

Reservation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-130).

S. 595. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna in the Rio San Jose Stream System and the Pueblos of Jemez and Zia in the Rio Jemez Stream System in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-131).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1088. A bill to authorize the relinquishment and in lieu selection of land and minerals in the State of North Dakota, to restore land and minerals to Indian Tribes within the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-132).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 1097. A bill to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in the States of California and Arizona, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-133).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1277. A bill to modify the boundary of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-134).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 1657. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to La Paz County, Arizona, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-135).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1760. A bill to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-136).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 3464. A bill to support endemic fungal disease research, incentivize fungal vaccine development, discover new antifungal therapies and diagnostics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 3465. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply a 6 percent excise tax on large endowments of certain private colleges and universities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. THUNE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 3466. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress reports regarding security and safety at facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 3467. A bill to require a certain percentage of natural gas and crude oil exports be

transported on United States-built and United States-flag vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3468. A bill to require rulemaking by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to address considerations in evaluating the need for public and individual disaster assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 3469. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a grocery, farm, and food worker stabilization grant program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 3470. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to permit a State to include as part of the mail voter registration form a requirement that applicants provide proof of citizenship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 3471. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a report on the fertilizer industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 3472. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain land, Dillard Road, Patoka Lake, Indiana, to the State of Indiana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3473. A bill to extend the prohibition on providing airport improvement grant funds to certain entities that have violated intellectual property rights of United States entities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3474. A bill to redesignate the Hulls Cove Visitor Center at Acadia National Park as the "George J. Mitchell, Jr., Visitor Center"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3475. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Transportation to designate an authorized operator of the commercial driver's license information system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3476. A bill to monitor United States investments in entities that are controlled by foreign adversaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 3477. A bill to increase access to higher education by providing public transit grants; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3478. A bill to require agencies that use, fund, or oversee algorithms to have an office

of civil rights focused on bias, discrimination, and other harms of algorithms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 3479. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for regional commissions, to reauthorize the Southwest Border Regional Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 493. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the peaceful, democratic, and economic aspirations of the people of Sri Lanka; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 494. A resolution expressing the need for the Federal Government to establish a national biodiversity strategy for protecting biodiversity for current and future generations; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 495. A resolution honoring the 30th anniversary of the partnership between the State of Nebraska and the Czech Republic under the State Partnership Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1

At the request of Mrs. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1, a bill to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes.

S. 8

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 8, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand eligibility for the refundable credit for coverage under a qualified health plan, to improve cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes.

S. 22

At the request of Ms. BUTLER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 22, a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington.

S. 45

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 45, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify reporting requirements, promote tax

compliance, and reduce tip reporting compliance burdens in the beauty service industry.

S. 312

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 312, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 359, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 448

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 448, a bill to codify the existing Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 630

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 630, a bill to establish a democracy advancement and innovation program, and for other purposes.

S. 1097

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1097, a bill to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in the States of California and Arizona, and for other purposes.

S. 1138

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1138, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to require a reduction of financed emissions to protect financial stability, and for other purposes.

S. 1294

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1294, a bill to provide for payment rates for durable medical equipment under the Medicare program.

S. 1307

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1307, a bill to ensure that students in schools have a right to read, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1467

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1467, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1467, supra.

S. 1610

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1610, a bill to authorize administrative absences and travel and transportation allowances for members of the Armed Forces to travel and obtain reproductive health care.

S. 1643

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1643, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program to provide grants and loans to support and expand the domestic solar component manufacturing supply chain, and for other purposes.

S. 1700

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1700, a bill to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes.

S. 1756

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1756, a bill to amend the Farm Credit Act of 1971 to support the commercial fishing industry.

S. 1776

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1776, a bill to provide for the protection of and investment in certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited provisional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs and biological products, and for other purposes.

S. 1950

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1950, a bill to extend the temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

S. 1975

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1975, a bill to require a GAO

study on the compliance of discharge review boards with statutory provisions and directives related to liberal consideration of certain conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 1978

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1978, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to develop requirements for military tenant advocates for privatized military housing, and for other purposes.

S. 2053

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2053, a bill to protect freedom of travel and reproductive rights.

S. 2207

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2207, a bill to provide enhanced funding for family planning services.

S. 2253

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2253, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide increased labor law protections for agricultural workers, and for other purposes.

S. 2257

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes.

