

CRUZ) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3722, a bill to require a report on access to maternal health care within the military health system, and for other purposes.

S. 3968

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3968, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide community-based training opportunities for medical students in rural areas and medically under-served communities, and for other purposes.

S. 3976

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3976, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the deduction for personal casualty losses as in effect prior to the enactment of Public Law 115-97 (commonly referred to as the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act").

S. 4142

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4142, a bill to increase the penalty for prohibited possession of a phone in a correctional facility.

S. 4235

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4235, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reauthorize grants to support for law enforcement officers and families, and for other purposes.

S. 4292

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4292, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 4297

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4297, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 4378

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4378, a bill to require on-time delivery of periodicals to unlock additional rate authority, and for other purposes.

S. 4381

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. HELMY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4381, a bill to protect an individual's ability to access contraceptives and to engage in contraception and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide contraceptives, contrac-

tion, and information related to contraception.

S. 4528

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4528, a bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Marshall Walter "Major" Taylor in recognition of his significance to the nation as an athlete, trailblazer, role model, and equal rights advocate.

S. 4539

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4539, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make certain provisions with respect to qualified ABLE programs permanent.

S. 4687

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4687, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to wildland firefighters in recognition of their strength, resiliency, sacrifice, and service to protect the forests, grasslands, and communities of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4689

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4689, a bill to remove aliens who fail to comply with a release order, to enroll all aliens on the ICE non-detained docket in the Alternatives to Detention program with continuous GPS monitoring, and for other purposes.

S. 4917

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KANE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4917, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance 403(b) plans, and for other purposes.

S. 4959

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4959, a bill to prohibit Federal agencies from implementing environmental justice standards when issuing rules, and for other purposes.

S. 4988

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4988, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals who fought for or with the United States against the

armed forces of Imperial Japan in the Pacific theater and the impacted Sashinax people on Attu, whose lives, culture, and community were irrevocably changed from December 8, 1941, to August 15, 1945.

S. 5008

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 5008, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 5108

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5108, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide relief for borrowers of Federal Direct PLUS loans made on behalf of students.

S. 5110

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5110, a bill to clarify the country of origin of certain articles imported into the United States for purposes of certain trade enforcement actions.

S. 5113

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5113, a bill to delay the application of a certain rule for members of the Armed Forces and diplomats stationed in a foreign country and for individuals with service animals, and for other purposes.

S. 5117

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5117, a bill to call for the immediate extradition or return to the United States of convicted felon Joanne Chesimard, William "Guillermo" Morales, and all other fugitives who are receiving safe haven in Cuba to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States.

S. 5131

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S. 5131, a bill to advance a competitive strategy against the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 5133

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5133, a bill to establish a tracker for Senate-confirmed executive branch positions.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 5148. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain family caregivers to contribute to a Roth IRA; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 5149. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow additional catch-up contributions for certain family caregivers; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce two bills: the Improving Retirement Security for Family Caregiver Act and the Catching Up Family Caregivers Act. These bills, which I am introducing today with my colleague from Virginia, Senator WARNER, would enable family caregivers to better save for retirement.

Family caregivers play an essential role in American society: caring for this Nation's children and elderly. While providing many vital services for their loved ones, these caregivers often suffer economically. According to a new study from the Edward Jones Grassroots Taskforce, 64 percent of women say their caregiving duties have negatively impacted their ability to save toward their long-term financial goals. In fact, an average 26-year-old female making \$60,000 a year leaving the workforce for 5 years to raise her children will lose close to \$1 million over her lifetime due to lost retirement assets and wage growth. Those taking care of an aging parent often face similar experiences. While it is difficult to put a dollar amount to the value of the devotion, time, and services that these caregivers provide, the Alzheimer's Association has estimated that in 2023, family caregivers provided \$350 billion in uncompensated long-term care.

For this reason, the American retirement system needs to change to benefit family caregivers. Our legislation would enable family caregivers to contribute to their retirement funds without significant income. Currently, contributions are capped to Roth IRAs at \$7,000 or yearly income, whichever is less; therefore a family caregiver earning less than \$7,000 annually is severely limited in their ability to contribute to a retirement account. The Improving Retirement Security for Family Caregiver Act, would eliminate the income cap for family caregivers, enabling them to contribute to a Roth IRA through other savings accounts up to \$7,000 annually.

In addition, our current retirement system allows those over the age of 50 to contribute more money to their retirement than the statutory limit, the idea being that those in their fifties have more discretionary income than they did when they were younger to put towards retirement. Using the same logic, the Catching Up Family Caregivers Act would give family caregivers extra years of maximum catch-up contributions for every year they were sidelined from the workforce to be a family caregiver. These com-

plementary bills would allow family caregivers to invest more in their retirement funds now and later.

