

Hezbollah attack on northern Israel since fighting began there in October;

Whereas Hezbollah has been deeply involved in training and continuously providing weapons to Houthi militants in Yemen and has reportedly assisted the Houthi campaign against international shipping in the Red Sea;

Whereas Hassan Nasrallah has repeatedly vowed to destroy Israel, stating “[Israel] is an aggressive, illegal and illegitimate entity, which has no future in our land. Its destination is manifested in our motto, ‘Death to Israel’”;

Whereas the Islamic Republic of Iran’s Mission to the United Nations has echoed the statements of Hassan Nasrallah, stating, “[S]hould [Israel] embark on full-scale military aggression, an obliterating war will ensue. All options, [including] the full involvement of all Resistance Fronts, are on the table.”;

Whereas it has been reported that Hezbollah is using Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut, Lebanon, to store ballistic missiles, unguided artillery rockets, laser-guided anti-tank guided missiles, and a highly explosive and toxic white powder known as “RDX”;

Whereas Hezbollah reportedly has at least 150,000 missiles in its arsenal, some of which are precision-guided, which could be launched at Israel without warning and would overwhelm the Iron Dome air defense system and greatly expand the current regional conflict;

Whereas Israel’s Minister of Defense, Yoav Gallant, previously stated the Islamic Republic of Iran provides Hezbollah \$700,000,000 a year in funding and “knowledge and strategic weaponry”;

Whereas former Special Representative for Iran, Brian Hook, previously stated, “Hezbollah has been Iran’s favorite child. Their favorite son from the beginning. And it’s a model that they try to replicate around the Middle East. . . . Seventy percent of Hezbollah’s budget comes from Iran and that comes to about \$700,000,000 per year”;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury, in its 2018 report, *National Strategy for Combating Terrorist and Other Illicit Financing*, concluded that—

(1) “Hezbollah continues to present a significant terrorism threat to. . . U.S., Israeli, and Saudi Arabian interests”;

(2) “Hezbollah receives the majority of its funding, upwards of \$700 million a year, from Iran, which is the world’s foremost state sponsor of terrorism”;

(3) “Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) continues to provide hundreds of millions of dollars a year to Iran’s terrorist proxies, such as Hezbollah and the Assad regime in Syria”;

Whereas the Department of State, in its 2020 report, *Outlaw Regime: A Chronicle of Iran’s Destructive Activities*, concluded “In Lebanon, Iranian support has been foundational to Hezbollah since its emergence in the 1980s as the first organization to employ the widespread and regular use of suicide bombers. In addition to providing as much as \$700 million in funds annually, Iran has long been one of the primary suppliers of Hezbollah’s military technology, enabling the group’s transformation into a quasi-conventional force.”;

Whereas the Department of State, in its annual country reports on terrorism required under section 140 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 2656f), concluded that—

(1) “Iran’s annual financial backing to Hezbollah—which has been estimated to be hundreds of millions of dollars annually—accounts for the overwhelming majority of the group’s annual budget”;

(2) “Iran has provided hundreds of millions of dollars in support of Hezbollah and trained thousands of its fighters at camps in Iran”;

(3) “Iran continues to provide Hezbollah with most of its funding, training, weapons, and explosives, as well as political, diplomatic, monetary, and organizational aid”;

(4) “Israeli security officials and politicians [have] expressed concerns that Iran [is] supplying Hezbollah with advanced weapons systems and technologies, as well as assisting the group in creating infrastructure that would permit it to produce its own rockets and missiles, thereby threatening Israel from Lebanon and Syria”;

Whereas the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, in an assessment published in accordance with the Iran Nuclear Weapons Capability and Terrorism Monitoring Act of 2022 (22 U.S.C. 8701 note; Public Law 117-263), concluded, “Iran provides aid to Lebanese Hezbollah. . . to build and strengthen a network which Tehran intends to leverage to advance its interests”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that any escalation by Hezbollah against the State of Israel that leads to a major confrontation will be viewed as an attack carried out and executed by the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(2) asserts that efforts to deter Hezbollah and the Islamic Republic of Iran are most credible when the President keeps all options on the table, including the use of military force, in accordance with constitutional processes;

(3) recognizes that the Islamic Republic of Iran and Hezbollah will be responsible for any adverse impacts on the people of Lebanon that result from an attack on the State of Israel by Hezbollah;

(4) condemns Hezbollah and the Islamic Republic of Iran for their repeated acts of terrorism and urges Congress and the President to use all diplomatic tools and power projection capabilities to hold both parties accountable for their actions;

(5) denounces all comments made by Hezbollah and the Islamic Republic of Iran, including comments by the Islamic Republic of Iran’s Mission to the United Nations, which call for the obliteration and destruction of the State of Israel; and

(6) supports the State of Israel as it continues to defend its sovereignty against attacks from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hezbollah, and all other Iranian proxies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 785—COM-MENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE FLORIDA PANTHERS ON WINNING THE 2024 STANLEY CUP FINAL

