

4888, a bill to include Czechia in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Czechia.

S. 5021

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5021, a bill to ensure the accessibility of drugs furnished through the drug discount program under section 340B of the Public Health Service Act.

S. 5051

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5051, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating Washington's Trail—1753 as a national historic trail, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 103

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 103, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Safeguarding and Securing the Open Internet; Restoring Internet Freedom".

S. RES. 669

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 669, a resolution designating October 10, 2024, as "American Girls in Sports Day".

S. RES. 821

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 821, a resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 15 through 21, 2024, as "National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week".

AMENDMENT NO. 2880

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2880 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 5072. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional re-

quirements for dealers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 5072

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Puppy Protection Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEALERS.

(a) HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS BY DEALERS.—Section 13(a) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2143(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(9) In addition to the requirements under paragraph (2), the standards described in paragraph (1) shall, with respect to dealers, include requirements—

"(A) that the dealer provide adequate housing for dogs that includes—

"(i) completely solid flooring;

"(ii) indoor space sufficient to allow the tallest dog in an enclosure to stand on his or her hind legs without touching the roof of the enclosure;

"(iii) with respect to dogs over 8 weeks in age, primary enclosures that, with the length of the dog measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, provide at least—

"(I) 12 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring not more than 25 inches long;

"(II) 20 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring more than 25 but less than 35 inches long; and

"(III) 30 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring not less than 35 inches long;

"(iv) enclosures that are not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another enclosure; and

"(v) temperature control that—

"(I) is appropriate for the age, breed, and condition of each dog in the enclosure; and

"(II) is between 45 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit, when dogs are present in the enclosure;

"(B) that appropriate and nutritious food be provided to each dog at least twice per day, in an amount sufficient to maintain the good health and physical condition of each dog;

"(C) that each dog has continuous access to potable water that is not frozen and is free of feces, algae, and other contaminants;

"(D) that each dog has adequate exercise, including, for each dog over the age of 12 weeks—

"(i) except as provided in clause (ii), unrestricted access from the primary enclosure of the dog during daylight hours to an outdoor exercise area that—

"(I) is at ground-level;

"(II) is a solid surface;

"(III) is enclosed by a fence or other structure;

"(IV) is properly controlled for the safety of the dog; and

"(V) allows the dog to extend to full stride, play, and engage in other types of mentally stimulating and social behaviors; or

"(ii) if the dealer obtains a certification from the attending veterinarian stating that a dog should not have unrestricted access to an outdoor exercise area for a specific medical reason, an alternative exercise plan pre-

scribed by the veterinarian for the dog that meets the applicable requirements under section 3.8 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations);

"(E) that each dog has meaningful socialization with humans and compatible dogs for at least 30 minutes each day that—

"(i) includes positive interaction with a human such as petting, stroking, grooming, feeding, playing with, exercising, or other touching of the dog that is beneficial to the well-being of the dog; and

"(ii) does not include time spent in veterinary care;

"(F) that each dog receives adequate veterinary care, including—

"(i) prompt treatment of any disease, illness, or injury by a licensed veterinarian;

"(ii) a thorough, hands-on examination by a licensed veterinarian at least once each year, which shall include a dental exam;

"(iii) core vaccinations recommended by the latest version of the American Animal Hospital Association Canine Vaccination Guidelines; and

"(iv) medications to prevent intestinal parasites, heartworm disease, fleas, and ticks that are approved by a licensed veterinarian for canine use;

"(G) with respect to safe breeding practices for dogs, including—

"(i) a screening program for known prevalent inheritable diseases that may be disabling or likely to significantly affect the lifespan or quality of life of the mother or the offspring;

"(ii) prohibiting breeding, unless each dog bred—

"(I) has been screened by a licensed veterinarian prior to each attempt to breed; and

"(II) is found in the screening under subclause (I) to be free from health conditions that may be disabling to, or likely to significantly affect the lifespan or quality of life of, the mother or the offspring;

"(iii) prohibiting the breeding of a female dog to produce—

"(I) more than 2 litters in any 18-month period; or

"(II) more than 6 litters during the lifetime of the dog;

"(iv) that a female dog of any small breed (having a maximum weight range at maturity that is less than 40 pounds) not be bred—

"(I) before reaching the age of 18 months; or

"(II) after reaching the age of 9 years;

"(v) that a female dog of any large breed (having an expected weight range at maturity that includes 40 or more pounds) not be bred—

"(I) before reaching the age of 2 years; or

"(II) after reaching the age of 7 years; and

"(vi) that any canine caesarian section be performed by a licensed veterinarian;

"(H) that dogs be housed with other dogs, unless health or behavioral issues make group housing unsafe; and

"(I) to make all reasonable efforts to find humane placement for retired breeding dogs—

"(i) such as with an adoptive family, rescue organization, or other appropriate owner for that dog; and

"(ii) not including selling at auction or otherwise placing a retired breeding dog with another breeder for breeding purposes.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 13(a)(2)(B) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2143(a)(2)(B)) is amended by inserting "subject to paragraph (9)," before "for exercise of dogs".

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue final regulations establishing the standards for the care

of dogs by dealers, as required by this section and the amendments made by this section.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 5075. A bill to provide for the water quality restoration of the Tijuana River and the New River, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Border Water Quality Restoration and Protection Act. This bill aims to reduce pollution along the U.S.-Mexico border and improve water quality of the Tijuana River and New River.

The bill would designate the Environmental Protection Agency as the lead Agency to coordinate all Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies to build and maintain needed infrastructure projects to decrease pollution along the border.

