

S. 4075

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4075, a bill to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from a general merchandise retailer or sporting goods retailer, and for other purposes.

S. 4267

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4267, a bill to prohibit Big Cypress National Preserve from being designated as wilderness or as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

S. 4317

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4317, a bill to appropriate funds for the Federal Communications Commission's "rip and replace" program and Affordable Connectivity Program, to improve the Affordable Connectivity Program, to require a spectrum auction, and for other purposes.

S. 4322

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4322, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements relating to the designation of rural emergency hospitals.

S. 4331

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4331, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance that provide coverage for mental health services and substance use disorder services provide such services without the imposition of cost-sharing from the diagnosis of pregnancy through the 1-year period following such pregnancy, and for other purposes.

S. 4364

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4364, a bill to modify the Alternatives to Detention program, and for other purposes.

S. 4434

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr.

DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4434, a bill to improve retrospective reviews of Federal regulations, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 186

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 186, a resolution seeking justice for the Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea.

S. RES. 599

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 599, a resolution protecting the Iranian political refugees, including female former political prisoners, in Ashraf-3 in Albania.

S. RES. 710

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 710, a resolution supporting the designation of May 29, 2024, as "Mental Health Awareness in Agriculture Day" to raise awareness around mental health in the agricultural industry and workforce and to continue to reduce stigma associated with mental illness.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 715—REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE 1989 TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE, AND CONDEMNING THE WIDESPREAD REPRESSION AGAINST CITIZENS, THE TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION AGAINST ACTIVISTS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS, AND THE SYSTEMATIC EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE HUMAN RIGHTS NORMS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 715

Whereas, on June 4, 2024, the world will mark the 35th anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre, during which authorities of the People's Republic of China murdered thousands of peaceful pro-democracy protesters who were calling for an end to corruption, an expansion of economic opportunity, and a rights-respecting system of government;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China persists in efforts to erase the memory of the Tiananmen Square Massacre and to harass, intimidate, and arrest activists, scholars, and family members of the victims of the massacre, including the Tiananmen Mothers, who have had the courage to speak out, honor the dead, and call for accountability, and persecuted heroic army officers, such as Major General Xu Qinxian, who refused to lead his soldiers during the massacre and was stripped of his Chinese Communist Party membership and jailed for 4 years;

Whereas the people of Hong Kong had held an annual Tiananmen Square vigil in Victoria Park since 1990, which had been the only such mass gathering on Chinese territory;

Whereas the longstanding tradition of the Hong Kong vigils came to an end in 2020, when the Hong Kong police denied applications for assembly pretextually on COVID-19 related grounds and when key organizers of the annual event were jailed on politically motivated criminal charges, including unlawful assembly and posing a threat to national security;

Whereas, on the anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, the international community is reminded of the sacrifices made by the Chinese people for the ideals of democracy and human rights and remains deeply concerned by the ongoing human rights abuses and violations by the People's Republic of China against Chinese citizens and other individuals within the People's Republic of China and abroad;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to perpetrate systematic and egregious human rights abuses against Chinese citizens, including—

(1) a widespread crackdown on freedom of expression and the press;

(2) unrelenting surveillance, harassment, and imprisonment of human rights defenders, lawyers, scholars, journalists, and members from religious and ethnic minorities and groups; and

(3) an Orwellian system of technological and social control over Chinese citizens;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to commit atrocities against Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic and religious groups in Xinjiang, including—

(1) mass arbitrary detention in so-called "re-education camps";

(2) increased prosecutions and formal imprisonment for politically motivated charges;

(3) forced labor and forced abortions and sterilizations;

(4) involuntary political indoctrination;

(5) severe restrictions on religious freedom; and

(6) constant monitoring and surveillance;

Whereas the systematic repression against the Tibetan community by the Government of the People's Republic of China continues unabated and includes—

(1) a forced campaign of "Sinicization" that attempts to eliminate the unique religious, linguistic, and cultural identity of Tibet;

(2) indoctrination of Tibetan children through government-run boarding schools;

(3) efforts to co-opt Tibetan Buddhism through the control of Tibetan Buddhist religious practices, monastic communities, selection of Tibetan Buddhist lamas and efforts to interfere in the succession process of the Dalai Lama;

(4) environmental degradation of the Tibetan plateau; and

(5) forced relocation of Tibetan nomads under the false guise of conservation or economic development;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China abrogated international commitments under the terms of the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing December 19, 1984 (referred to in this preamble as the "Joint Declaration"), through an unprecedented crackdown on fundamental freedoms in Hong Kong, including—

