

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This concurrent resolution may be cited as the "Randy's Resolution".

SEC. 2. RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT REGARDING HIGH-POTENCY MARIJUANA.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Federal agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, should conduct and support research on the health effects of high-potency marijuana and its impact on vulnerable populations such as youth.

(b) RESOLVING MATTERS.—Congress—

(1) supports the development of educational programs at the Federal, State, and local levels to inform the public about the potential risks associated with the use of high-potency marijuana, especially among youth; and

(2) urges Federal, State, and local governments to collaborate with public health organizations, medical professionals, and community stakeholders to develop evidence-based policies that address the public health and safety concerns associated with high-potency marijuana.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I have two 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 during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

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, February 1, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following members of our team be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Steven Mapes, Jordan Harrington, and Janelle Conrad.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 2024 AS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 529.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 529) recognizing January 2024 as "National Mentoring Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 529) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of January 18, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVATION OF NATIONAL TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 541, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 541) supporting the observation of National Trafficking and Modern Slavery Prevention Month during the period beginning on January 1, 2024, and ending on February 1, 2024, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, human trafficking and modern slavery.

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

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions 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 resolution (S. Res. 541) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024, THROUGH MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, February 5; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Campbell nomina-

tion; further, that the Senate vote on confirmation of the Laroski nomination at 5:30 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Monday's session, that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator DUCKWORTH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

IRAN

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, if you listen closely right now, you can hear the drums of war gain momentum. I know that sound. It is the same sound that led me to deploy to a dusty desert outpost in Iraq 20 years ago, where I served alongside some of the bravest men and women you could ever meet. It is the same sound that, ultimately, led me to run for office, a decision I only made after I was shot down in Iraq, when I found myself searching for a new mission to serve my Nation.

I found that mission in giving a voice to every veteran who had willingly sacrificed so much answering their Nation's call to serve, and I found it in speaking up for the Active-Duty troops still waking up in dusty base camps throughout the Middle East, still serving tour after tour, bleeding—even dying—thousands of miles away because they had sworn an oath to defend a country they loved, no matter what it cost them.

And that sound is why, a few minutes ago, I wheeled myself to this desk with the same purpose that took me first to battle, then the campaign trail: And that is to help keep America as strong as she can be and to try to look out for the troops who never stop looking out for the rest of us.

Today, I am here in this beautiful chamber with privilege all around me to beg of my colleagues one simple thing: As tensions in the Middle East escalate, please, from this place of safety and comfort, think of the sacrifices our servicemembers make every single day. Please, as the drums of war grow louder, honor our servicemembers by thinking of what we would be asking them to risk if we risk an expanded conflict with Iran.

On Sunday morning, we all woke to the tragic, horrific news that three American soldiers were killed in an Iran-backed attack in Jordan. I imagine many who saw the news may not have even known that we had U.S. servicemembers stationed in Jordan, but I was acutely aware of it. In fact,

just 24 hours earlier, I had woken up in Illinois and helped to send almost 300 Illinois National guardsmen off to start their mission in the CENTCOM area of operation, the exact AO where this attack took place.

And since Sunday, I don't think I have gone a waking hour without thinking about the brave servicemembers who lost their lives—SGT William Jerome Rivers, SGT Kennedy Ladon Sanders, and SGT Breonna Alexsondria Moffett—and each of them was willing to sacrifice the unimaginable to keep our Nation safe. They are our heroes.

During this impossible time, my thoughts are with their families, who will never be able to say “I love you” in person to them again. And my thoughts are with the more than 40 other servicemembers who were wounded in the blast, with at least three among them having severe enough injuries that they had to be evacuated to Germany.

It is clear that we must forcefully and swiftly make those responsible pay for the devastation they have wrought and send a message that these attacks against our servicemembers will not be tolerated. But we must do this with clear eyes, a steady hand, and a clear, strategic end goal in mind, seeking justice and, ultimately, a swift end to these threats to our troops.