These complementary bills would allow family caregivers to invest more in their retirement funds now and later. They have earned to support of important stakeholder organizations that represent family caregivers, including the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement. In letters that support these bills, they write, "Nearly half of all caregivers who provide help to older adults do so for someone living with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Alzheimer's takes a devastating toll on caregivers." I am grateful for the support of these groups who know how important these retirement reforms will be to the financial security of caregivers who sacrifice for their loved ones. I urge my colleagues to support our legislation.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bills be printed in the RECORD:

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

S. 5148

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 "Improving Retirement Security for Family Caregivers Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. ROTH IRA CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN FAMILY CAREGIVERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 408A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) SPECIAL RULE FOR ROTH IRA CONTRIBUTIONS OF QUALIFIED FAMILY CAREGIVERS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual who is a qualified family caregiver as of the close of the taxable year, in applying section 219 for purposes of paragraph (2), the limitation of paragraph (1) of section 219(b) shall be equal to the dollar amount in effect under section 219(b)(1)(A) for the taxable year.

"(B) QUALIFIED FAMILY CAREGIVER.—For purposes of this paragraph—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified family caregiver' means an individual who, during the taxable year—

"(I) has completed 500 or more hours as a family caregiver, and

"(II) has completed fewer than 500 hours of paid employment (including self-employment).

"(ii) FAMILY CAREGIVER.—The term 'family caregiver' means an unpaid family member, a foster parent, or another unpaid adult, who is unemployed or severely underemployed (as determined by the Secretary) and who provides in-home care, monitoring, management, supervision, or treatment of—

"(I) a child, or

"(II) an adult with a special need (as defined in section 2901 of the Public Health Service Act), including an elderly adult who requires care or supervision due to an age-related condition.

"(iii) HOURS.—An individual shall be treated as serving as a family caregiver during the hours in which the individual is engaged in caregiving tasks including assistance with bathing or grooming, dressing, laundry, food shopping or preparation, housekeeping, managing medications, transportation, and mobility assistance.

"(C) COORDINATION WITH SPOUSAL IRA.—In the case of an individual to whom section 219(c)(1) applies for the taxable year, subparagraph (A) shall be applied notwithstanding such section."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

S. 5149

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 "Catching Up Family Caregivers Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN FAMILY CAREGIVERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 414(v)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking "who would" and inserting "who—

"(i) would",

(2) by adding "or" at the end, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(ii) is a qualified family caregiver as of the end of the taxable year."

(b) QUALIFIED FAMILY CAREGIVER.—Paragraph (6) of section 414(v) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) QUALIFIED FAMILY CAREGIVER.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified family caregiver' means an individual who has completed 500 or more hours as a family caregiver during any 1 taxable year.

"(ii) LIMITATION.—An individual shall be treated as a qualified family caregiver for not more than a total of, consecutively or nonconsecutively, the greater of—

"(I) 1 taxable year for each taxable year during which such individual completed 500 or more hours as a family caregiver, or

"(II) 5 taxable years.

"(iii) HOURS.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the hours during which an individual was a family caregiver shall be determined by [to be supplied].

"(iv) FAMILY CAREGIVER.—The term 'family caregiver' means an unpaid family member, a foster parent, or another unpaid adult, who is unemployed or severely underemployed (as determined by the Secretary) and who provides in-home care, monitoring, management, supervision, or treatment of—

"(I) a child, or

"(II) an adult with a special need (as defined in section 2901 of the Public Health Service Act), including an elderly adult who requires care or supervision due to an age-related condition."

(c) IRA CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS.—Clause (i) of section 219(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "who has attained the age of 50 before the close of the taxable year, the deductible amount" and inserting "who—

"(I) has attained the age of 50 before the close of the taxable year, or

"(II) is a qualified family caregiver (as defined in section 414(v)(6)(D)) as of the close of the taxable year, the deductible amount."

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 5150. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Health and Human Services acting through the Surgeon General, to implement a mental health warning label on social

media platforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mrs. BRITT. Madam President, it is always an honor to represent my great State, to stand and speak in front of my colleagues and before the American people. But today is particularly special for me as my parents are here in the Gallery, and I rise today with great concerns for our country as a parent myself.

As a mom of two, I know firsthand the struggles that parents face with raising their children. You add doing that in this digital age, and obstacles and challenges become that much more great.

Our country is in the throes of a mental health crisis. And don't just take my word for it. Just look at the data. Twenty percent of Americans between the ages of 12 and 17 experienced at least one major depressive episode in 2021. When looking at just girls, that number then increases to 29 percent.

This crisis—and crisis doesn't even really feel strong enough when we are talking about rates this high—is alarming, and recent developments show us that. But before that, let's rewind.

Between the years of 2011 and 2019, depression rates amongst our teenagers more than doubled. The number of adolescents who reported experiencing a major depressive episode shot up 60 percent from 2007 to 2019.