(1) by passing and implementing the repressive and vague Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (referred to in this preamble as the "National Security Law"), which undermined the high degree of autonomy promised under the Joint Declaration;

(2) by harassing, intimidating, and arresting peaceful activists, lawyers, pro-democracy legislators, journalists, and others under the guise of the National Security Law; and

(3) by implementing Article 23 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, which further and severely curtails the exercise of human rights in Hong Kong;

Whereas the ongoing and heroic efforts of the Chinese people to shine a light on the abuses of the Government of the People's Republic of China and to advocate for human rights, including through mass demonstrations in November 2022, known as the "White Paper Movement" to protest censorship and the harsh zero-COVID policy, have been met with brutal suppression and further efforts to monitor, control, and politically indoctrinate Chinese citizens;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China carries out a coordinated campaign of transnational repression to silence dissenting voices abroad, including through tactics, such as surveillance, harassment, abduction, coercion, and by imprisoning family members in the People's Republic of China;

Whereas transnational repression by the Government of the People's Republic of China not only violates the fundamental freedoms of individuals and the sovereignty of other nations, but also engenders a climate of fear and self-censorship among Chinese communities abroad, including journalists, activists, scholars, and researchers;

Whereas the rise of the People's Republic of China as a global power has been accompanied by concerted efforts by the Government of the People's Republic of China to reshape international institutions and norms, especially institutions and norms related to human rights;

Whereas, through pressure, intimidation, economic coercion, and other tactics used against organizational leadership and sovereign nations, the Government of the People's Republic of China seeks to dilute the focus on human rights within the multilateral system and other international fora, and to promote its model of non-interference inside and outside the United Nations system to prevent international scrutiny of domestic human rights abuses and use of transnational repression by the Government of People's Republic of China; and

Whereas the People's Republic of China, as Secretary of State Antony Blinken has said, is "the only country with both the intent to reshape the international order, and increasingly, the economic, military, and technological power to do it," and the systematic efforts of the Government of the People's Republic of China to redefine international institutions and the multilateral system according to its authoritarian worldview poses an unprecedented challenge to the post-World War II human rights consensus forged through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and threatens the very foundation of universal human rights norms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands in solidarity with families of the individuals who lost their lives, underwent torture, or were imprisoned for their involvement in the pro-democracy demonstrations

during the spring of 1989, and the individuals in and outside of the People's Republic of China who continue to face harassment, intimidation, and imprisonment for their ongoing efforts to expose the truth regarding the massacre by the Government of the People's Republic of China against its own people on June 4, 1989;

(2) reaffirms its steadfast support for the courageous activists, lawyers, civil society representatives, members of ethnic and religious minority groups, journalists, and other individuals who continue to advocate for the rule of law, political and economic freedom, the preservation of the unique identities of the ethnic and religious minorities and groups of the People's Republic of China, and human rights;

(3) condemns the Government of the People's Republic of China for the egregious human rights abuses against Chinese citizens inside the border of the People's Republic of China, transnational repression against activists, and systematic efforts to undermine human rights within and outside of the United Nations system;

(4) calls on the Government of the People's Republic of China—

(A) to cease censoring information and discussion within the People's Republic of China and globally about the Tiananmen Square Massacre;

(B) to allow for a full, independent, and transparent investigation into the events of June 4, 1989;

(C) to cease harassing, intimidating, and imprisoning individuals who attempt to expose the truth regarding the Tiananmen Square Massacre;

(D) to cease the systematic and egregious suppression of the human rights of the citizens of the People's Republic of China;

(E) to release unconditionally all human rights defenders, lawyers, scholars, journalists, members of religious and ethnic minorities and groups, and other individuals who have been unjustly detained or imprisoned on politically-motivated charges for exercising internationally recognized fundamental freedoms, including Ilham Tohti, Ekpar Asat, Go Sherab Gyatso, Xu Zhiyong, Li Yuhuan and Ding Jiaxi, those who protested the zero-COVID lockdown and the rising repression in the People's Republic of China under Xi Jinping, such as Peng Lifa and Li Kangmeng, who were nominated by Members of Congress for the Nobel Peace Prize, those in Hong Kong, such as Jimmy Lai, Joshua Wong, and Chow Hang-tung, and family members of activists abroad who the Government of the People's Republic of China imprisoned to pressure their family members into silence, including Gulshan Abbas;

