

(B) take care of those affected by homicide, including families, schools, and communities, with appropriate services and information; and

(C) encourage research to—

(i) better address the needs of families and communities severely impacted by violence; and

(ii) consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, behavioral health services for survivors of homicide victims; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interest groups, and affected persons to—

(A) promote awareness of survivors of homicide victims;

(B) take an active role in the fight to end gun violence and homicide;

(C) respond to all families suffering in the aftermath of homicide with consistency, compassion, and competence, and by centering the principles of love, unity, faith, hope, courage, justice, and forgiveness; and

(D) observe National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month with appropriate activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 930—CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF AZERBAIJAN FOR PERPETRATING AN ETHNIC CLEANSING CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ARMENIAN POPULATION OF NAGORNO-KARABAKH

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 930

Whereas Nagorno-Karabakh is part of the traditional homeland of the Armenian people and has been a center of Armenian life and culture for millennia;

Whereas the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh have continually sought to exercise their right of self-determination and established a government separate from Azerbaijan;

Whereas, on December 12, 2022, the Government of Azerbaijan initiated a grueling blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh that deprived the region's population of food, medicine, fuel, and other necessities for nearly 10 months;

Whereas, on September 19, 2023, the Government of Azerbaijan launched a full-scale military offensive against the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh that took the lives of hundreds of soldiers and dozens of civilians;

Whereas the Government of Azerbaijan used the threat of further violence to coerce the Armenian leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh to surrender their autonomy and dissolve their governing institutions;

Whereas over 100,000 Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh, facing the threat of further ethnic violence, fled to Armenia as refugees within 2 weeks of Azerbaijan's assault;

Whereas the rhetoric of President Ilham Aliyev and other Azerbaijani officials demonstrates a clear ethnic animus that continues to undermine efforts to build a durable and dignified peace;

Whereas international legal experts, including former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Luis Moreno Ocampo and former United Nations genocide expert Juan Mendez, have determined that Azerbaijan's blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh violated the United Nations Genocide Convention;

Whereas Azerbaijan has a responsibility to protect ethnic Armenian cultural heritage sites in Nagorno-Karabakh, including

churches, monasteries, cemeteries, and other cultural monuments and should support UNESCO to assess and catalog the region's many culturally significant sites;

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom recommends that Azerbaijan be designated as a country of particular concern, in part because of the destruction of Christian religious sites in Nagorno-Karabakh;

Whereas, according to the Government of Armenia, dozens of Armenian prisoners of war, civilian captives, and members of the political leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh are now unjustly imprisoned in Azerbaijan on politically motivated charges or no charges at all;

Whereas the political leaders of Nagorno-Karabakh now imprisoned by the Government of Azerbaijan, including Davit Manukyan, Davit Babayan, Levon Mnatsakanyan, Arkadi Ghukasyan, Bako Sahakyan, Arayik Harutyunyan, Davit Ishkhanyan, and Ruben Vardanyan, should be afforded due process in accordance with the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Azerbaijan is a party;

Whereas there are still thousands missing from the over 30-year conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh;

Whereas the Government of Azerbaijan has a well-documented record of subjecting Armenian prisoners to torture, humiliation, and other violations of fundamental rights afforded by the Geneva Conventions;

Whereas, as a result of Azerbaijan's ethnic cleansing campaign, over 100,000 displaced persons from Nagorno-Karabakh now seek refuge in Armenia where, because of the country's limited resources, they face difficulties accessing housing, food security, employment, and health care;

Whereas the United States Government has announced more than \$10,700,000 in urgent humanitarian assistance to respond to the crisis, but much more is needed;

Whereas international law provides for a right of return for populations displaced from their country of origin, including under the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1966 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention, and the European Convention on Human Rights to which Azerbaijan is a party;

Whereas the International Court of Justice issued a binding provisional measure in November 2023 requiring the Government of Azerbaijan to provide for the safe, unimpeded, and expeditious return of Armenian refugees who wish to return to their homes in Nagorno-Karabakh;

Whereas, in 2024, Freedom House, in partnership with Armenian and international human rights organizations, issued a report that they hope will contribute to the finding that the Azerbaijani authorities have engaged in a systematic and deliberate campaign aimed at the ethnic cleansing of the Armenian population from Nagorno-Karabakh, thereby committing egregious violations of human rights and international law;

Whereas, prior to the Azerbaijani assault on Nagorno-Karabakh, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia Yuri Kim testified before Congress that the United States Government "will not tolerate" any Azerbaijani attack on Nagorno-Karabakh;