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 785

Whereas, on June 24, 2024, the Florida Panthers (referred to in this preamble as the “Panthers”) won the 2024 National Hockey League (referred to in this preamble as the “NHL”) Stanley Cup Final;

Whereas the 2024 NHL Stanley Cup Final is the first Stanley Cup Final won by the Panthers in the 30-year history of the Panthers franchise;

Whereas, on the way to winning the 2024 Stanley Cup Final, the Panthers defeated—

(1) in the first round of the playoffs, the Tampa Bay Lightning;

(2) in the second round of the playoffs, the Boston Bruins;

(3) in the Eastern Conference Finals to win the Prince of Wales Trophy, the New York Rangers; and

(4) in the Stanley Cup Final, the Edmonton Oilers;

Whereas, during the 2023-2024 NHL Season, the Panthers—

(1) won 52 games during the regular season and scored 268 goals; and

(2) had 2 players, Sam Reinhart (forward) and Sergei Bobrovsky (goaltender), represent the Panthers as All-Stars at the 2024 NHL All-Star Game in Toronto, Canada;

Whereas Aleksander Barkov of the Panthers won the Selke Trophy and was recognized as the best defensive forward in the NHL for the second time in his career;

Whereas the entire Panthers roster contributed to the 2024 Stanley Cup Final victory;

Whereas supporting the Panthers players was a team of coaches and support staff committed to enriching the South Florida community on and off the ice; and

Whereas the Panthers represent their loyal fans, the South Florida community, and the entire State of Florida with a commitment to excellence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates—

(A) the Florida Panthers for winning the 2024 National Hockey League Stanley Cup Final; and

(B) the loyal fan base of the Florida Panthers for their support throughout the 2023-2024 season; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to members of the Florida Panthers ownership, management, and coaching staff, including—

(A) the chairman, owner, and governor of the Florida Panthers, Vincent Viola, and his family;

(B) the president and CEO of the Florida Panthers, Matthew Caldwell; and

(C) the president of hockey operations and general manager of the Florida Panthers, Bill Zito, and the head coach of the Florida Panthers, Paul Maurice.

SENATE RESOLUTION 786—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE AS THE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES WINNER

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 786

Whereas the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (referred to in this preamble as the “University of Tennessee”) is located in the second congressional district of Tennessee;

Whereas the University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball team finished the 2024 season with a record number of wins and earned the distinction of national champions for the first time in program history;

Whereas the University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball team won the Southeastern Conference regular season and tournament titles;

Whereas the 2024 University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball team is the first Southeastern Conference baseball team in history to win 60 games;

Whereas the University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball team set a record with 5 players recording 20 or more home runs during the 2024 season;

Whereas the University of Tennessee Volunteers defeated Texas A&M University by a score of 6 to 5 on Monday, June 25, to win the 2024 College World Series;

Whereas this victory is a testament to the dedication of the players, coaches, staff, and fans of the University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball program; and

Whereas this remarkable team has made the entire State of Tennessee deeply proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and honors the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Volunteers baseball program for its incredible win in the 2024 College World Series and for winning the first baseball national title in program history;

(2) recognizes the achievements, teamwork, and Volunteer spirit of the coaches, players, and staff of the University of Tennessee baseball team;

(3) commends the fans and the entire State of Tennessee for their dedication and support; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the Head Coach of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville baseball team, Tony Vitello;

(B) the Chancellor of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Donde Plowman; and

(C) the Director of Athletics of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Danny White.

SENATE RESOLUTION 787—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2024 WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES, THE EIGHTH NATIONAL TITLE IN PROGRAM HISTORY

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

S. RES. 787

Whereas the 2024 University of Oklahoma softball team (referred to in this preamble as the "Sooners"), under the direction of head coach Patty Gasso, swept rival University of Texas at Austin Longhorns in the Women's College World Series championship to win its record fourth consecutive National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as "NCAA") title;

Whereas the Sooners, over the 50-year history of the University of Oklahoma softball program, have won 8 national championships, including an unprecedented 6 in the past 8 seasons and 7 in the past 11 seasons, and have competed in 17 Women's College World Series tournaments, including 12 of the last 13;

Whereas the Sooners opened the state-of-the-art softball stadium Love's Field on March 1, 2024 and drew an NCAA single season record of 108,156 fans for an average crowd size of 4,326 per game;

Whereas a Nation-high 5 Sooners players were named 2024 National Fastpitch Coaches Association (referred to in this preamble as "NFCA") All-Americans, including Alyssa Brito and Tiare Jennings, who received first-team honors;

Whereas the Sooners won their ninth conference tournament by winning the 2024 Big 12 Softball Championship in Oklahoma City, defeating rival University of Texas at Austin Longhorns in the title game;

Whereas Head Coach Gasso earned her 1,500th NCAA Division I win and became the first Big 12 coach in any sport, men's or women's, to record 400 conference victories;

Whereas the Sooners placed 9 student-athletes on the 2024 All-Big 12 teams, including a league-high 5 on the first team;

