

individuals for crimes on baseless claims of money laundering and organized crime;

Whereas the accused individuals do not have adequate access to legal counsel;

Whereas there is concern that United States citizens affiliated with Mountain Gateway Order, Inc. are being targeted for arrest and extradition by the Government of Nicaragua;

Whereas this follows a pattern by the Government of Nicaragua to quell the free speech and religious rights of Christians and other nongovernmental organizations in Nicaragua;

Whereas on November 30, 2022, in accordance with the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.), the Secretary of State designated Nicaragua as a "Country of Particular Concern" for having engaged in or tolerated particularly severe violations of religious freedom;

Whereas the Government of Nicaragua's actions are another example of an extreme intolerance of religious organizations; and

Whereas Congress has a vested interest in upholding international religious freedom and human rights: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the targeting and imprisonment of individuals affiliated with Mountain Gateway Order, Inc. without due process of law; and

(2) calls on the Government of Nicaragua to take prompt action to address these violations of religious freedom and international human rights.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 608—DENOUNCING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S IMMIGRATION POLICIES

MR. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BRAUN, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 608

Whereas President Joe Biden and Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas have created the worst border security crisis in the history of the United States;

Whereas President Biden, beginning on day one of his administration, systematically dismantled effective border security measures and interior immigration enforcement;

Whereas the Biden Administration's open-borders policies have incentivized nearly 9,300,000 illegal aliens from all around the world, including criminal aliens and suspected terrorists, to arrive at the southwest border;

Whereas the Biden Administration has allowed at least 6,300,000 illegal aliens from the southwest border to travel to communities within the United States;

Whereas current immigration law allows for the United States to enter into asylum cooperative agreements with other countries to allow for the removal of certain aliens seeking asylum in the United States;

Whereas asylum cooperative agreements provide the United States with another tool to reduce the incentives for illegal immigration;

Whereas asylum cooperative agreements increase cooperation with United States allies in the Western Hemisphere and around the world and promote shared responsibility;

Whereas the previous administration announced asylum cooperative agreements with El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras;

Whereas the Biden Administration suspended and terminated these asylum cooperative agreements as part of its open-borders agenda that has encouraged mass illegal immigration at the southwest border;

Whereas the Biden Administration retains the ability to negotiate asylum cooperative agreements with El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras but has refused to do so, despite historic illegal immigration at the southwest border;

Whereas clauses (ii) and (iii)(IV) of section 235(b)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)(B)) require the Secretary of Homeland Security to detain inadmissible aliens arriving in the United States who indicate either an intention to apply for asylum under section 208 of that Act (8 U.S.C. 1158) or a fear of persecution;

Whereas the Immigration and Nationality Act provides for the Secretary of Homeland Security to detain, during removal proceedings, aliens who arrive at the border and are found to be inadmissible;

Whereas the Biden Administration has purposely violated United States immigration law by refusing to detain inadmissible aliens arriving at the border;

Whereas the Biden Administration could comply with the mandatory detention statutes of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

Whereas the Biden Administration's purposeful violation of the mandatory detention statutes of the Immigration and Nationality Act has resulted in the mass release of millions of illegal aliens into United States communities;

Whereas current immigration law allows for inadmissible aliens to be expeditiously removed from the United States once encountered at the border unless they establish a credible fear of persecution;

Whereas the Biden Administration has released millions of illegal aliens into the United States without even processing them for expedited removal to be screened for asylum eligibility;

Whereas only 6.8 percent of the 5,600,000 illegal alien encounters from January 20, 2021, through August 31, 2023, resulted in the Department of Homeland Security placing the illegal alien into expedited removal proceedings to even be screened for asylum eligibility;

Whereas roughly 40 percent of the illegal aliens who were not found to have a credible fear of persecution were not removed and remained in the United States as of August 31, 2023;

Whereas nearly a third of the illegal aliens who were processed for expedited removal and who did not even attempt to make a claim for asylum cannot be confirmed by the Biden Administration as having been removed from the United States;

Whereas the Biden Administration could expand expedited removal to more quickly remove illegal aliens at the border and screen more illegal aliens for asylum eligibility instead of mass releasing them into the United States;

Whereas the Biden Administration's limited use of expedited removal only incentivizes illegal immigration and worsens the border crisis;

Whereas the Biden Administration terminated the Migrant Protection Protocols despite their effectiveness;

