

Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group”;

Whereas the genocide that began in 2003 in Darfur perpetrated by the Government of Sudan and its proxy Janjaweed militia—explicitly targeting the Fur, Zaghawa, and Masalit ethnic communities through mass killings, forced displacement, the razing of villages and cropland, widespread rape, aerial bombings of civilians, and the blocking of humanitarian assistance—killed at least 200,000 civilians and displaced 2,000,000 people;

Whereas Congress declared on July 22, 2004 with the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 133 (108th Congress) and House Concurrent Resolution 467 (108th Congress) that atrocities occurring in Darfur were genocide, and the administration of President George W. Bush declared genocide in Darfur on September 9, 2004;

Whereas, in 2013, the Government of Sudan, under the administration of the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) and the command of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), formed the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a formal paramilitary force composed primarily of Janjaweed militia;

Whereas Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (commonly known as “Hemetti”), a Janjaweed militia leader during the genocide in Darfur that began in 2003, served as head of the RSF and became the deputy head of the Transitional Military Council, which took power from President of Sudan Omar al-Bashir in 2019, and the deputy chairman of the successor Sovereign Council;

Whereas the underlying conditions that enabled the genocide in Darfur that began in 2003 were never fully addressed or resolved, and the elevation of individuals who served in leadership of the parties responsible for such genocide, including Hemetti and General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan of the SAF, into leadership roles in the transition government in 2019 only heightened the risk of atrocities across Sudan, including genocide in Darfur;

Whereas fighting between the SAF and the RSF broke out in Khartoum on April 15, 2023, and quickly spread to Darfur, where the RSF has taken control of four of five regional capitals in Darfur—Nyala, Geneina, Zalingei, and El Daein;

Whereas the reports, including a July 14, 2023, assessment, by the Sudan Conflict Observatory, which is funded by the United States, reveal that actions by the RSF in Darfur, including besieging cities, destroying villages, and committing extrajudicial detentions, killings, and sexual violence against Masalit, Fur, and Zaghawa ethnic groups, mirror the atrocities committed by the Government of Sudan and the Janjaweed militias between 2003 and 2004;

Whereas, on August 16, 2023, CNN issued an investigative report on the June 15, 2023, atrocity in El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur, describing the atrocity as “one of the most violent incidents in the genocide-scarred Sudanese region’s history”, explaining how “the powerful paramilitary Rapid Support Forces and its allied militias hunted down non-Arab people in various parts of the city. . .reviving a genocidal playbook”, and in which survivors reported that identifying as Masalit “was a death sentence”;

Whereas, on November 3, 2023, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights stated, “We are deeply alarmed by reports that women and girls are

being abducted and held in inhuman, degrading slave-like conditions in areas controlled by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Darfur”;

Whereas, on November 14, 2023, the United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, expressed extreme concern with the “serious allegations of mass killings” in Ardama, which “may constitute acts of genocide”, citing reports that the violence killed more than 800 people and displaced 8,000 Sudanese individuals to Chad;

Whereas, on December 6, 2023, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken determined that, since the fighting between the SAF and the RSF began on April 15, 2023, Sudan has experienced war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing in “haunting echoes of the genocide that began almost 20 years ago in Darfur”, including Masalit civilians being “hunted down and left for dead in the streets, their homes set on fire, and told that there is no place in Sudan for them”;

Whereas a December 15, 2023, a Reuters special investigative report detailed the targeted killing of Masalit men and boys by the RSF, about which an emergency protection officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees explained that “the objective of the killings seems to be the elimination of future fighters as well as the line of ancestry of a specific ethnic group”, referring to the Masalit people;

Whereas the RSF has killed Masalit political and traditional leaders in El-Geneina, West Darfur, including Khamis Abdullah Abbakar, the Governor of West Darfur, and Farsha Mohamed Arabab, a prominent leader of the Masalit Sultanate;

Whereas there is significant evidence of widespread, systematic actions against the non-Arab ethnic communities of Darfur, including the Masalit people, committed by the RSF and allied militia that meet one or more of the criteria under Article II of the Genocide Convention, including—

(1) killing members of the non-Arab ethnic communities in Darfur in mass killings of civilians, including summary executions in the streets and shootings of civilians fleeing across the Wadi Kaja river and to the Chad border, targeted killings of men and boys, targeted killings of Masalit leaders, and burials in mass graves;

(2) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of such communities, including through extrajudicial detention, torture and beatings, extortion, sexual and gender-based violence, mass rape, sexual slavery, and forced displacement; and

(3) deliberately inflicting on such communities conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction in whole or in part, including the annihilation of villages, targeted attacks on marketplaces and schools, widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure and telecommunication, the looting of homes and hospitals, assaults on camps for displaced persons, the destruction of humanitarian facilities, the killing of aid workers, and restrictions on humanitarian aid and access; and