S. 2323

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2323, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of services furnished by genetic counselors under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2484

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2484, a bill to ensure that States do not prohibit an individual from obtaining, possessing, distributing, or using life-saving drug testing technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 2496

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers.

S. 2569

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2569, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify that the possession, sale, purchase, importation, exportation, or transportation of drug testing equipment that tests for the presence of fentanyl or xylazine is not unlawful.

S. 2623

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2623, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to harmonize the effective dates of all rules that the Secretary is required to issue under the Corporate Transparency Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2638

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2638, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives, by investing in effective community-based violence reduction initiatives, and for other purposes.

S. 2740

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2740, a bill to help small businesses prepare for and combat cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 2843

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2843, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for same day voter registration.

S. 2960

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2960, a bill to modify certain notice requirements, to study certain election requirements, to clarify certain election requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 2976

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2976, a bill to ensure that expenses relating to the acquisition or use of devices for use in the detection of fentanyl, xylazine, and other emerging

adulterant substances, including test strips are allowable expenses under certain grant programs.

S. 3047

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 3047, a bill to award payments to employees of Air America who provided support to the United States from 1950 to 1976, and for other purposes.

S. 3193

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3193, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow for the use of telehealth in substance use disorder treatment, and for other purposes.

S. 3291

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3291, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 3348

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3348, a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes.

S. 3362

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3362, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional information in disclosures of foreign gifts and contracts from foreign sources, restrict contracts with certain foreign entities and foreign countries of concern, require certain staff and faculty to report foreign gifts and contracts, and require disclosure of certain foreign investments within endowments.

S. 3426

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3426, a bill to reauthorize the YouthBuild program, and for other purposes.

S. 3440

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3440, a bill to prohibit the sale and distribution of expanded polystyrene food service ware, expanded polystyrene loose fill, and expanded polystyrene coolers, and for other purposes.

S. 3456

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Virginia

(Mr. KAINE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3456, a bill to provide a retroactive effective date for the promotions of senior officers of the Armed Forces whose military promotions were delayed as a result of the suspension of Senate confirmation of such promotions.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S.J. RES. 49

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 49, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to a "Standard for Determining Joint Employer Status".

S. RES. 333

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 333, a resolution designating 2024 as the Year of Democracy as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of Government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

S. RES. 385

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 385, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Evan Gershkovich, a United States citizen and journalist, who was wrongfully detained by the Government of the Russian Federation in March 2023.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3468. A bill to require rulemaking by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to address considerations in evaluating the need for public and individual disaster assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 3468

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fairness in Federal Disaster Declarations Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. REGULATORY ACTION REQUIRED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (in this Act referred to as the “Administrator”) shall amend the rules of the Administrator under section 206.48 of title 44, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(b) NEW CRITERIA REQUIRED.—The amended rules issued under subsection (a) shall provide for the following:

(1) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Such rules shall provide that, with respect to the evaluation of the need for public assistance—

(A) specific weighted valuations shall be assigned to each criterion, including—

(i) estimated cost of the assistance, 10 percent;

(ii) localized impacts, 40 percent;

(iii) insurance coverage in force, 10 percent;

(iv) hazard mitigation, 10 percent;

(v) recent multiple disasters, 10 percent;

(vi) programs of other Federal assistance, 10 percent; and

(vii) economic circumstances described in subparagraph (B), 10 percent; and

(B) the Administrator shall consider the economic circumstances of—

(i) the local economy of the area affected by the disaster, including factors such as the local assessable tax base and local sales tax, the median income as it compares to that of the State, and the poverty rate as it compares to that of the State; and

(ii) the economy of the State, including factors such as the unemployment rate of the State, as compared to the national unemployment rate.

(2) INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Such rules shall provide that, with respect to the evaluation of the severity, magnitude, and impact of the disaster and the evaluation of the need for assistance to individuals—

(A) specific weighted valuations shall be assigned to each criterion, including—

(i) concentration of damages, 20 percent;

(ii) trauma, 20 percent;

(iii) special populations, 20 percent;

(iv) voluntary agency assistance, 10 percent;

(v) insurance, 20 percent;

(vi) average amount of individual assistance by State, 5 percent; and

(vii) economic considerations described in subparagraph (B), 5 percent; and

(B) the Administrator shall consider the economic circumstances of the area affected by the disaster, including factors such as the local assessable tax base and local sales tax, the median income as it compares to that of the State, and the poverty rate as it compares to that of the State.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amended rules issued under subsection (a) shall apply to any disaster for which a Governor requested a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) that was denied on or after January 1, 2012.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 493—EX-
PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE IN SUPPORT OF THE
PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC, AND
ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS OF THE
PEOPLE OF SRI LANKA