(F) to reverse policies and actions in Xinjiang that have led to widespread atrocities against Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic and religious groups in the region and that threaten the preservation of Uyghur identity, and to allow independent and unfettered access to the region by United Nations human rights mechanisms and other international observers to conduct a transparent investigation into the atrocities of the Government of the People's Republic of China in Xinjiang and seek accountability and justice for victims;

(G) to reverse policies and actions in Tibet that violate the human rights of Tibetans, threaten the survival of Tibetan identity, interfere in the ability of Tibetan Buddhists to select their religious leaders, including the Dalai Lama, and denigrate the environment and ecosystem of the Tibetan plateau and the traditional livelihoods of Tibetan nomads, and to allow independent and unfettered access to the region by United Nations

human rights mechanisms and other international observers to document abuses;

(H) to uphold international legal obligations to Hong Kong under the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing December 19, 1984 (referred to in this resolution as the "Joint Declaration"), restore independent democratic representation to the people of Hong Kong in line with the "One Country, Two Systems" arrangement set forth in the Joint Declaration;

(I) to cease undermining the high degree of autonomy promised to Hong Kong in the Joint Declaration;

(J) to end the coordinated campaign of transnational repression against Chinese citizens overseas; and

(K) to cease coercing, intimidating, and pressuring member states within the United Nations and other multilateral fora in service of the goal of the Government of the People's Republic of China to reshape the international order according to an authoritarian worldview and undermine the universality of human rights under international law; and

(5) calls on the United States Government—

(A) through high-level unilateral and joint statements with partners and allies, to honor the victims of the Tiananmen Square Massacre and urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately initiate a full, independent, and transparent investigation into the events of June 4, 1989, lift censorship restrictions around discussion of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, and cease harassing, intimidating, and imprisoning individuals who attempt to expose the truth about June 4, 1989, and seek justice;

(B) to meet with participants of the Tiananmen Square protests and the families and friends of the victims of the Tiananmen Square Massacre based outside of the People's Republic of China, and publicize such meetings when appropriate;

(C) to seek the unconditional release of political prisoners in the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong;

(D) to use credible resources, such as the Political Prisoner Database maintained by the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, to enhance information regarding political prisoner cases in the People's Republic of China;

(E) to hold accountable officials of the Chinese Communist Party and of the Government of the People's Republic of China complicit in genocide, crimes against humanity, transnational repression, the undermining of the high degree of autonomy of Hong Kong, and other violations of human rights, including through sanctions, visa restrictions, and other tools;

(F) to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the United Nations to seek urgent discussions of the human rights record of the Government of the People's Republic of China, including on matters related to Hong Kong at the United Nations Security Council and at the United Nations Human Rights Council; and

(G) to make clear that the people of the United States support the ability of the citizens of the People's Republic of China to exercise their human rights without fear, and that action by the United States Government to hold the persons complicit in human rights abuses accountable are undertaken in solidarity with the people of the People's Republic of China and their aspirations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 716—EX-
PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE
DESIGNATION OF JUNE 7, 2024,
AS “NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE
AWARENESS DAY” AND JUNE
2024 AS “NATIONAL GUN VIO-
LENCE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. REED, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 716

Whereas, each year in the United States, more than—

(1) 43,000 individuals are killed and 76,000 individuals are wounded by gunfire;

(2) 17,000 individuals are killed in homicides involving guns;

(3) 24,000 individuals die by suicide using a gun; and

(4) 500 individuals are killed in unintentional shootings;

Whereas, since 1968, more individuals have died from guns in the United States than have died on the battlefields of all the wars in the history of the United States;

Whereas 2023 was a deadly year for the United States, with an estimated 16,100 people killed in gun homicides or nonsuicide-related shootings;

Whereas, in 2023, unintentional shootings by children surpassed 400 incidents for the first time ever, resulting in nearly 160 deaths annually;

Whereas, by one count, in 2023 in the United States, there were 656 mass-shooting incidents in which not fewer than 4 people were killed or wounded by gunfire;

Whereas, nationwide, 87,000 military veterans died by gun suicide from 2002–2021;

Whereas, every year in the United States, nearly 4,000 children and teens are killed by gun violence and 15,000 children and teens are shot and wounded;

Whereas approximately 9,300 people in the United States under 25 years of age die because of gun violence annually, including Hadiya Pendleton, who, in 2013, was killed at 15 years of age in Chicago, Illinois, while standing in a park;

Whereas, on June 7, 2024, to recognize the 27th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to—

(1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and

(2) the loved ones of those victims; and

Whereas June 2024 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Gun Violence Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of “National Gun Violence Awareness Month” and the goals and ideals of that month; and