Whereas credible descriptions of the RSF’s objective of elimination of the line of ancestry of the non-Arab tribes of Darfur, survivors’ statements that identifying as Masalit is a death sentence, and reports that the RSF made clear that there is no place in Sudan for the Masalit, against the backdrop of the prior genocide in Darfur, evince a specific intent on the part of the RSF to destroy the Masalit and other non-Arab ethnic groups in Darfur in whole or in substantial part: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns atrocities, including those that amount to the genocide, being com-

mitted by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and allied militias against the Masalit people and other non-Arab ethnic groups in Darfur, and the roles of the RSF and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) in perpetrating atrocities, humanitarian catastrophe, and the destruction of Sudan;

(2) calls for an immediate end to the war and all violence and atrocities in Sudan;

(3) urges the Government of the United States—

(A) to take urgent steps work with the international community, including through multilateral fora, to establish means to protect civilians, including by establishing safe zones and humanitarian corridors, enforcing the United Nations Security Council arms embargo on Darfur, and brokering a comprehensive ceasefire and disarmament of the warring parties in Sudan;

(B) to support the consistent and transparent documentation of atrocities and genocidal acts in Sudan by instituting a mechanism that will, to the greatest extent possible, publicly release such documentation on a consistent and regular basis;

(C) to immediately identify mechanisms through which to fund local, community-based organizations that are currently providing humanitarian assistance to the Sudanese people in conflict affected areas that traditional implementing partners cannot reach, including for the delivery of food, medical aid, and shelter to individuals impacted by the war in Sudan; and

(D) to regularly review and update the atrocities determination for Sudan;

(4) supports tribunals and international criminal investigations to hold the RSF and allied militias accountable for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide; and

(5) calls on the Atrocity Prevention Task Force to conduct a comprehensive review of its efforts to prevent, analyze, and respond to atrocities in Sudan, in alignment with the 2022 United States Strategy to Anticipate, Prevent, and Respond to Atrocities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 560—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2024 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH”

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 560

Whereas cardiovascular disease (referred to in this preamble as “CVD”) affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States;

Whereas CVD continues to be the leading cause of death in the United States, claiming the lives of nearly 695,000 individuals in the United States in 2021, more than all forms of cancer;

Whereas, from 2019–2020, deaths from heart disease in the United States increased by 4.1 percent, and stroke deaths increased over the same period by 4.9 percent;

Whereas individuals in the United States have made great progress in reducing the death rate for CVD, but this progress has been more modest with respect to the death rate for CVD in women and historically marginalized communities of color;

Whereas CVD results in tremendous health care costs and lost productivity, and, if not addressed, the United States alone will spend over \$1,000,000,000,000 by 2035 on costs relating to CVD;

Whereas, between 2018 and 2019, heart disease accounted for \$240,000,000,000 in health care expenditures and lost productivity in the United States;

Whereas, in 2020, sudden cardiac arrest accounted for over 436,000 deaths in the United States;

Whereas approximately every 40 seconds an individual in the United States will have a heart attack;

Whereas heart disease and stroke are the leading causes of maternal death among women in the United States, accounting for more than 1 in 3 pregnancy-related deaths between 2011 and 2015;

Whereas congenital heart defects are—

(1) the most common types of birth defects in the United States; and

(2) the leading killer of infants with birth defects;

Whereas extensive clinical and statistical studies have identified major and contributing factors that increase the risk of CVD, including—

(1) high blood pressure;

(2) high blood cholesterol;

(3) smoking tobacco products;

(4) exposure to tobacco smoke;

(5) physical inactivity;

(6) obesity; and

(7) diabetes mellitus;

Whereas an individual can greatly reduce the risk of CVD through lifestyle modification coupled with medical treatment when necessary;

Whereas greater awareness and early detection of risk factors for CVD can improve and save the lives of thousands of individuals in the United States each year;

Whereas under section 101(1) of title 36, United States Code, the President is requested to issue an annual proclamation designating February as American Heart Month;

Whereas the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, and many other organizations celebrate National Wear Red Day during February by “going red” to increase awareness about CVD as the leading killer of individuals in the United States; and

Whereas, every year since 1964, the President has issued a proclamation designating the month of February as “American Heart Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 2024 as “American Heart Month”;:

(2) supports the goals and ideals of American Heart Month;

(3) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of the United States to fighting cardiovascular disease by—

(A) promoting awareness about the causes, risks, and prevention of cardiovascular disease;

(B) supporting research on cardiovascular disease; and

(C) improving access to affordable, high-quality, and innovative care to reduce long-term disability and mortality;

(4) recognizes and supports efforts to address the long-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on cardiovascular health and mortality rates;

(5) commends the efforts of States, territories, and possessions of the United States, localities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States who support American Heart Month; and

(6) encourages every individual in the United States to learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease.

