

the article of amendment commonly known as the “Equal Rights Amendment” has been validly ratified and is enforceable as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the Archivist of the United States must certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay.

S. RES. 593

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 593, a resolution expressing support for the continued value of arms control agreements and condemning the Russian Federation’s purported suspension of its participation in the New START Treaty.

S. RES. 610

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 610, a resolution honoring Dr. Jane Goodall and her legacy as an ethologist, conservationist, and activist.

S. RES. 629

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 629, a resolution condemning the arbitrary arrest of United States citizens by the Government of the Russian Federation and calling for the immediate and unconditional release of such citizens.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 637—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE STAFF OF PUBLIC, SCHOOL, ACADEMIC, AND SPECIAL LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES THOSE LIBRARIES PROVIDE TO COMMUNITIES, RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR FUNDING COMMENSURATE WITH THE BROAD SCOPE OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTS PROVIDED BY LIBRARIES, PRESERVING THE RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES TO FREELY ACCESS INFORMATION AND RESOURCES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, SUPPORTING A STRONG UNION VOICE FOR LIBRARY WORKERS, AND DEFENDING THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF LIBRARY STAFF

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. REED, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KING, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 637

Whereas library staff are cornerstones of their communities in the United States, providing visitors with access to books and media, delivering high-quality programming to visitors of all ages, ensuring equitable

internet access for all, and linking people to crucial information about accessing social services;

Whereas libraries are an economic powerhouse in their communities, providing resources to small business owners, job seekers, and individuals learning new skills;

Whereas, in recent years, library staff have been called on to address the fallout from difficult public crises in the United States, taking on roles that exceed the traditional role of providing a space for, and access to, educational and cultural enrichment;

Whereas library staff provide lifesaving care to members of their communities who are suffering the effects of the ongoing and tragic opioid epidemic in the United States, including being called on to administer medication to treat overdoses;

Whereas libraries are a safe haven for individuals and families who are unhoused, and library workers provide the supportive community environment and resources needed by unhoused individuals and families;

Whereas libraries are often the only source of internet for underserved communities;

Whereas library staff maintained public access to essential library services and were relied on to distribute personal protective equipment and provide testing to the public during the worst days of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas libraries have met an expanded and intensified demand for community, public health, and safety net services, often while contending with severe funding cuts, creating unsustainable and frequently unsafe working conditions for library staff;

Whereas the health and survival of democracy in the United States requires that everyone be able to exercise rights to information and services, and it is especially important for young people to have the opportunity to learn, encounter, and debate all manner of ideas, including controversial ones;

Whereas students have been shown to spend more time reading and exhibit higher reading scores when given access to diverse titles, and library staff play a crucial role in curating diverse book offerings for young readers;

Whereas a fundamental responsibility of the job of library staff is making decisions about the books and media in their collections and assisting visitors in accessing those materials without fear of censorship or reprisal for fulfilling the role of providing information and resources to the public;

Whereas, from 2023 to 2024, there were deplorable incidents throughout the United States that were orchestrated to intimidate library staff and prevent them from fulfilling their central work responsibility to provide the public with free and unfettered access to information;

Whereas library staff across the United States are mobilizing for a collective union voice in their workplaces to elevate their profession, to ensure safe and adequately resourced spaces that meet the needs of the communities they serve, and to protect the essential role of libraries in the democracy of the United States; and

Whereas the week of April 7 through April 13, 2024, would be an appropriate time to celebrate “National Library Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the work of library staff in the United States;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Library Week;

(3) recognizes that libraries and library staff provide critical infrastructure for the United States and are essential to the future of the United States;

(4) supports the prioritization of full funding of library services at the Federal, State, and local levels to ensure the continuation and improvement of library services;

(5) reaffirms—

(A) the fundamental right of the people of the United States to access information, which is made real through the efforts of library staff;

(B) the fundamental right of library workers to organize and collectively bargain at work and to have a protected voice in their workplace; and

(C) the civil rights of library workers to exercise their responsibilities to the public without threats or intimidation; and

(6) recognizes the right of library staff—

(A) to speak out on matters of public concern;

(B) to address themselves to elected officials and to the administration of the entities that employ library staff; and

(C) to inform the people of the United States about their right to free and unfettered access to information, and about threats to that access.

SENATE RESOLUTION 638—CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF RYAN CORBETT, A UNITED STATES CITIZEN WHO WAS WRONGFULLY DETAINED BY THE TALIBAN ON AUGUST 10, 2022, AND CONDEMNING THE WRONGFUL DETENTION OF AMERICANS BY THE TALIBAN

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

S. RES. 638

Whereas United States citizen Ryan Corbett has lived a life of service by supporting humanitarian projects in Afghanistan that help the Afghan people start and operate small businesses;

Whereas Ryan Corbett moved his family to Afghanistan in 2010 to help the local population and lived there for more than a decade aiding the Afghan people;

Whereas, in 2017, Ryan Corbett founded “Bloom Afghanistan” to provide consulting and microloans to Afghan small businesses to help build a self-sustaining local economy;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is known to his family, friends, colleagues, and associates as a loving father and husband as well as a kind, service-oriented man;