Whereas the Biden Administration has purposely violated United States immigration law by abusing discretionary case-by-case authority and other parole authorities to mass parole illegal aliens who would other-

wise have no legal basis to enter and remain in the United States;

Whereas the Biden Administration's proposed solution to the border crisis failed to address catch-and-release valves such as the Flores Settlement Agreement and the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-457; 122 Stat. 5044) that incentivize surges of unaccompanied alien children and adults arriving with children to come to the southwest border, putting children's lives at risk;

Whereas the Biden Administration could end its catch-and-release policies;

Whereas the Biden Administration's proposed solutions to the border crisis did nothing to end catch-and-release but instead mandated mass release of illegal aliens at the southwest border;

Whereas parks, schools, police stations, recreation centers, hotels, and airports have been repurposed for use as shelters for illegal aliens;

Whereas the Biden Administration's open-borders policies have strained State and local social services resources as the millions of illegal aliens who have entered since January 20, 2021, compete with United States citizens and legal immigrants for those resources;

Whereas section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(f)) empowers the President to "suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens . . . or impose on the entry of aliens any restrictions he may deem to be appropriate" . . . "[w]henver the President finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens into the United States would be detrimental to the interests of the United States";

Whereas, in *Trump v. Hawaii*, 138 S. Ct. 2392 (2018), the Supreme Court described the President's suspension of entry authority as an authority that "excludes deference to the President in every clause";

Whereas President Biden has cited his suspension of entry authority in other instances but has refused to use that authority to address the border crisis;

Whereas President Biden retains the power to use his suspension of entry authority to address the border crisis;

Whereas President Biden's refusal to use his suspension of entry authority ensures that the border stays open, endangers the United States, and encourages illegal immigration; and

Whereas President Biden has claimed he is powerless to address the border crisis through executive action: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that, in order to help control the crisis at the border that it has created, the Biden Administration has the authority to—

- (A) end the catch-and-release policy;
- (B) reinstate the Migrant Protection Protocols;
- (C) enter into asylum cooperative agreements;
- (D) end abuses of parole authority;
- (E) detain inadmissible aliens;
- (F) use expedited removal authority; and
- (G) rein in taxpayer-funded benefits for illegal aliens;

(2) affirms that the Biden Administration is refusing to use such authorities; and

(3) urges the Biden Administration to immediately begin using such authorities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 609—RECOGNIZING APRIL 4, 2024, AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MINE AWARENESS AND ASSISTANCE IN MINE ACTION, AND RE-AFFIRMING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES IN ELIMINATING LANDMINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE**

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 609

Whereas landmines and unexploded ordnance threaten the safety, health, and lives of civilian populations and create humanitarian and development challenges that have serious and lasting social, economic, and security consequences for affected populations;

Whereas demining and clearance of unexploded ordnance enables displaced people to return to their homes and has a direct impact on development outcomes such as food security, school attendance, and economic development;

Whereas people in at least 60 countries and other areas are at risk from mines and unexploded ordnance in their communities;

Whereas more than 135,000 deaths and injuries resulting from anti-personnel or anti-vehicle mines and other explosive remnants of war have been recorded in the Landmine Monitor database since 2001, and thousands more individuals around the world are killed and injured by such mines and remnants each year;

Whereas, over the past 3 decades, the United States has been the global leader in supporting efforts to clear mine-contaminated areas around the world, dedicating more than \$4,600,000,000 for demining and related programs in 120 countries and territories since 1993;

Whereas, since 1989, the United States Agency for International Development has allocated more than \$337,000,000 through the Leahy War Victims Fund in more than 50 countries to provide artificial limbs, wheelchairs, rehabilitation, vocational training, and other assistance to survivors of accidents caused by landmines and unexploded ordnance;

Whereas the United States Government expressed its support for the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, which established the goal “to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines and clear all mined areas as soon as possible”;

Whereas there are 164 States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, done at the Oslo Landmine Conference, September 18, 1997;

Whereas the recent use of landmines, cluster bombs, and other munitions, particularly in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Burma, and Ukraine, has created new humanitarian priorities and funding requirements for demining, while legacy mine contamination remains an urgent challenge impacting millions of people globally;

Whereas Russia's aggression in Ukraine has resulted in an estimated one third of the territory being contaminated with landmines and unexploded ordnance, creating a massive need for clearance operations as a prerequisite for Ukraine's recovery;

Whereas these needs in Ukraine do not diminish the similarly urgent need for humanitarian demining in other parts of the world;

