

(4) promotes the establishment and expansion of quality mentoring programs across the United States to equip young people with the tools needed to lead healthy and productive lives; and

(5) supports initiatives to close the “mentoring gap” that exists for the many young people in the United States who do not have meaningful connections with adults outside the home.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 25—PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2872

Mrs. MURRAY submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 25

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That, in the enrollment of H.R. 2872, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall amend the title so as to read: “Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I have five 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 authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

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, January 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 1:45 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, after Barack Obama selected Joe Biden

to be his Vice President in 2008, one newspaper columnist labeled him “Tehran’s favorite Senator.” Well, Tehran’s favorite Senator has now become Tehran’s favorite President.

Since taking office, Joe Biden has taken every opportunity to enrich and empower Iran and its terrorist proxies. There is, perhaps, no greater single example of this than his obscene coddling of the Iranian-backed Yemeni terrorists known as the Houthis.

These barbarians with rockets have kidnapped, tortured, and murdered American citizens—along with shooting down American aircraft. They have attacked our allies and slaughtered Yemeni civilians. The Houthi motto isn’t subtle: “God is Great, Death to America, Death to Israel, A curse upon the Jews, Victory to Islam.” And in case anyone missed it, they also put it on their flag. Yet in his first days in office, Joe Biden removed the Houthis from the list of foreign terrorist organizations.

The Houthis quickly rewarded this one-sided, unreciprocated generosity by launching a major military offensive against our friends in Saudi Arabia. At that point, Joe Biden could have simply admitted that he had made a mistake and redesignated the Houthis as a foreign terrorist organization. He refused.

In the 2 years since, the Houthis raked in money, expanded their territorial control, and stockpiled Iranian-supplied weapons. Unencumbered by American terrorist designation, they gathered their strength and waited for an opportunity to live out their creed of, again, “Death to America, Death to Israel, A curse upon the Jews.”

After the October 7 atrocities in Israel, they saw that opportunity. Less than 2 weeks after the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the end of the Holocaust, the Houthis began launching missiles at the Jewish State. In November, the Houthis then began hijacking ships and launching missiles and drones at both civilian and U.S. naval vessels—all in an attempt to put pressure on Israel and protect their terrorist brothers in Hamas.

Since November, the Houthis have attacked American and allied forces and international shipping an estimated 45 times, launching an estimated 31 missiles, 94 drones, and 1 drone ship.

Yet, the President and his team of Iran accomplices, appeasers, and accommodators stood by for a month and a half as these terrorists attacked with impunity.

When the administration finally did take action last week, its weak, pinprick airstrikes only took out a small fraction of the Houthis’s offensive capabilities. Even the New York Times acknowledged in a headline that “Much of Houthis’ Offensive Ability Remains Intact After U.S.-Led Airstrikes.”

The least this administration could do is to redesignate the Houthis as a

foreign terrorist organization. Yet Joe Biden refuses even to fix that mistake.

Americans are dead, but Joe Biden’s pride and his ambition for a grand rapprochement with Iran are, apparently, more important to him and his aides than American lives.

Instead, President Biden has opted to label the Houthis a “specially designated global terrorist group.” Well, that sounds like progress, but unlike the previous foreign terrorist organization designation, this designation includes no prohibition on Houthi travel and no sanctions on entities providing materiel support for these terrorists. How convenient for the ayatollahs in Iran. And this designation won’t even take effect for 30 more days, giving the Houthis time to clear out their bank accounts and to sanction-proof their operations.

And most amazing and most unforgivable of all, the administration also announced waivers for even these weak and limited sanctions. These waivers allow the Yemeni terrorists to keep receiving food, medicine, fuel, personal remittances, telecommunications and mail, and to maintain port and airport operations.

Perhaps it makes sense that those in this administration don’t want to punish groups and individuals providing materiel support for the Houthi terrorists. They would have to turn themselves in after 3 years of appeasement and conciliation.

This administration must reverse course in the Middle East, redesignate the Houthis as a foreign terrorist organization, and put real pressure on Iran and its terrorist proxies, not Swiss cheese-like sanctions designed only for a good 1-day headline. Anything less is a betrayal of the American people, their interests, and our allies.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2872

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 25.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 25) providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2872.

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

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I further ask that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion 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 concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 25) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MARCH FOR LIFE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, as they have for 50 years now—in rain, in cold, sunshine and snow—pro-life Americans will take to the streets of Washington, DC, tomorrow to march for life. They come by the tens of thousands from all across the country, in buses, in cars, and on planes. Young people—so many young people—and Americans of every age, from every walk of life, come to Washington, DC, for a simple reason: to testify to the truth enshrined in our declaration, that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, and among those are the right to life, to liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

And that right to life applies to every person, not just those the pro-abortion movement thinks should be allowed to be born—every person, born and unborn.

At some level, I think everyone knows the truth of what abortion is: the killing of an innocent human being. The pro-abortion movement and the Democratic Party—unfortunately, one and the same these days—have tried to obscure this truth. They do everything they can to avoid talking about the reality of the issue. But I think even they are well aware that when we are talking about abortion, we are talking about the killing of a human being.

