

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 3982. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish the Expanding Access to Local Foods Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. REED. Madam President, today I am introducing the Expanding Access to EAT Local Foods Act with Senators BROWN, BOOKER, WYDEN, BUTLER, WHITEHOUSE, KING, BLUMENTHAL, SMITH, SHAHEEN, WARREN, FETTERMAN, and WELCH. This bill would create a permanent grant program for State and Tribal governments to procure local foods for distribution to nearby hunger relief programs.

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted national supply chains and highlighted the importance of resilient, local food systems. In response, the U.S. Department of Agriculture created the Local Food Purchase Cooperative Agreement, LFPA, Program, using nearly \$900 million in one-time funds. Through LFPA, USDA has awarded grants to State and Tribal governments to buy local foods for distribution to nearby feeding programs. LFPA provides as access to food for those in need, creates economic opportunity for local and underserved producers, farmers, and fishermen, and strengthens our food supply chains.

This program is making a positive impact in communities across the country. In my home State of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management has worked with the nonprofit Farm Fresh Rhode Island to purchase food from 95 local producers, distributing that nutritious, local food to over 65,000 Rhode Islanders.

However, unless codified in law, this program will end when the one-time LFPA dollars are fully expended. And without sustained investment, we will lose the resilient local food systems that the LFPA program has been able to create.

The EAT Local Foods Act prevents us from losing ground by creating a permanent program for States and Tribes to purchase food from producers within their State's geographic bounds or within 400 miles of the final delivery destination for distribution through the hunger relief system.

This is a win-win-win. First, the bill supports local economic development by providing local producers with access to the hunger relief market. By establishing a new, reliable stream of orders for small, beginning, and underserved farmers, ranchers, and fishers, the bill will give these businesses the financial security to invest and further expand. Second, the bill would strengthen our domestic agriculture

supply chain. By investing in local food distribution, the bill would help build local businesses that support durable and resilient local food systems. Third, the EAT Local Foods Act would help combat food insecurity by providing fresh, nutritious, local food to underserved communities, feeding more families and helping ease the strain on the hunger relief system.

I am pleased that the bill is supported by farmers, food hubs, coalitions, and business networks from across the country, including the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, the National Center for Frontier Communities, and the Wallace Center at Winrock International. In Rhode Island, the bill is supported by the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Farm Fresh Rhode Island, the Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Food Policy Council, and Southside Community Land Trust. I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and in working to include it in the farm bill.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KING, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3991. A bill to expand the scope of the Do Not Call rules under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act to include all telephone subscribers, and to expand the private right of action for calls in violation of those rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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. 3991

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 "Protecting American Consumers from Robocalls Act".

SEC. 2. EXPANDING SCOPE OF DO NOT CALL RULES AND PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 227(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 227(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "residential";

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "residential"; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking "residential"; and

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "more than one telephone call within any 12-month period by or on behalf of the same entity" and inserting "a telephone call by or on behalf of an entity"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking "up to".

(b) REVISED REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall revise the regulations prescribed under section 227(c) of the Communications

Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 227(c)) as necessary to implement the amendments made by subsection (a) of this section.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 3997. A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in basic science research; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

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

S. 3997

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 "American Innovation Act".

SEC. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR INNOVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, and appropriated, out of any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the following:

(1) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—For the National Science Foundation—

(A) for fiscal year 2025, \$9,741,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2026, \$10,460,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2027, \$11,213,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2028, \$12,019,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2029, \$12,886,000,000;

(F) for fiscal year 2030, \$13,817,000,000;

(G) for fiscal year 2031, \$14,817,000,000;

(H) for fiscal year 2032, \$15,891,000,000;

(I) for fiscal year 2033, \$17,043,000,000;

(J) for fiscal year 2034, \$18,280,000,000; and

(K) for fiscal year 2035 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during the previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(2) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, OFFICE OF SCIENCE.—For the Office of Science at the Department of Energy—

(A) for fiscal year 2025, \$8,859,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2026, \$9,513,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2027, \$10,199,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2028, \$10,931,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2029, \$11,720,000,000;

(F) for fiscal year 2030, \$12,566,000,000;

(G) for fiscal year 2031, \$13,476,000,000;

(H) for fiscal year 2032, \$14,452,000,000;

(I) for fiscal year 2033, \$15,501,000,000;

(J) for fiscal year 2034, \$16,625,000,000; and

(K) for fiscal year 2035 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during the previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(3) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.—For the Department of Defense science and technology programs—

(A) for fiscal year 2025, \$21,897,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2026, \$23,512,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2027, \$25,207,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2028, \$27,018,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2029, \$28,966,000,000;

(F) for fiscal year 2030, \$31,059,000,000;

(G) for fiscal year 2031, \$33,307,000,000;

(H) for fiscal year 2032, \$35,721,000,000;

(I) for fiscal year 2033, \$38,312,000,000;

(J) for fiscal year 2034, \$41,091,000,000; and

(K) for fiscal year 2035 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under

this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during the previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(4) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES.—For the scientific and technical research and services of the National Institute of Standards and Technology at the Department of Commerce—

(A) for fiscal year 2025, \$1,161,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2026, \$1,247,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2027, \$1,337,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2028, \$1,433,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2029, \$1,536,000,000;

(F) for fiscal year 2030, \$1,647,000,000;

