

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—

(1) designates September 2024 as “National Voting Rights Month”;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to uphold the right of every citizen to exercise the sacred and fundamental right to vote;

(3) encourages Congress to pass—

(A) the Freedom to Vote Act (S. 1, H. R. 11, 118th Congress), to set basic national standards to make sure all people in the United States can cast their ballots in the way that works best for them, regardless of what ZIP code they live in, improve access to the ballot for people in the United States, advance commonsense election integrity reforms, and protect the democracy of the United States from relentless attacks;

(B) the Democracy Restoration Act of 2023 (S. 1677, H. R. 4987, 118th Congress), to restore Federal voting rights to citizens after release from imprisonment, honoring the responsibilities of citizenship and civic engagement necessary for building healthy and safe communities, while welcoming the contributions of people returning home after imprisonment; and

(C) other voting rights legislation that seeks to advance voting rights and protect elections in the United States;

(4) recommends that public schools and universities in the United States develop an academic curriculum that educates students about—

(A) the importance of voting, how to register to vote, where to vote, and the different forms of voting;

(B) the history of voter suppression in the United States before and after passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.); and

(C) current measures that have been taken to restrict the vote;

(5) expresses appreciation for the United States Postal Service having issued a special Representative John R. Lewis stamp—

(A) to honor the life and legacy of Representative John R. Lewis in supporting voting rights; and

(B) to remind people in the United States that ordinary citizens risked their lives, marched, and participated in the great democracy of the United States so that all citizens would have the fundamental right to vote; and

(6) invites Congress to allocate the requisite funds for public service announcements on television, radio, newspapers, magazines, social media, billboards, buses, and other forms of media—

(A) to remind people in the United States when elections are being held;

(B) to share important registration deadlines; and

(C) to urge people to get out and vote.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 823—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. KELLY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS,

Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. HELMY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. COONS, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 823

Whereas, from September 15, 2024, through October 15, 2024, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates the Hispanic population living in the 50 States at more than 65,000,000 people, plus more than 3,200,000 people living in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, making Hispanic Americans approximately 19.5 percent or  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the total population of the United States and the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the United States;

Whereas, in 2023, there were 1,000,000 or more Hispanic residents in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and in each of the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington;

Whereas, from 2022 to 2024, the Latino population in the United States grew by 1.8 percent or 1,200,000 residents;

Whereas, from 2010 to 2022, Latinos grew the population of the United States by 13,080,000 individuals, accounting for more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the total population growth of the United States during that period;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is projected to increase by nearly 8 percent by 2060;

Whereas, in 2020, approximately 18,800,000 children, or 25 percent of all children, in the United States were Hispanic;

Whereas 28 percent of public school students in the United States are Latino, and 9 percent of kindergarten through 12th grade teachers are Latino;

Whereas, since 2010, the share of Hispanic adults with at least some college education has increased by 9 percent;

Whereas approximately 3,800,000 Hispanic students are enrolled in higher education, and enrollment of Hispanic students is expected to exceed 4,300,000 by 2026;

Whereas an estimated 36,200,000 Latinos are eligible to vote in the 2024 Presidential election, increasing the eligible Hispanic voters from the 2020 Presidential election by 12 percent and representing 14.7 percent of the electorate in the United States;

Whereas approximately 1 in every 5 Hispanic voters are expected to vote in their first presidential election in November 2024;

Whereas, as of 2024, each year approximately 1,400,000 Latino citizens of the United States become eligible to vote;

Whereas it is estimated that 77,247,271 Hispanics will be 18 years of age or older, thus eligible to vote, by 2060;

Whereas it is estimated that, as of 2023, the purchasing power of Hispanic Americans is \$3,400,000,000,000;

Whereas, measured by gross domestic product, the economy of Latinos in the United States ranks as the fifth largest in the world;

Whereas, as of 2023, Latino-owned businesses have created nearly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all new jobs in the United States and contribute more than \$100,000,000,000 in annual payroll;

Whereas, in 2021, Latinas in the United States contributed approximately \$1,300,000,000,000 to the gross domestic product;

Whereas there are approximately 5,000,000 Hispanic-owned businesses in the United

States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and contributing more than \$800,000,000,000 in revenue to the economy of the United States;

Whereas, between 2007 and 2020, the number of Hispanic-owned businesses grew by 34 percent, representing the fastest growing segment of small businesses in the United States;

Whereas, as of 2023, Latino workers represented approximately 19.1 percent of the total civilian labor force of the United States, and, as a result of Latinos experiencing the fastest population growth of all race and ethnicity groups in the United States, the rate of Latino participation in the labor force is expected to grow;

Whereas, as of 2024, 67.5 percent of all Latinos in the United States participate in the labor force;

Whereas, as of 2024, 6.3 percent of chief executives in the United States are Latino, 9.7 percent of lawyers are Latino, 2.5 percent of postsecondary teachers are Latino, and 11.4 percent of civil engineers are Latino, all who contribute to the United States through their professions;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have fought bravely in every war in the history of the United States since the American Revolution;

Whereas, as of 2024—

(1) more than 257,842 Hispanic members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty; and  
(2) there are approximately 1,336,206 Hispanic veterans of the Armed Forces, including approximately 163,264 Latinas;

Whereas, in the Korean war, the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, known as the “Borinqueneers”, was the only active duty, segregated Latino military unit in the history of the United States and earned more than 2,700 Purple Hearts, 9 Distinguished Service Crosses, and a Congressional Gold Medal for their service;

Whereas 59 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas, in 2020, Congress established the National Museum of the American Latino, which, when complete, will display the achievements, diversity, and legacy of the Hispanic community in the United States;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of the Government of the United States, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court, 5 seats in the Senate, and 56 seats in the House of Representatives; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2024, through October 15, 2024;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritages of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that celebrate the contributions of Latinos to the United States.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3283. Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to