

Whereas lost wages mean Latina women have less money to support themselves and their families, save and invest for the future, and spend on goods and services;

Whereas approximately 51 percent of Latina women are unable to earn sick days through their jobs;

Whereas the lack of access to affordable, quality child care, paid family and medical leave, and other family-friendly workplace policies forces many Latina women to choose between their paycheck or job and getting quality care for themselves or their family members, a dynamic that contributes to the wage gap;

Whereas, if the annual wage gap were eliminated, on average, a Latina woman working full-time and year-round would have enough money to pay for nearly 3 years of childcare, 37 months of food, or more than 16 months of mortgage and utility payments;

Whereas workplace harassment forces many women to leave their occupation or industry, or pass up opportunities for advancement, which contributes to the gender wage gap;

Whereas targets of workplace harassment are 6.5 times as likely as nontargets to change jobs;

Whereas there is a high personal cost for women who have been sexually harassed, including unemployment, under-employment, and financial stress resulting from changing jobs, which lead to long-term consequences for earnings and career attainment;

Whereas, in 2023, nearly 70 percent of workers paid the minimum wage or less were women, and there was a disproportionate concentration of women of color in low-wage and tipped jobs;

Whereas the pay disparity Latina women face is part of a wider set of disparities Latina women face in homeownership, unemployment, poverty, access to childcare, and the ability to build wealth;

Whereas the underpayment of Latina women workers causes businesses and the economy to suffer;

Whereas true pay equity requires a multifaceted strategy that addresses the gender and racial injustices that Latina women face daily; and

Whereas many national organizations have designated October 3, 2024, as “Latina Equal Pay Day” to recognize the pay gap between Latina women and White, non-Hispanic men in the prior year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the disparity in wages paid to Latina women and the impact of that disparity on women, families, the economy, and the United States; and

(2) reaffirms its support for ensuring equal pay and closing the gender wage gap.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 43—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2024, AS “VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DAY”

Mr. CARPER (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 43

Whereas, on September 29, 1899, the organization now known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was founded in Columbus, Ohio, in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection;

Whereas, on September 29, 2024, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will celebrate its 125th anniversary;

Whereas, since 1899, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has provided voluntary and unselfish service to the Armed Forces, veterans, and the United States by—

(1) advocating for overarching benefits programs for veterans;

(2) facilitating veterans transitioning back to civilian society;

(3) serving the communities in which veterans live; and

(4) taking a national leadership role on substantive issues important to veterans of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States provides an opportunity to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to the nearly 1,000,000 veterans of the Armed Forces represented by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who served in combat from World War II to the present day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day”;

(2) recognizes the historic significance of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and congratulates the organization on achieving that milestone;

(3) commends the nearly 1,000,000 veterans who belong to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and thanks those veterans for their service to their fellow veterans and the United States; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe September 29, 2024, with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3298. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 9747, making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3299. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. HAGERTY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 91, to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

SA 3300. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 805, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the murder of James Wright Foley and calling for the moral courage to prioritize the return of Americans held captive abroad and take all necessary efforts to deter international hostage taking and arbitrary detention.

SA 3301. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 805, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3298. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 9747, making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal

year 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ For “Community Planning and Development, Community Development Fund”, there is appropriated \$5,600,000,000 for an additional amount for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until expended, for the same purposes and under the same terms and conditions as funds appropriated under such heading in title VIII of the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-43; 135 Stat. 355), except that such amounts shall be for major disasters that occurred in 2023 or 2024 and the fourth, 20th, and 21st provisos under such heading in such Act shall not apply: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this section, no less than \$3,500,000,000 shall be allocated for declared major disasters that occurred in 2023 within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this section, \$25,000,000 shall be made available for capacity building and technical assistance, including assistance on contracting and procurement processes, to support recipients of allocations for major disasters from this, prior, or future Acts, including likely recipients, as determined by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, of allocations that may become available with respect to major disasters in future years: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this section, \$25,000,000 shall be transferred, in aggregate, to “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Program Office Salaries and Expenses—Community Planning and Development” for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of amounts made available under this section or any Act enacted before or after the date of enactment of this Act that makes amounts available for purposes related to major disasters under the heading “Community Planning and Development, Community Development Fund” and for additional information technology and other costs related to Department of Housing and Urban Development-wide or program specific disaster coordination and response: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available in this section, \$5,000,000 shall be transferred in aggregate under the heading “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Office of Inspector General” for necessary costs of overseeing and auditing funds amounts made available under the heading “Community Development Fund” in this Act or any Act enacted before or after the date of enactment of this Act that makes amounts available for purposes related to major disasters under such heading: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this section and under the heading “Community Planning and Development, Community Development Fund” in any such Act may be used by a grantee to assist utilities as part of a disaster-related eligible activity under section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)): *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

SEC. ____ For “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund”, there is appropriated \$10,000,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until expended, of which \$9,500,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford

Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SA 3299. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. HAGERTY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 91, to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust; as follows:

Amend the title to read as follows: “To award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.”.