Whereas the United States Government has yet to impose meaningful accountability measures on Azerbaijan for perpetrating an inhumane blockade and campaign of ethnic cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh;

Whereas failing to hold the Government of Azerbaijan accountable for ethnic cleansing

emboldens Azerbaijan's leaders to engage in further anti-Armenian aggression;

Whereas, in recent years, the Government of Armenia has sought to deepen its ties to the United States and other liberal democracies and to distance itself from Russia;

Whereas the Government of Azerbaijan illegally occupies approximately 200 square kilometers of Armenia's internationally recognized territory, including approximately 150 square kilometers captured during the aggressive military actions from 2020 to 2023;

Whereas the United States Government has a special interest in ensuring that Armenia's security is not jeopardized because of its embrace of democracy and rejection of Vladimir Putin's murderous regime;

Whereas the Government of Azerbaijan continues to demand unilateral territorial concessions from Armenia through the threat of force, often referring to portions of sovereign Armenian territory as "western Azerbaijan";

Whereas the United States Government has taken a direct role in facilitating a durable conflict-resolution process between Armenia and Azerbaijan; and

Whereas the Government of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia continue to engage in talks that have yet to finalize a peace agreement, leaving many concerned about potential for future violence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the atrocities perpetrated by the Government of Azerbaijan against the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh;

(2) recognizes that Azerbaijan's blockade and subsequent military offensive against the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh constitute acts of ethnic cleansing;

(3) affirms the fundamental right of displaced Armenians to return to their homes in Nagorno-Karabakh with strong protections in place to ensure their security; and

(4) calls on the President and the relevant Federal agencies to take immediate action to—

(A) impose targeted sanctions on Azerbaijani government officials complicit in human rights abuses;

(B) restrict United States military aid to Azerbaijan consistent with 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511; 22 U.S.C. 5812 note) ;

(C) reaffirm the findings of the 2024 Freedom House report which documented a deliberate campaign by the Government of Azerbaijan to ethnically cleanse the Armenian population from Nagorno-Karabakh and recognizes that these actions against the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh constitute ethnic cleansing;

(D) provide robust humanitarian assistance to respond to the refugee crisis in Armenia and rally the international community to do the same;

(E) continue to strengthen the United States-Armenia security partnership as the Government of Armenia bolsters its ties to Western allies; and

(F) facilitate diplomacy to achieve a just and lasting peace in the South Caucasus that provides for the release of all Armenians unjustly imprisoned by the Government of Azerbaijan, establishes a right of return and security guarantees for the displaced Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh, and preserves the Armenian cultural heritage of Nagorno-Karabakh.

SENATE RESOLUTION 931—RECOGNIZING THE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE OF AMBASSADOR MICHAEL HERZOG DURING HIS TENURE AS AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 931

Whereas, since November 15, 2021, Ambassador Michael Herzog has served as Ambassador of Israel to the United States;

Whereas, prior to serving as Ambassador of Israel to the United States, Ambassador Herzog served the State of Israel as—

(1) the head of the Strategic Planning Division;

(2) Military Secretary and Chief of Staff to four Defense Ministers; and

(3) a special envoy for diplomatic negotiations for the Prime Minister;

Whereas, during his entire tenure as Ambassador of Israel to the United States, Ambassador Herzog has worked in a bipartisan manner, stating, “Bipartisan support for Israel is a fundamental component of our relations with the United States”;

Whereas Ambassador Herzog has been one of the most effective voices for the State of Israel and has been instrumental in meeting Israel’s needs during this traumatic time in the history of the Jewish State; and

Whereas Ambassador Herzog has worked tirelessly to build on the success of the Abraham Accords and advance normalization efforts between the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the exceptional service of Ambassador Michael Herzog during his tenure as Ambassador of Israel to the United States;

(2) commends Ambassador Herzog for his commitment to building a more peaceful region through his work to further expand upon the Abraham Accords; and

(3) encourages the United States and the State of Israel to continue to build off the work Ambassador Herzog has done during his tenure to ensure the relationship between Israel and the United States continues to grow and prosper.