The Tijuana River watershed is in the midst of an environmental crisis, as stormwater flows from the upper watershed, originating in Tijuana, Mexico, and carries pollutants such as bacteria, trash, and sediment that severely affect water quality.

In just the last 5 years, more than 100 billion gallons of toxic sewage, trash, and unmanaged stormwater has flowed across the United States-Mexico border into the Tijuana River Valley and neighboring communities, forcing long-lasting beach closures and creating significant negative impacts on water quality, public health, and the environment.

This transboundary pollution crisis has disproportionately harmed underserved communities along San Diego's southern border for decades. U.S. military personnel, Border Patrol agents, and the local environment and economy have also suffered harmful impacts from waterborne and airborne transboundary sewage flows.

This bill will build upon the past several years of work I have undertaken alongside the late Senator FEINSTEIN to bolster the resources of the Environmental Protection Agency and the International Boundary and Water Commission to repair, rehabilitate, and expand the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, including securing \$300 million in the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and more than \$100 million through fiscal year 2024 appropriations legislation.

Establishing a program for the Tijuana and New Rivers is critical for the EPA to integrate and coordinate water quality restoration and protection activities by stakeholders across the region and will facilitate better coordination by Federal, State, Tribal, local, public, nonprofit, and other relevant stakeholders.

California communities have suffered the impacts of transboundary sewage for too long, and this legislation will facilitate long-awaited solutions to manage stormwater flows to reduce negative impacts to nearby commu-

nities and the regional economy and restore water quality and ecosystems throughout these watersheds.

I want to thank my colleagues, especially Congressman JUAN VARGAS, for introducing this bill with me. I hope my colleagues will join me to pass the Border Water Quality Restoration and Protection Act to address this public health and environmental crisis.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 822—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS “NATIONAL VOTING RIGHTS MONTH”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CASEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 822

Whereas voting is 1 of the single most important rights that can be exercised in a democracy;

Whereas, over the course of history, various voter suppression laws in the United States have hindered, and even prohibited, certain individuals and groups from exercising the right to vote;

Whereas, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, Native Americans and people who were born to United States citizens abroad, people who spoke a language other than English, and people who were formerly subjected to slavery were denied full citizenship and prevented from voting by English literacy tests;

Whereas, since the 1870s, minority groups such as Black Americans in the South have suffered from the oppressive effects of Jim Crow laws that were designed to prevent political, economic, and social mobility;

Whereas Black Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other underrepresented voters were subject to violence, poll taxes, literacy tests, all-White primaries, property ownership tests, and grandfather clauses that were designed to suppress the right of those underrepresented individuals to vote;

Whereas, as of 2022, 4,400,000 people in the United States were disenfranchised from voting because of a felony conviction, including 1 in 16 Black adults, due to the shameful entanglement of racial injustice in the criminal legal system and voting access in the United States;

Whereas members of the aforementioned groups and others are currently, in some cases, subject to intimidation, voter roll purges, and financial barriers that act effectively as modern-day poll taxes;

Whereas, in 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to protect the right of Black Americans and other traditionally disenfranchised groups to vote, among other reasons;

Whereas, in 2013, in the landmark case of *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), the Supreme Court of the United States in-

validated section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10303), dismantling the preclearance formula provision in that Act that protected voters in States and localities that historically have suppressed the right of minorities to vote;

Whereas, since the invalidation of the preclearance formula provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), gerrymandered districts in many States have gone unchallenged and have become less likely to be invalidated by the courts;

Whereas gerrymandered districts in many States have been found to have a discriminatory impact on traditionally disenfranchised minorities through tactics that include “cracking”, diluting the voting power of minorities across many districts, and “packing”, concentrating the power of minority voters into 1 district to reduce their voting power in other districts;

Whereas the courts have found the congressional and, in some cases, State legislative district maps in Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Alabama, and Louisiana to be gerrymandered districts that were created to favor some groups over others;

Whereas these restrictive voting laws encompass cutbacks in early voting, voter roll purges, placement of faulty equipment in minority communities, requirement of photo identification, and the elimination of same-day registration;

Whereas these policies could outright disenfranchise or make voting much more difficult for more than 80,000,000 minority, elderly, poor, and disabled voters, among other groups;

Whereas, in 2016, discriminatory laws in North Carolina, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Texas were ruled to violate the rights of voters and were overturned by the courts;

Whereas the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), calls on Congress to update the formula in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.);

Whereas addressing the challenges of administering future elections requires increasing the accessibility of vote-by-mail and other limited-contact options to ensure access to the ballot and the protection of the health and safety of voters, and access to the ballot amid a global pandemic like the Coronavirus Disease 2019 public health emergency;

Whereas Congress must work to combat any attempts to dismantle or underfund the United States Postal Service or obstruct the passage of the mail as blatant tactics of voter suppression and election interference;

Whereas following the 2020 elections there has been a relentless attack on the right to vote with more than 400 bills having been introduced to roll back the right to vote, including such bills being introduced in almost every State and at least 44 of such bills having been signed into law in 18 States;

Whereas there is much more work to be done to ensure all citizens of the United States have the right to vote through free, fair, and accessible elections, and Congress must exercise its constitutional authority to protect the right to vote;

Whereas National Voter Registration Day in 2024 is Tuesday, September 17; and

Whereas September 2024 would be an appropriate month—

(1) to designate as “National Voting Rights Month”; and

(2) to ensure that, through the registration of voters and awareness of elections, the democracy of the United States includes all citizens of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—