Whereas, in August 2021, Ryan Corbett was forced to leave his life, community, and Afghan partners behind when the Taliban seized Kabul and United States citizens were evacuated;

Whereas, in August 2022, Ryan Corbett traveled to Afghanistan for a 10-day trip to check on his business and employees and was detained by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban detained Ryan Corbett without charging him with a crime or granting him due process in any judicial proceedings;

Whereas, on September 29, 2023, Ryan Corbett was designated as wrongfully detained by United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is being held in a 9-foot by 9-foot underground cell with two other Taliban detainees and has been held in solitary confinement on multiple occasions;

Whereas Ryan Corbett has not been granted access to any physical consular visits by United States Department of State personnel but has had limited consular access via

phone to a United States consular representative;

Whereas, during his detention, Ryan Corbett seldom has had phone calls with his family and has only had limited in-person visits with personnel from Qatar, the United States' protecting power in Afghanistan;

Whereas at least five third-country nationals previously detained with Ryan Corbett have been released and have reported on Ryan's horrific and deteriorating conditions;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates who have been subsequently released stated that prisoners at the detention facility must survive on scraps of fatty meat, seldom have access to sunlight, and cannot use the bathroom without permission;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates who have been subsequently released stated that, during their captivity, Ryan Corbett was suffering from seizures, fainting, and discolored extremities;

Whereas Ryan Corbett turned 40 years old during his wrongful detention, and his physical and mental health is rapidly declining due to the stress and harsh conditions, such that his family fears he will not survive his wrongful detention; and

Whereas the Taliban's pursuit of international legitimacy and recognition is without merit due to the Taliban's continued use of hostages as a political tool, the Taliban's support for terrorism, and the elimination of freedoms for women and girls in Afghanistan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Taliban to immediately and unconditionally release Ryan Corbett;

(2) condemns the wrongful detention of Ryan Corbett by the Taliban;

(3) urges the Taliban to respect Ryan Corbett's fundamental human rights and to provide full, unfettered, and consistent health and welfare visits to Ryan Corbett while he remains in detention;

(4) urges all United States executive branch officials, including President Joseph Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, Special Representative for Afghanistan Tom West, and Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs Roger Carstens, to continue to raise the case of Ryan Corbett and to press for his immediate release in all interactions with the Taliban;

(5) condemns the Taliban's continued use of the wrongful detention of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents for political purposes and demands that the Taliban stop unjustifiably detaining United States nationals for political gain;

(6) calls for the immediate release of other United States citizens and lawful permanent residents who are wrongfully detained in Afghanistan;

(7) expresses sympathy for and solidarity with the families of all other United States citizens and lawful permanent residents wrongfully detained abroad; and

(8) expresses support for the family of Ryan Corbett and the family's commitment to bringing Ryan Corbett home.

SENATE RESOLUTION 639—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF APRIL 2024 AS "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 639

Whereas Parkinson's disease—

(1) affects over 1,000,000 individuals in the United States with nearly 90,000 individuals diagnosed each year;

(2) is the fastest-growing and second most common neurodegenerative disease in the world;

(3) is believed to be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown; and

(4) is the 15th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

Whereas, by the year 2037, it is estimated that the number of individuals in the United States with Parkinson's disease will nearly double, and Parkinson's disease will cost the United States at least \$80,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson's disease can include dementia and cognitive impairment, tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulties, speech and swallowing difficulties, depression, and a variety of other symptoms;

Whereas there are millions of family caregivers, friends, and loved ones whose lives are greatly affected by Parkinson's disease; and

Whereas more research, education, and community support services are needed—

(1) to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

(2) to maintain the dignity of individuals living with Parkinson's disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of the month of April 2024 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson's disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the United States working to improve the quality of life of people living with Parkinson's disease and their families.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I submit the following notice in writing:

In accordance with Rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend the following portions of the Rules and Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials in regard to debate by Senators during the trial of Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas: (1) The phrase "without debate" in Rule VII; (2) The following portion of Rule XX: " , unless the Senate shall direct the doors to be closed while deliberating upon its decisions. A motion to close the doors may be acted upon without objection, or, if objection is heard, the motion shall be voted on without debate by the yeas and nays, which shall be entered on the record"; and (3) In Rule XXIV, the phrases "without debate", "except when the doors shall be closed for deliberation, and in that case" and " , to be had without debate" for the purposes of allowing Senators to debate in open session during any portion of the trial.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have four 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in open and closed session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 8 a.m., to receive testimony.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 9:30 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, April 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

RECESS UNTIL MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). The Senate stands in recess until 3 p.m. on Monday.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:37 p.m., recessed until Monday, April 15, 2024, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

HEATHER M. CAHOON, OF MONTANA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2024. VICE ERIC DRAKE EBERHARD, TERM EXPIRED.

HEATHER M. CAHOON, OF MONTANA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2030. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMANDA S. JACOBSEN, OF WASHINGTON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA.

CHRISTOPHE ANDRE TOCCO, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

SHIRLEY SACHI SAGAWA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

ANN C. FISHER, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 14, 2030. (REAPPOINTMENT)

ASHLEY JAY ELIZABETH POLING, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 22, 2030. (REAPPOINTMENT)