereas Jobs for America's Graduates (referred to in this preamble as "JAG") is a State-based national nonprofit organization dedicated to serving youth who face significant challenges and helping them reach economic and academic success;

Whereas Jobs for Delaware Graduates was founded and tested in 1979 in the State of Delaware with the bipartisan leadership of Governor Pete du Pont and members of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware, and became the model for the creation of JAG;

Whereas JAG has served over 1,600,000 young people since its inception in 1980;

Whereas JAG has affiliates across 39 States and territories, including Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, the United States Virgin Islands, West Virginia, and Wisconsin;

Whereas the Board of Directors of JAG is made up of leading Governors, executives of Fortune 500 companies, and national community leaders;

Whereas the JAG model consists of a comprehensive set of services designed to keep young people in school through graduation and improves their success rates in education and career by—

- (1) providing classroom instruction;
- (2) delivering competency-based instruction that seeks to equip students with not less than 37 JAG Employability Skills competencies;
- (3) providing project-based learning;
- (4) using trauma-informed care;
- (5) advising students as they make significant career and life decisions during the school year and beyond;
- (6) exposing students to job opportunities and career pathways in their own communities;
- (7) developing student civic engagement, public service, leadership development, career preparation, and social awareness;
- (8) helping graduates identify job opportunities and post-secondary education; and
- (9) helping to ensure that young people achieve success at work and in postsecondary education during the year following graduation;

Whereas JAG participants have regularly achieved higher than 90 percent graduation rates since the establishment of JAG, and a 95 percent graduation rate since 2019;

Whereas, every year, JAG meets the goals of employers in having well-prepared young people enter the workforce; and

Whereas the JAG National Student Leadership Academy will take place from November 30, 2023, to December 2, 2023, with more than 250 elected student officers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the significant accomplishments of the members, volunteers, alumni, and community partners of Jobs for America's Graduates in helping at-risk youth reach economic and academic success; and

(2) congratulates the young people enrolled in 2023 across 39 States in Jobs for America's Graduates.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 489—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 16, 2023, AS "NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY"

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 489

Whereas 32 years before the date of adoption, the Wreaths Across America project began with an annual tradition that occurs in December of donating, transporting, and placing 5,000 Maine balsam fir veterans' remembrance wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, in the past 32 years, more than 17,100,000 wreaths have been sent to various locations, including national cemeteries and veterans' memorials in every State and overseas;

Whereas the mission of the Wreaths Across America project, to "Remember, Honor, and Teach", is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and overseas, including at—

- (1) Arlington National Cemetery;
- (2) veterans' cemeteries; and
- (3) other memorial locations;

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project carries out a week-long veterans' parade between Maine and Virginia, stopping along the way to spread a message about the importance of—

- (1) remembering the fallen heroes of the United States;
- (2) honoring those who serve; and
- (3) teaching the next generation of children about the service and sacrifices made by our veterans and their families to preserve freedoms enjoyed by all in the United States;

Whereas, in 2022, approximately 2,700,000 veterans' remembrance wreaths were delivered to over 3,700 locations across the United States;

Whereas, in December 2023, the tradition of escorting tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine, to Arlington National Cemetery, will be continued by—

- (1) the Patriot Guard Riders; and
- (2) other patriotic escort units, including—
  - (A) motorcycle units;
  - (B) law enforcement units; and
  - (C) first responder units;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals volunteer each December to help lay veterans' wreaths;

Whereas the trucking industry in the United States will continue to support the Wreaths Across America project by providing drivers, equipment, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the United States to more than 4,000 locations;

Whereas the Senate designated December 17, 2022, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; and

Whereas, on December 16, 2023, the Wreaths Across America project will continue the proud legacy of bringing veterans' wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—