Whereas additional resources for demining will be needed to achieve a world free of the

threat of landmines and other explosive hazards; and

Whereas, on December 8, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly declared that April 4th of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to support international humanitarian efforts to eliminate landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(2) recognizes those individuals in numerous countries who, at great risk to their personal safety, work to locate and remove anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(3) affirms its support for the goal, as expressed by the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, to intensify efforts to clear mined areas to the fullest extent possible by 2025;

(4) calls upon the United States Government—

(A) to continue providing the funding necessary to support international humanitarian demining activities;

(B) to maintain its international leadership role in seeking to rid the world of areas contaminated by landmines and unexploded ordnance; and

(C) to rededicate itself to addressing legacy mine contamination as an urgent humanitarian priority; and

(5) reaffirms the goals of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 610—HONORING DR. JANE GOODALL AND HER LEGACY AS AN ETHOLOGIST, CONSERVATIONIST, AND ACTIVIST**

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 610

Whereas Dr. Jane Goodall, born Valerie Jane Morris-Goodall on April 3, 1934, is a world-renowned ethologist, conservationist, and activist;

Whereas Dr. Goodall immersed herself in the study of chimpanzees in their natural habitat within Gombe Stream National Park in Gombe, Tanzania;

Whereas Dr. Goodall was one of the first female wildlife field researchers, inspiring countless other women to follow in her footsteps;

Whereas Dr. Goodall's findings on the tool-making practices of chimpanzees revolutionized the field of primatology and forever changed the way animals are perceived and studied;

Whereas the Jane Goodall Institute, established in 1977 by Dr. Goodall, spearheads the world's longest-running field research into great apes, supports the protection and restoration of the natural world, is an innovative leader in advancing community led conservation, and promotes environmental education;

Whereas Dr. Goodall, through the Jane Goodall Institute, has provided over 300 scholarships to young women to support their education and has paved the way for women in science;

Whereas the Tchimpouna Rehabilitation Center was established by the Jane Goodall Institute in the Republic of Congo in 1991 to care for chimpanzees orphaned by the illegal commercial bushmeat and pet trades and has

cared for over 200 chimpanzees in its 30-year existence;

Whereas Dr. Goodall was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2002, the highest honor of the United Nations, to recognize her peace building work through the Roots & Shoots youth program;

Whereas the Roots & Shoots youth program has inspired over 1,470,000 young people in over 65 countries to engage in activities that make a difference in their communities;

Whereas Dr. Goodall transformed traditional conservation through the Lake Tanganyika Catchment Reforestation and Education (TACARE) program, which prioritizes community-centered conservation in designing the future;

Whereas Dr. Goodall has become a beacon of hope through her numerous books and documentaries, inspiring individuals of all ages to work towards a brighter future; and

Whereas Dr. Goodall has built a legacy of environmental activism, humanity, and infectious compassion: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) uses April 3, 2024, to commemorate the birth of Dr. Jane Goodall and to celebrate the extraordinary contributions of Dr. Goodall and the impact she has had on the world;

(2) proclaims April 3, 2024, as “Jane Goodall Day” across the country; and

(3) expresses gratitude to Dr. Goodall for her unwavering dedication to the well-being of animals, conservation, and the planet as a whole.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 611—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 22, 2024, AS “NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS WORKERS SAFETY AWARENESS DAY” AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF “NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS WORKERS SAFETY AWARENESS DAY”**

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 611

Whereas workers in the national inland waterways system play a crucial role, navigating ships, barges, and tugboats through the navigable waters of the United States, loading and unloading barges and transport vessels, and cleaning and caring for vessels and shipyards;

Whereas the United States needs to reduce transportation-vessel and shipyard-related incidents, fatalities, and injuries, continue to improve the safe transportation of domestic cargo by towboat, tugboat, and barge, and prevent employee fatalities;

Whereas, in 2022, there were 4 fatalities and 101 injuries amongst towing vessel crew and related employees;

Whereas the safety and well-being of deckhands, engineers, masters and mates, and shoreside workers are of the utmost importance, and it is crucial to equip them with the necessary knowledge and resources to perform their duties effectively;

Whereas towboat, tugboat, and barge transportation are among the safest and most efficient modes of domestic freight transportation in the United States;

Whereas the Coast Guard-American Waterways Operators Safety Partnership represents a unique public-private partnership to improve vessel safety; and

Whereas the establishment and enforcement of safety standards in the towing vessel