(G) for fiscal year 2031, \$1,766,000,000;

(H) for fiscal year 2032, \$1,894,000,000;

(I) for fiscal year 2033, \$2,032,000,000;

(J) for fiscal year 2034, \$2,179,000,000; and

(K) for fiscal year 2035 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during the previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(5) NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE.—For the Science Mission Directorate at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration—

(A) for fiscal year 2025, \$7,885,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2026, \$8,467,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2027, \$9,077,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2028, \$9,729,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2029, \$10,431,000,000;

(F) for fiscal year 2030, \$11,185,000,000;

(G) for fiscal year 2031, \$11,994,000,000;

(H) for fiscal year 2032, \$12,863,000,000;

(I) for fiscal year 2033, \$13,796,000,000;

(J) for fiscal year 2034, \$14,797,000,000; and

(K) for fiscal year 2035 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during the previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated under subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.—The term “Department of Defense science and technology programs” means the appropriations accounts that support the various institutes, offices, and centers that make up the Department of Defense science and technology programs.

(2) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The term “National Science Foundation” means the appropriations accounts that support the various institutes, offices, and centers that make up the National Science Foundation.

(3) OFFICE OF SCIENCE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—The term “Office of Science at the Department of Energy” means the appropriations accounts that support the various institutes, offices, and centers that make up the Department of Energy Office of Science.

(4) SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE AT THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Science Mission Directorate at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration” means the appropriations accounts that support the various institutes, offices, and centers that make up the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Science Mission Directorate.

(5) SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—The term “scientific and technical research and services of the National Institute of Standards and Technology” means the appropriations accounts that support the various institutes,

offices, and centers that make up the National Institute of Standards and Technology scientific and technical research and services.

(d) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS FROM SEQUESTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting after “Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund and Other Funds (16-0327–0–1–600)” the following:

“Appropriations under the American Innovation Act.”

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to any sequestration order issued under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—

(1) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this section shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(d)).

(2) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this section shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4000. A bill to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce legislation to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California.

This legislation would provide clarity that the Lytton Rancheria of California is able to place land into trust via the Department of the Interior's standard land-to-trust process, 25 CFR part 151.

The Lytton Rancheria would like to place additional land into trust in order to build a proper homeland and provide housing for their members. The bill is needed to clarify that Lytton Rancheria is subject to the Indian Reorganization Act and, just like other Tribal governments, is able to put land into trust through the administrative process.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 598—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE SENATE TO WORK ALONGSIDE THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS TO BUILD THE BLACK WEALTH AGENDA AND OUTLINE THE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES TO ACHIEVE THE BLACK WEALTH AGENDA

Ms. BUTLER (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 598

Whereas 2022 data from the Federal Reserve System has showed that the racial

wealth gap in the United States has persisted into the 21st century, as the average per capita wealth for White people in the United States was \$284,310 compared to only \$44,100 for Black people in the United States;

Whereas access to high-quality education has been identified as a key factor in narrowing the racial wealth gap in the United States, yet extraordinary income inequality has diminished opportunities for families from low-income backgrounds;

Whereas educational segregation by income poses a threat to the promise of equal opportunities in education;

Whereas the failure of the Federal Government to effectively address growing inequality has resulted in decreased economic mobility rates in the United States and made the American dream more elusive, as evidenced by a decline in the fraction of children who earn more than their parents, primarily due to the growth in inequality;

Whereas the enduring legacy of Jim Crow laws, which aimed to lower economic progress of Black people in the United States through racial segregation, disenfranchisement, and limitation of geographic mobility, has left a lasting imprint on the socioeconomic standing of Black people in the United States;

Whereas Jim Crow laws directly targeted education and other areas of life, significantly hindering the pursuit of prosperity by Black people in the United States and contributing to the persistent economic divide;

Whereas homeownership in the United States, a critical avenue for wealth building, remains significantly less attainable for Black people compared to White people, with disparities in homeownership rates exceeding 30 percent in some cities, exacerbating the racial wealth gap and hindering the ability of Black families to accumulate and pass down wealth across generations;

Whereas homes in majority-Black neighborhoods in the United States are systematically undervalued compared to those in predominantly White areas, with the devaluation contributing to underfunded public services, including education, and perpetuating a cycle of economic disadvantage and inequality for Black people residing in these communities;

Whereas employment discrimination has resulted in higher unemployment rates and lower wages for Black people in the United States compared to their White counterparts, with Black workers being disproportionately represented in low-wage positions and underrepresented in high-wage executive roles;

Whereas the war on drugs and discriminatory criminal justice policies in the United States have led to mass incarceration of Black people at rates significantly higher than White people, disrupting families, limiting employment opportunities, and imposing financial burdens that hinder wealth accumulation;

Whereas systemic racism in healthcare has created disparities in access to quality care and outcomes for Black people in the United States, leading to higher healthcare costs and economic instability for affected families, further widening the racial wealth gap;

Whereas Black people in the United States face significant barriers in accessing financial services and capital, with a lower likelihood of loan approval and higher interest rates compared to White applicants, limiting opportunities for business ownership and investment;

Whereas, according to an analysis by Citi Group, disparities for Black people across the economic system of the United States from 2004 to 2024 have cost the economy \$16,000,000,000,000;