SENATE RESOLUTION 932—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024 AS “NATIONAL MILITARY TOXIC EXPOSURES AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 932

Whereas the profound impacts of military toxic exposures on generations of veterans and military families have created the persistent and urgent need for enhanced public awareness and preventative health measures;

Whereas the history of military toxic exposures dates back more than a century, particularly with the use of chemical warfare in World War I;

Whereas, despite reductions in certain chemical agents during World War II, members of the Armed Forces continued to face significant toxic exposures, including hazardous substances from naval vessels and herbicides during the Korean War and Agent Orange and other tactical herbicides during the Vietnam War;

Whereas the impact of toxic exposure is not limited to veterans alone, but can also affect their families, including their children with medical conditions potentially related to their parents’ service, including children born with health issues following the Vietnam War;

Whereas the legacy of toxic exposure extends to veterans known as “Atomic Veterans”, who experienced hazardous radiation exposure, further compounding the health risks associated with service in the Armed Forces;

Whereas generations of veterans have faced toxic exposures while serving abroad;

Whereas veterans have encountered other toxic exposures and environmental hazards during service in the Armed Forces, including contaminated drinking water, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyl, lead, and radiation;

Whereas, in 1991, the Vietnam Veterans of America achieved a significant legislative victory, when Congress passed the Agent Orange Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-4), leading to the recognition of Agent Orange as a presumptive hazard and paving the way for benefits for affected veterans;

Whereas subsequent conflicts, including the Persian Gulf War, have seen soldiers, airmen, sailors, and marines facing similar debilitating health issues due to toxic exposures, reinforcing the need for continued advocacy and research;

Whereas multiple veterans service organizations, including Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and others have worked tirelessly to secure legislative improvements, including studies on the effects of toxic exposure and the passage of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-168), also known as the PACT Act;

Whereas the PACT Act expanded eligibility for benefits and health care to veterans of all eras who were exposed to toxic substances;

Whereas the PACT Act established a new, responsive framework so that the Department of Veterans Affairs could more rapidly and transparently make decisions on the presumption of connection to service in the Armed Forces for illnesses and other conditions associated with toxic exposure;

Whereas burn pits, hazardous particulate matter, Agent Orange, oil well fires, fuel leaks, and other toxic events present in various conflicts have emerged as significant health concerns, necessitating research into their long-term effects on veterans and their families;

Whereas the lessons from toxic exposures guide the work and research of the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Congress;

Whereas the effects of toxic exposure are not confined to members of the Armed Forces and their family members, but also can impact civilian workers and residents of military installations exposed to hazardous materials;

Whereas continued vigilance is necessary to prevent future incidents of toxic exposure; and

Whereas the designation of October 2024 as “National Military Toxic Exposures Awareness Month” serves to highlight the historical significance of toxic exposure during service in the Armed Forces, raise awareness of toxic exposure, and commend the work of veterans and veterans’ advocates who labor to meet the needs of former members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to toxic sub-

stances while in service of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2024 as “National Military Toxic Exposures Awareness Month”;

(2) recognizes the profound impact toxic exposures have had on veterans, members of the Armed Forces, their families, and their survivors;

(3) honors the sacrifices of individuals impacted by toxic exposure in the Armed Forces;

(4) calls upon the Department of Defense to reinforce the commitment by the Federal Government to prevent future incidents of toxic exposure among members of the Armed Forces;

(5) will continue to explore legislative initiatives aimed at improving health outcomes and preventive measures for current and future generations of members of the Armed Forces and veterans;

(6) commends the Department of Defense for striving to meet or exceed industry standards while working within status of forces agreements with host partner nations overseas in various international locations and urges continued efforts to meet or exceed such standards;

(7) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Military Toxic Exposures Awareness Month by—

(A) honoring the sacrifices of individuals impacted by toxic exposure in the Armed Forces;

(B) promoting awareness of the ongoing challenges and of the resources available to veterans and their families, caregivers, and survivors from the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

(C) supporting affected veterans and their families; and

(8) encourages the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue educating the public and advocating for veterans and their families and survivors affected by toxic exposure by—

(A) promoting awareness of the impact of toxic exposure on veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and their families;

(B) encouraging veterans to utilize available resources from the Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, and other entities;

(C) providing opportunities for research to understand the impacts of toxic exposure and to prevent future incidents of toxic exposure;

(D) reaching all veterans who may have encountered toxic exposures during service in the Armed Forces and offering screenings and relevant information;

(E) improving clinical practice guidelines for veterans exposed to toxic substances that best meet the unique medical needs of those veterans; and

(F) working with civic-minded groups and the people of the United States to thank members of the Armed Forces and veterans for their service and sacrifice.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3333. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5009, to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3334. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5009, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3335. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 82, to amend title II of the