I think they are well aware that a 7-pound unborn baby is just as human and just as worthy of life as a 7-pound baby who has already been born. But although I think everyone knows the reality of the issue, it can be easy to ignore or forget the fact that every year in this country, hundreds of thousands of babies are being killed by abortion.

And when I say "hundreds of thousands," I mean hundreds of thousands. The pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute reports that "In the first 10 months of 2023, there were an estimated 878,000 abortions in the formal U.S. healthcare system"—878,000. To put that number in perspective, 878,000 is more than the entire population of some U.S. States. That is a lot of lives lost, a lot of love lost; and we cannot afford to forget that this is happening.

And, every year, the March for Life provides us with the powerful reminder. The March for Life is a vast assembly of Pro-lifers and, as I said, a powerful witness.

But it is just one facet of the pro-life movement. An even bigger work, an even bigger focus, I might add, of the pro-life movement is offering hope and help to moms in need. That goes on every day in every State around the country at pregnancy resource centers, at maternity homes, where moms have

access to the resources they need to care for their babies and to get on their feet—at churches, on college campuses, and in many other places. Supporting moms and babies is what the pro-life movement does, and it is what it will continue to do no matter how many obstacles are placed in its way.

Madam President, I am committed to doing everything I can in Washington to protect babies and to support the work of the pro-life movement, whether that is opposing pro-abortion rules from the administration or working to advance legislation like my Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which would require that babies born alive during a botched abortion be granted the same medical care as any other baby would be.

I am grateful to all of my colleagues who stand up for life here in Congress and the countless Americans who spend each day standing up for moms and their babies.

Today, I want to especially thank all of those who will march through the streets of Washington tomorrow to remind us all of the reality of abortion and the importance of defending the right to life.

Given the grim reality of abortion, it would be no surprise if the mood at the March for Life each year were somber. But I am always struck by the hope and enthusiasm that emanates from so many of the marchers, especially the young people. I think it is because the marchers know that no matter how long and how hard the battle, at the end of the day, life will win.

I firmly believe that, and I look forward to the day when we fully live up to our founding principles and ensure that the right to life of every American, born and unborn, is respected.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, it is January. It is cold outside. In fact, it is snowing outside here in Washington, DC, today and tomorrow. It is late January, which means what it has meant for the last five decades: Pro-life Americans will gather by the hundreds of thousands in Washington, DC, and will converge on this city to say: We think every child is valuable.

Now, I have to tell you, every march I have been to—and I have been to a lot—they are all cold. They don't all have snow. This one will, but it won't dampen the spirits for a lot of students, leaders, moms, dads, and little ones who will come just to be able to say: We are in America, and we think life is valuable. We think children are precious. We think this is an important issue.

We haven't always had a March for Life. We had one for 50 years, actually. Interestingly enough, when Nellie Gray and some other pro-life leaders organized the March for Life starting after 1973—after the Roe v. Wade decision—they were recognizing an anomaly in American law.

Our Nation has been a nation almost 250 years, but abortion was only mandated in every State and every place just during that short time period under Roe v. Wade. For the other two centuries of our Nation, this issue about the value of life was decided in every State and among the people.

That is what has occurred again. We still have abortion in America. It is happening all over the country. But individuals are rising up and saying: Our State, our leaders, and even this Congress needs to have a conversation about when is a child a child and when does a child become valuable in our culture and when is a child disposable in our culture, and which child can be disposed of and which child is celebrated.

I love this side-by-side picture here. I don't know if you can really see it. This is an ultrasound that is actually happening in the womb, with this baby in this position with arms up over her head.

And a baby sleeps like that. In fact, both of my daughters often slept like that. We called that the "touchdown position," when their hands were raised over their head. It is funny to be able to see this picture and ultrasound of this child in the womb sleeping just like the same way they would later sleep in the crib.

Do you know why? Because there is no difference between these two babies. That is a baby then, and that is a baby then. The only difference is time. The only difference between myself right now and myself 9 months ago was time—9 months of time. The only difference between this child in the womb and that child lying in a crib is just a little bit of time.

There are literally millions of Americans who have this very simple perspective. We should—as the march says this year—march with every woman, for every child, and we should stand up for those individuals and to be able to honor those families. We march in support of pregnancy resource centers, those folks who are walking with women through very difficult decisions and through very hard moments.

There was a recent study done on pregnancy resource centers in just 2022 that found that \$359 million were donated to individuals through pregnancy resource centers all over the country. Those are diapers and wipes. Those are baby formulas. That is car seats. That is free ultrasounds. That is free pregnancy tests. That is after-abortion support. And, sometimes, it is strollers and clothes.

A vast majority of those individuals who work at these pregnancy resource centers are heroes, volunteers who give their time. They have full-time jobs, tasks with families and in other places, but they value every single child, even the children they don't know and love. They would donate their time and their money and their effort just to be able to say that child is just as valuable as that child; and that, in America, we