Whereas Oklahoma student-athletes received numerous honors, including—

(1) Kinzie Hansen, who was named 2024 Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year;

(2) Ella Parker, who was recognized as a top 3 finalist for the 2024 Tucci/NFCA Division I Freshman of the Year;

(3) Alyssa Brito, who was named College Sports Communicators Academic All-America Team Member of the Year; and

(4) 5 Sooners, more than any other team, who were among the 26 finalists for the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year award; and

Whereas the University of Oklahoma 2024 senior class of softball players closed its career with the most wins in a 4-year stretch in NCAA softball history, recording 235 victories to just 15 losses, including 73 victories to 7 losses in Big 12 Conference play and 41 victories to 4 losses in the NCAA tournament; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses profound appreciation to Head Coach Patty Gasso and the 2024 University of Oklahoma softball team for the excitement and pride they bring to the University of Oklahoma, the State of Oklahoma, and to Sooners everywhere; and

(2) expresses profound appreciation for the exemplary manner in which the 2024 University of Oklahoma softball team represents the University of Oklahoma and its tradition of excellence.

SENATE RESOLUTION 788—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CARROLL COUNTY WABASH & ERIE CANAL, INC

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

S. RES. 788

Whereas, following the success of the Erie Canal in the State of New York, the leaders of the State of Indiana had a dream of digging a statewide network of canals;

Whereas, in 1836, the General Assembly of the State of Indiana passed "An Act to provide for a general system of Internal Improvements" (commonly known as "the Internal Improvements Act of 1836" or the "Indiana Mammoth Internal Improvement Act"), which appropriated millions of dollars for canal building and other improvements that launched the State of Indiana into the Canal Era;

Whereas only 2 canal lines were successfully completed in the State of Indiana, including—

(1) the 101-mile Whitewater Canal from Hagerstown, Indiana, to Cincinnati, Ohio; and

(2) the 468-mile Wabash & Erie Canal from Toledo, Ohio, to Evansville, Indiana, on the Ohio River;

Whereas the Wabash & Erie Canal economically and culturally connected the State of Indiana to the rest of the United States through the Erie Canal and other canal networks;

Whereas, at 468 miles in length, the Wabash & Erie Canal was the largest fabricated structure in the United States when it was completed in 1853 and, as of 2024, is the second-longest canal in the world;

Whereas, to appreciate the impact that the Wabash & Erie Canal had on the population of the State of Indiana, consider that, when the Wabash & Erie Canal began operations, the State of Indiana had a population of 350,000, and by 1840, it had a population of 988,000;

Whereas, in 1835, the counties in the State of Indiana that bordered the Wabash & Erie

Canal boasted 12,000 inhabitants and, by 1850, the number of inhabitants was 150,000;

Whereas, in the 3 years following the opening of the Wabash & Erie Canal, 5 new counties were created along the route of the Wabash & Erie Canal from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Huntington, Indiana;

Whereas, in the 1870s, the Wabash & Erie Canal closed due to the high cost of maintenance and low income amidst competition from railroads;

Whereas, after the Wabash & Erie Canal closed, the canal section in Delphi, Indiana, was left to decay, becoming a festering public hazard and eyesore;

Whereas, in February 1971, the very first meeting of the dozen people concerned with forming a Canal history group, later known as Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., was held in Carroll County, Indiana;

Whereas, in 1974, the Internal Revenue Service granted nonprofit status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc.;

Whereas Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., has invested thousands of hours to repair the Wabash & Erie Canal and surrounding areas to represent its former glory and to educate the public of its history;

Whereas, in 2003, the Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center opened, and, thanks to volunteer labor, community donations, and grant funding, offers an interactive museum, a reception hall for community events, and a research archive of canal history;

Whereas Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., has developed and maintained miles of trails along historic sites of Delphi, Indiana, for public enjoyment and recreation;

Whereas the volunteers of Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., restored and relocated several historic bridges to span the Wabash & Erie Canal, including the wrought iron 1874 Paint Creek Bridge;

Whereas, since 2009, Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., has offered public canal boat tours aboard a 54-foot replica canal boat named, "the Delphi";

Whereas the volunteers of Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., built an open-air 1850s canal-era village by relocating and restoring historic structures from around the State of Indiana; and

Whereas, besides 1 full-time executive director and limited part-time staff, the rest of Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., and its activities and programs are staffed by local volunteers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the Wabash & Erie Canal as a historic landmark that preserves the story of the canal systems of the United States and their importance to early settlers for future generations;

(2) recognizes the prominent role that the Wabash & Erie Canal, the second-largest canal in the world as of 2024, had in the growth and expansion of the United States, especially in the Midwest and in the State of Indiana;

(3) recognizes Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., for its extensive community efforts to preserve the Wabash & Erie Canal while offering educational and recreational services to the public; and

(4) commemorates the 50th anniversary of Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc., that was founded to preserve canal history and make it possible for visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of the last remaining navigable section of the Wabash & Erie Canal in the State of Indiana.