SA 3300. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 805, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the murder of James Wright Foley and calling for the moral courage to prioritize the return of Americans held captive abroad and take all necessary efforts to deter international hostage taking and arbitrary detention; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following: “That the Senate—

(1) stands with all those who have been taken hostage or wrongfully detained, those who have been released, and the families and friends who fight for their freedom;

(2) prioritizes the return of all innocent United States nationals targeted for kidnapping or wrongful detention abroad and will continue to take all necessary steps to secure the release of Americans and deter our adversaries from using Americans as tools for their geopolitical ambitions;

(3) acknowledges the need to continue working with allies and partners to develop a coordinated approach to deter and prevent international hostage-taking;

(4) condemns the practice of targeting and wrongfully detaining Americans in order to threaten American sovereignty and interfere with United States foreign policy;

(5) supports efforts to ensure that the United States Government hostage enterprise is properly resourced and authorized to address the evolving dynamic of hostage-taking and wrongful detention, including through the Hostage Response Group at the National Security Council, the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell, the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, and supporting departments and agencies to speed the safe return of United States nationals held hostage abroad and deter future hostage-taking;

(6) commends the personnel, past and present, of the hostage enterprise who have endeavored to faithfully execute the mission of recovering Americans unjustly held captive abroad; and

(7) recognizes August 19, 2014, as a solemn remembrance of this national security threat and the United States Government's sacred obligation to protect United States nationals abroad from being taken captive unjustly.

SA 3301. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 805, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the murder of James Wright Foley and calling for the moral courage to prioritize the return of Americans held captive abroad and

take all necessary efforts to deter international hostage taking and arbitrary detention; as follows:

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas James W. Foley was an American freelance journalist, an author, teacher and humanitarian from New Hampshire;

Whereas James dedicated his career to robust, independent, and compassionate journalism that took him to war zones and classrooms alike;

Whereas, upon his return after being detained for six weeks in Libya, James said, “for some reason I have physical courage, but, that's nothing compared to moral courage. If I don't have the moral courage to challenge authority, to write about things that might have reprisals on my career, if I don't have that moral courage, we don't have journalism”;

Whereas, on November 22, 2012, James was kidnapped while reporting on the conflict in northern Syria;

Whereas, on August 19, 2014, James Wright Foley was publicly beheaded by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), his death then used as propaganda against the United States of America;

Whereas, on September 4, 2014, the James W. Foley Legacy Foundation was established to inspire the moral courage needed to secure the freedom of Americans taken captive abroad, prevent future hostage-taking, and promote journalist safety;

Whereas the Foley Foundation participated in the National Counter Terrorism Center task force, ordered by President Barack Obama to evaluate United States hostage policy and engagement with families of those held captive;

Whereas, on June 24, 2015, President Obama issued Presidential Policy Directive 30, which committed to “achieving the safe and rapid recovery of U.S. nationals taken hostage outside the United States” and established the current United States hostage enterprise, which includes the Hostage Response Group (HRG) at the National Security Council, the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs (SPEHA), and the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell (HRFC) that together pursue recovery strategies, support returned hostages and families of current hostages, and coordinate the use of diplomatic, law enforcement, intelligence, and military capabilities to resolve international hostage-takings;

Whereas the Foley Foundation has worked since 2014, in collaboration with the United States Government's hostage enterprise and families of United States nationals taken hostage abroad by terrorists or criminals and those wrongfully detained by nation states to help reunite families;

Whereas, in 2019, after negotiating the release of a United States citizen wrongfully detained in Iran, President Trump reiterated that “the highest priority of the United States is the safety and well-being of its citizens. Freeing Americans held captive is of vital importance to my Administration, and we will continue to work hard to bring home all our citizens wrongfully held captive overseas,” and in 2023, upon negotiating the release of five Americans held in Iran, President Biden said that “reuniting wrongfully detained Americans with their loved ones has been a priority for my Administration since day one”;

Whereas, since 2019, the Foley Foundation has annually published research in the “Bringing Americans Home” report, which evaluates the experiences of American families with a loved one held captive abroad, returned hostages and detainees, and government and nongovernment experts;

Whereas, in December 2020, Congress passed, and President Trump reaffirmed the United States commitment to bringing home American citizens by signing into law the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.) to prioritize and provide assistance to Americans wrongfully detained abroad and to their family members;

Whereas, in September 2021, Alexandra Kotey pleaded guilty to eight counts of kidnapping, torture, and accessory to murder of four Americans, including James Wright Foley, Kayla Jean Mueller, Steven Joel Sotloff, and Peter Edward Kassig;

Whereas, on August 19, 2022, the Department of Justice convicted former British jihadist, El Shafee ElSheik in Federal Court in the Eastern District of Virginia for the kidnapping, torture, and murder of Americans Sotloff, Kassig, Mueller, and Foley, as well as three British citizens;

Whereas, under Democratic and Republican presidents, the United States has successfully freed more than 120 Americans from unjust captivity abroad;

Whereas President Joe Biden's July 2022 Executive Order 14078 (relating to bolstering efforts to bring hostages and wrongfully detained United States nationals home) declared that hostage taking and the wrongful detention of United States nationals constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States; and

Whereas the targeting of United States nationals for use as political pawns by nation states is a grave threat to the security of United States nationals traveling abroad, seeks to hold the United State Government hostage, and strains international stability: Now, therefore, be it

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have nine requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session