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

S. RES. 493

Whereas, in recent years, Sri Lanka has undergone a political, economic, and humanitarian crisis causing millions of Sri Lankans to live in dire conditions, with the World Food Program estimating that 17 percent of the population is experiencing food insecurity and severe shortages of medicine and fuel;

Whereas the crisis in Sri Lanka stems from factors such as corruption, financial mismanagement, and failures in the rule of law, further exacerbated by the Government of Sri Lanka entering into expensive projects involving predatory lending by entities associated with the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, beginning in March 2022, tens of thousands of Sri Lankans participated in largely peaceful protests lasting more than 100 days, leading to the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and the appointment of Ranil Wickremesinghe as the new President of Sri Lanka;

Whereas the Wickremesinghe government, citing economic constraints, indefinitely postponed local elections scheduled for March 9, 2023, in violation of the Constitution of Sri Lanka;

Whereas, on February 20, 2023, thousands of largely peaceful protestors demonstrated against the decision to postpone local elections, to which the Sri Lankan police responded by firing tear gas and water cannons;

Whereas the Government of Sri Lanka continues to repress dissent and protest, conduct surveillance and harass members of civil society, and use the Prevention of Terrorism Act to target political opposition members of ethnic and religious minority groups, activists, and journalists;

Whereas the Government of Sri Lanka continues to participate in and facilitate the illegal appropriation of land in the North and East, areas of historical habitation of Tamil speaking peoples and various ethnic and religious groups;

Whereas the Government of Sri Lanka refuses to conduct transparent and independent investigations into credible allegations of corruption, historic atrocities, and other gross violations of human rights against Sinhalese, Tamil, and Muslim communities, and the United Nations and others have recognized that longstanding impunity for corruption and other human rights viola-

tions and abuses is a root cause of the current crisis and that many actors responsible for the current crisis have been implicated in abuses dating back to the civil war and the JVP insurrection;

Whereas, for more than 30 years, Sri Lanka was enveloped in a civil war in which, according to United Nations reports, tens of thousands of Sri Lankans died and thousands more were raped, tortured, forcibly disappeared, or went missing;

Whereas United Nations reports maintain that members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and members of the Government and security services of Sri Lanka were implicated in horrific atrocities and human rights violations and abuses against Sri Lankan civilians during the civil war;

Whereas, on multiple occasions, the Government of Sri Lanka has publicly committed to pursuing meaningful justice and accountability for conflict-related crimes and grievances, including in President Mahinda Rajapaksa's May 2009 joint statement with United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and in the government of then-Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's cosponsoring of United Nations Human Rights Council resolution 30/1, committing to a holistic transitional justice strategy, including a commission for truth, justice, reconciliation, and non-recurrence and a judicial mechanism to prosecute violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law;

Whereas, in January 2016, under then-Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, the Government of Sri Lanka established a Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation Mechanisms led by respected members of Sri Lankan civil society, which spoke to more than 7,000 Sri Lankans and issued a 700-page report with findings and recommendations about what the Sri Lankan people wanted from the Sri Lankan government in relation to justice and reconciliation, including recommendations supporting international involvement in certain transitional justice mechanisms;

Whereas successive Sri Lankan governments have failed to live up to those commitments and address the desire of Sri Lankan victims and survivors for meaningful justice and accountability for the atrocities, and in March 2020, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's administration withdrew the Government of Sri Lanka's commitment to implement Human Rights Council resolution 30/1;

Whereas the majority of the LTTE leadership were killed or disappeared during the civil war and therefore cannot stand trial for their crimes, and despite evidence implicating Sri Lankan government officials and security forces in atrocity crimes committed against Sri Lankan civilians during the war, no such officials or forces have faced justice for their crimes;

Whereas, in 2020, 2021, and 2022, the Department of State imposed visa restrictions against Sri Lankan officials for their involvement in gross violations of human rights, including torture and inhumane punishment during the civil war, but successive Sri Lankan governments have promoted and empowered those same individuals;

Whereas, in 2021 and 2022, the United States cosponsored United Nations Human Rights Council resolutions 46/1 and 51/1, mandating that the United Nations collect, analyze, and preserve information and evidence of gross violations of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law in Sri Lanka for future accountability processes; and

Whereas, in September 2023, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,