Emergency room visits by children and teens for anxiety, mood disorders, and self-harm increased sharply during this time as well, and suicide rates among our children, between the ages of 10 and then all the way to 24, which had been stable the previous decade, jumped by almost 60 percent.

When we talk about suicide, the numbers show an incredible heartbreak of what is actually occurring. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death for Americans under the age of 44. In 2021, 25 percent of teenage girls made a plan to die by suicide.

The next year, in 2022, one-third of high school girls said that they seriously considered taking their own life, and then 9 percent of our high school population actually attempted death by suicide. That is 9 out of every 100 high schoolers. This is not OK.

Meanwhile, factors that contribute positively to mental health are on the decline. Data from surveys conducted by groups like the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System and the National Institute on Drug Abuse show that teens and tweens today get less sleep, less exercise, and have less in-person contact than their peers before them.

So in an age where we brag about being more “connected” than ever, we have actually never been further apart. And while we should always be wary of blaming just one culprit, there is one thing that stands out among the rest, and that is social media usage.

Nearly 100 percent of teenagers have access to smartphones. I am looking at

our incredible group of pages down in front, and my guess is, if I polled this group, we would see that that stat is probably true. Half, though, of American teenagers say that they are online constantly.

I wish that the Gallery could see that I am actually getting some shaking heads up here.

This is about the same percentage of teens who reported feeling addicted to their smartphones in 2016.

Fifty-four percent of American teenagers admit that it would be really hard to give up their social media, and 35 percent of American teenagers say that they are on YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook—I am sure I am missing a few, right?—almost constantly.

TikTok, in particular, has presented some really serious concerns. So for those of you who may not be aware, just this spring, several American lawmakers received death threats from users saying they would kill us if we voted for the TikTok divestment bill.

My office got one of those messages; so did Senator TILLIS from North Carolina. I wouldn't be surprised, if we polled all 100 Senators, if there weren't messages like this on many, many more machines. And the truth is, it wasn't just about killing us. These messages also said that, if we did this, they would kill themselves and/or harm others.

That came just after TikTok urged its users to call American lawmakers and stop them from voting for that bill. So, clearly, social media has a deep hold on our country's children and teens.

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy wrote a few months ago that adolescents who spend more than 3 hours a day on social media double their risk of symptoms of anxiety and depression than those who do not.

But guess what the data shows. Our teenagers aren't on social media for 3 hours a day, on average. They are on social media around 5 hours a day.

Many kids acknowledge that social media is bad for them, and many parents acknowledge that, too. But the situation is clearly getting more devastating. It seems to just be getting worse.

Our kids are suffering, with many not realizing that the root cause is due to the addictive quality of social media, and they actually seem to feel powerless on how to end that.

Earlier this summer, the Surgeon General called for the creation of a warning label on social media, and 42 out of 50 State attorneys general, including Alabama's own Steve Marshall and Pennsylvania's Michelle Henry, backed this proposal.

Senator FETTERMAN and I are on the same page about this. There should be a warning label on social media, and that is why today we have introduced the Stop the Scroll Act. Our bill would require a social media platform to have a warning label to be placed on it to

ensure that users know about the potential adverse effects of these apps and they must acknowledge that before proceeding to use them.

While Senator FETTERMAN and I agree on the importance of these labels, we also recognize that we are not the experts here. Our bill would not determine what the label would say. Rather, we would leave that up to the Surgeon General.

The only requirement that this bill would create is that the warning label include a way to quickly access mental health resources—which, in our mind, would look like a link to 9-8-8, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, or other resources—putting them quickly at the fingertips of those who need them most.

Now, warning labels won't prevent the American people from using the app, just like warnings on tobacco or alcohol don't stop someone from purchasing them. The warning is a caution so that consumers have their eyes opened to the potential dangers ahead. It empowers them to make informed decisions.

It is similar to when a doctor tells a patient they need to limit their sugar intake, right? The doctor isn't going to force you to stop eating sugar, but the warning from the doctor will likely make the patient think twice. In that situation, the doctor will usually provide advice on how to reduce sugar in your diet.

That is what the warning does. It makes sure consumers' eyes are open. It ensures that they acknowledge it before moving forward, and it provides direction to access resources if that user needs help.

The Stop the Scroll Act isn't a cure. It is a caution that will hopefully help promote healthier social media usage, while providing those in crisis with the resources they need to get help.

It is an important step forward in creating a safer digital age for all Americans.

So I am grateful for the leadership of my colleague from Pennsylvania Senator FETTERMAN in introducing this important legislation alongside me today. I want to thank Senator FETTERMAN and Surgeon General Murthy for their efforts to address the dangers of social media.