I don't have all the details yet, but based on initial reports, it seems that President Biden's planned response will do just that. It looks like it will be a well-thought-out, strong rebuttal that aims to deter Iran from supporting further attacks on U.S. troops without risking boiling tensions even further, because this is a uniquely dangerous moment, and the message we send to Iran must make war less likely, not more.

After all, after decades of forever wars in the region, the last thing we want is to send those who volunteer to serve our country into another endless, senseless conflict. And if we want to adequately honor the sacrifices of the three servicemembers killed last week, we must remain focused on preventing their brothers and sisters at arms from dying in a preventable war on foreign soil.

Sadly, over the past few days, some of my Republican colleagues have been making reckless, irresponsible comments that risk dangerously escalating tensions. They have been throwing rocks, chest thumping over social media, beating the drums of war, demanding that the President ramp up the temperature, that he “hit Iran now and hit them hard.”

Look, I ran for Congress so that when those drums of war started beating, I would be in a position to make sure that our leaders in Washington fully consider the cost of war—not just in dollars and cents but in the sacrifices and blood of our troops. So I have come to the floor today, as those drums echo louder than they have in years, to keep my promise to do our troops justice, to beseech my colleagues to let cool heads, common sense, and sound strategy prevail over reckless impulses.

And, if necessary, I will come back to this Chamber day after day after day, speaking from this wheelchair that I earned the last time Congress rashly sent our sons and daughters into another endless, senseless war, ensuring that, this time, we do right by our troops by fully, soberly, considering the consequences of these decisions on those who serve and their families.

Listen, I am no dove. After all, I volunteered to fight in a war that I deeply disagreed with. So I am certainly not opposed to war when it is necessary to defend this great Nation. And I am not opposed to striking Iranian assets, if our approach is smart, limited, and strategically calibrated to end the spiral of violence that threatens our servicemembers.

But I will also do everything in my power to remind those who, today, are so eagerly pushing us down the path to war that there are serious repercussions involved for the Americans who would actually be in harm's way, even if they may not be filled by politicians here in Washington.

Under both the Federal law known as the War Powers Act and article I of the Constitution, only Congress has the solemn responsibility of deciding when and how the United States sends its troops into war.

So if Republicans really want to risk war with Iran, then they owe it to our troops to bring an authorization for use of military force to the floor. Instead of hiding behind social media accounts and television interviews, bring that debate to this Chamber so we can actually fulfill our duty and begin the serious business of considering the merits and drawbacks of such a conflict.

So that as we ask them to sacrifice so much, our troops downrange would at least know what their mission is, what their goals are, and that their leaders in Washington both have their backs and are following the Constitution that they are willing to die to protect and defend.

Whenever Republicans are ready—if they are ever ready—I am here to par-

ticipate in that debate. And if their arguments for war are strong enough, I owe it to my constituents to consider and vote on the merits of them.

I, myself, would be the first to volunteer, if they could have use of a gimpy former Black Hawk pilot, but I will go. I can pack my ruck in 15 minutes, if needed. But for now, with those drums pounding once more, I just want to ask each of my colleagues to take a moment to think about the true cost of war for all those servicemembers still at risk at dusty desert bases thousands of miles away.

I personally cannot go a moment without forgetting them.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:54 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 5, 2024, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

ROSE E. JENKINS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE ELIZABETH CREWSON PARIS, TERM EXPIRED.

KASHI WAY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE MARK VAN DYKE HOLMES, TERM EXPIRED.

ADAM B. LANDY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE DAVID GUSTAFSON, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

AMIR H. ALI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE BERYL ALAINE HOWELL, RETIRING.

MELISSA R. DUBOSE, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND, VICE WILLIAM E. SMITH, RETIRING.

SUNIL R. HARJANI, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE THOMAS M. DURKIN, RETIRED.

ROBERT J. WHITE, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN, VICE PAUL D. BORMAN, RETIRED.

JASMINE HYEJUNG YOON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA, VICE MICHAEL FRANCIS URBANSKI, RETIRING.

REBECCA SUZANNE KANTER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE WILLIAM Q. HAYES, RETIRED.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 1, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

LISA W. WANG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.