SENATE RESOLUTION 561—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 16, 2024, AS “NATIONAL ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY”

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

S. RES. 561

Whereas Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich, Tlingit, was a member of the Lukaax̂ádi clan in the Raven moiety with the Tlingit name of aax̂ galaat (referred to in this preamble as “Elizabeth”) who fought for social equality, civil liberties, and respect for Alaska Native and Native American communities;

Whereas Elizabeth, who was born in 1911 in Petersburg, Alaska, experienced discrimination as a Tlingit woman, and dedicated her life to creating a better future for Alaska Natives;

Whereas, more than 6,000 patriotic Alaska Natives protected the United States alongside non-Native Servicemen and women during World War II, despite suffering from unjust discrimination;

Whereas, in 1941, Elizabeth and her husband, Roy Peratrovich, moved to Juneau, the capital city of Alaska, to campaign tirelessly for the passage of the anti-discrimination legislation of Ernest Gruening, the Governor of Alaska, which would later result in the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945;

Whereas, in campaigning for the passage of anti-discrimination legislation, Elizabeth persevered for several years traveling across the Alaska Territory enabling, rallying, and uniting Alaska Natives to fight for recognition that they are created equal to others and equally endowed with “unalienable Rights”;

Whereas Elizabeth was a powerful orator who envisioned unity and then spoke it into existence through community advocacy and the support of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood;

Whereas Elizabeth testified strongly before the Alaska Territorial legislature vote on the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945, passionately asking the legislature, “Have you eliminated larceny or murder by passing a law against it? No law will eliminate crimes but, at least you as legislators, can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination.”;

Whereas the Alaska Territorial Legislature passed the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 on February 16, 1945, which was the first anti-discrimination law enacted in the history of the United States;

Whereas Elizabeth dedicated the rest of her life to creating a better Alaska for future generations;

Whereas Elizabeth tragically died of cancer in 1958, but her legacy has not been forgotten;

Whereas, beginning in 1988, the State of Alaska has recognized February 16 as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day; and

Whereas, in 2020, the United States Mint released the Elizabeth Peratrovich \$1 coin to commemorate the significant impact that Elizabeth had on advancing equality under the law in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 16, 2024, as “National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day”;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day by remembering the work of Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich and other civil rights leaders; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States and Members of Congress to commemorate the life and civil rights advocacy of Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich by continuing the important work of ensuring equality for Alaska Natives and Native Americans.

SENATE RESOLUTION 562—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE F. MCGINNIS

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 562

Whereas George F. McGinnis was born on August 12, 1950;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was on the unbeaten Indianapolis Washington High School team that won the 1969 State Basketball Championship;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was Indiana’s Mr. Basketball in 1969;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was well known for his 53-point and 30-rebound performance in the Indiana All Stars victory over Kentucky in Louisville’s Freedom Hall;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis led the Big Ten in scoring and rebounding as a sophomore at Indiana University, averaging 29.9 points and 14.7 rebounds per game;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis became the first sophomore in league history to lead the Big Ten in both points and rebounds per game;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was named to the Associated Press All-American Third Team and added to the All-Big Ten First Team;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis bypassed his final 2 seasons of National Collegiate Athletic Association eligibility as a hardship case after the sudden loss of his father, Burnie;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis played for his hometown Indiana Pacers for the first 4 seasons of his professional career;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis helped guide the Pacers to 2 of their 3 American Basketball Association championships in 1972 and 1973;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was the American Basketball Association’s co-most valuable player, sharing the title with Julius Irving, in the 1974–1975 American Basketball Association season;

Whereas, in the 1975 American Basketball Association playoffs, Mr. McGinnis averaged 32.3 points, 15.9 rebounds, and 8.2 assists per game;

Whereas, during his 4-year American Basketball Association stint, Mr. McGinnis was named as a 3-time American Basketball Association All-Star, received 3 All-American Basketball Association selections, and was selected to the American Basketball Association All-Rookie First Team;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis then later played with the Philadelphia 76ers, Denver Nuggets, and Indiana Pacers in the National Basketball Association;

Whereas, during his time in the National Basketball Association, Mr. McGinnis earned 3 National Basketball Association All-Star selections, was named to the All-National Basketball Association First Team in 1976, and was voted to the All-National Basketball Association Second Team in 1977;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis compiled 17,009 points and 9,233 rebounds in his 11-year pro basketball career;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis is 1 of 4 Indiana Pacers to have their jersey number retired;

Whereas, in 1997, Mr. McGinnis was selected to the American Basketball Association All-Time Team;

Whereas Mr. McGinnis was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2017;