I am committed to continuing to work in a bipartisan fashion to help our kids have the kind of childhood that we were blessed to enjoy and to ensure that they have access to the American dream, rather than the social media nightmares that so many families are dealing with today.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 845—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2024, TO SEPTEMBER 29, 2024, AS “ASIAN AMERICAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER-SERVING INSTITUTIONS WEEK”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 845

Whereas the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Program was originally authorized on September 27, 2007, by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-84; 121 Stat. 784);

Whereas 2024 marks the 17th anniversary of the establishment of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions by Congress;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions are degree-granting postsecondary institutions that have an undergraduate enrollment of not less than 10 percent Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students;

Whereas the purpose of the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Program is to improve the availability and quality of postsecondary education programs to serve Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students;

Whereas, since 2007, over 270 colleges and universities have been eligible as Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions throughout the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific;

Whereas there are 207 funded and eligible Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions operating in the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific;

Whereas, as of the 2023–2024 academic year, 69 Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions are or have been funded in the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions are of critical importance, as they enroll, support, and graduate large proportions of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander college students, the majority of whom are overwhelmingly from families with low incomes and are first-generation college students;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions comprise only 6.9 percent of all institutions of higher education, yet enroll 46 percent of all Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander undergraduate students in the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions employ many of the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander faculty, staff, and administrators in the United States;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions award 52 percent of the associate's degrees and 45 percent of the bachelor's degrees attained by all Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander college students in the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific;

Whereas over 1/3 of the funded Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions maintain an Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander enrollment of over 20 percent;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions play a vital role in preserving the diverse culture, experiences, heritage, and history of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders;

Whereas Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions create culturally relevant academic and co-curricular programs, research, and services, which increase retention, transfer, and graduation rates while also enhancing the overall educational experiences of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students;

Whereas celebrating the vast contributions of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions strengthens the culture of the United States; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions deserve national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the achievements and goals of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions in their work to provide quality educational opportunities to Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander and other students who attend their institutions;

(2) encourages institutions of higher education that are eligible Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions to obtain funding and establish programs to serve the unique needs of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students, families, and communities;

(3) recognizes the 17th anniversary of the establishment of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions and expresses support for the designation of “Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Week”; and

(4) calls on the people of the United States, including the United States territories in the Pacific, and interested groups to observe “Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Week” with appropriate activities, ceremonies, and programs to demonstrate support for Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 846—COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ERADICATION OF WILD POLIOVIRUS FROM THE AMERICAS

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. REED, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 846

Whereas nearly 60,000 children in the United States were reported to have polio in

1952 alone, with more than 20,000 cases of paralysis;

Whereas, thanks to vaccination, polio was eliminated from the United States in 1979;

Whereas the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), a unique public-private partnership that includes the Federal Government, Rotary International, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (commonly known as “UNICEF”), the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and GAVI, was established in 1988 with a goal of eradicating polio globally, at a time when there were more than 350,000 cases of polio recorded annually;

Whereas Rotary International, a global association founded in Illinois, has contributed more than \$2,700,000,000 and volunteered countless hours in the global fight against polio since 1979;

Whereas, since the goal of global polio eradication was set in 1988, incidences of polio have been reduced by more than 99.9 percent through the use of the inactivated polio vaccine developed by Jonas Salk and the oral polio vaccine developed by Albert Sabin;

Whereas the Americas were the first region to be certified free from wild poliovirus by the WHO in 1994, with the last case of wild poliovirus in the Americas confirmed in Peru in 1991;

Whereas, since 1994, 4 other regions of the world have been certified free from wild poliovirus and 2 of the 3 strains of wild poliovirus have been certified eradicated worldwide;

Whereas, as of September 2024, only Afghanistan and Pakistan have been unable to fully stop transmission of wild poliovirus, a decrease from more than 125 countries in 1988;

Whereas the GPEI reaches the world's most vulnerable children, including those who have been displaced, living in areas of insecurity or conflict, where cases of variant poliovirus remain of concern;

Whereas, as of September 2024, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 20,000,000 people are walking who have been spared from paralysis and 1,500,000 deaths have been averted worldwide thanks to the efforts of the GPEI;

Whereas, in addition to combating polio, the global workforce and infrastructure of the GPEI has frequently served as first responders for natural disasters and other public health crises, including outbreaks of Ebola and the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, when polio is eradicated, it will be only the second human disease in history to make such an achievement, the first being smallpox;

Whereas progress toward global polio eradication is a testament to what can be achieved through sustained global commitment and collaboration; and

Whereas, as long as poliovirus circulates anywhere, it remains a threat to children everywhere: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 30th anniversary of the Americas being certified polio-free by the World Health Organization on September 29, 1994;

(2) commends the work of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and its member states on keeping the Americas wild poliovirus free;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative;

(4) encourages and supports the international community of governments and nongovernmental organizations in remaining committed to the eradication of polio; and

(5) encourages the Federal Government to continue committing funding to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.