(B) the designation of “National Gun Violence Awareness Day”, in remembrance of the victims of gun violence; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to—

(A) promote greater awareness of gun violence and gun safety;

(B) wear orange, the color that hunters wear to show that they are not targets, on National Gun Violence Awareness Day;

(C) concentrate heightened attention on gun violence during the summer months, when gun violence typically increases; and

(D) bring community members and leaders together to discuss ways to make communities safer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 717—CALL-
ING ON THE BIDEN ADMINISTRA-
TION TO PURSUE CENSURE OF
IRAN AT THE INTERNATIONAL
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA),
REFER THE ISSUE TO THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL, AND REAFFIRM THAT
ALL MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN
TO PREVENT THE REGIME IN
IRAN FROM ACQUIRING NU-
CLEAR WEAPONS

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. RICKETTS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 717

Whereas the Government of Iran is the leading state sponsor of terrorism, supporting proxies that undermine peace in the Middle East, seek the destruction of the State of Israel, target United States Armed Forces in the region, and threaten the freedom of navigation, including in the Red Sea;

Whereas Iran’s nuclear activities, including its enrichment of near weapons-grade uranium and installation of advanced centrifuges, and expanding missile and drone program pose a significant threat to international security;

Whereas the Government of Iran has amassed large stockpiles of enriched uranium, including uranium enriched to 60 percent purity, and has developed advanced centrifuge technology, significantly reducing the time required to produce weapons-grade uranium;

Whereas, according to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Iran’s nuclear enrichment activities have accelerated to the point where the regime can now produce enough weapons-grade uranium for multiple nuclear weapons within days;

Whereas missiles developed through the regime’s expanding missile program, including the development of long-range ballistic missiles, could serve as delivery vehicles for nuclear weapons, thereby increasing the threat posed by the nuclear capabilities of the regime;

Whereas the Government of Iran’s acquisition of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic consequences for regional and global security and undermine the integrity of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968 (commonly referred to as the “Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty” or the “NPT”);

Whereas the Government of Iran ratified the NPT in 1970 and continues to be a state party to the treaty;

Whereas Article III of the NPT states, “Each Non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty undertakes to accept safeguards, as set forth in an agreement to be negotiated and concluded with the International Atomic Energy Agency.”;

Whereas the IAEA has repeatedly reported on the non-compliance of the Government of Iran with its NPT-required safeguards agreement, including the discovery of undeclared nuclear materials and activities at various sites and a recent violation of modified code

3.1 by beginning construction of a new reactor known as IR-360;

Whereas the regime in Iran has barred IAEA inspectors from fully monitoring its nuclear activities and continues to refuse to cooperate with investigations into its undeclared nuclear materials and activities; and

Whereas the United States has a responsibility to use its voice and vote at international fora to advance global efforts to hold the Government of Iran accountable for its violations of international non-proliferation agreements including the NPT; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms that the United States Government will take all necessary measures to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons;

(2) calls on the Biden Administration to pursue a resolution at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors, formally censuring the Government of Iran for its noncompliance with its Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement as required by the NPT, and to refer the issue to the United Nations Security Council;

(3) urges the Biden Administration to work with partners and allies of the United States to pursue punitive actions in response to violations by the Government of Iran, including but not limited to working with the coalition of France, the United Kingdom, and Germany (known as the “E3”) to prevent nuclear related restrictions under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015) from lapsing, to re-impose sanctions that remain lifted by such resolution, and other measures to enforce compliance with non-proliferation obligations;

(4) condemns Iran’s continued obstruction of basic monitoring and verification activities by the IAEA, as well as its refusal to provide technically credible explanations for the presence of undeclared nuclear materials and activities at sites across Iran;

(5) acknowledges the critical role of the IAEA in monitoring and verifying nuclear non-proliferation and calls for continued support for the IAEA to ensure robust oversight of Iran’s nuclear activities;

(6) acknowledges the important foundation the NPT provides for the global non-proliferation regime and that any effort to normalize violations of the NPT by the Government of Iran will only serve to further erode global non-proliferation standards;

(7) supports the imposition of robust sanctions on the Government of Iran for its nuclear and missile programs and on entities and individuals involved in these programs to deter further proliferation efforts; and

(8) emphasizes the need for a coordinated international response to address the threat posed by Iran’s nuclear program and calls on all nations to join the United States in taking decisive action to ensure Iran does not acquire nuclear weapons and to uphold nuclear non-proliferation standards in the Middle East and beyond.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 4445 AND H.R. 192

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4445) to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization.