

(F) should have access to meaningful and free or affordable professional growth and development opportunities during regular paid working hours that provide a path to career advancement;

(G) should have sufficient resources and supplies to enable them to do their job effectively and efficiently, including up-to-date technology;

(H) should have access to training and appropriate personal protective equipment;

(I) should have representation in organizations that determine policies that may affect the working conditions of paraprofessionals and education support staff;

(J) should receive notification and the opportunity to provide significant input about the implementation of electronic monitoring, data, algorithms, and artificial intelligence technology in the applicable school and should receive high-quality professional development as new technologies are introduced;

(K) should have adequate notice and opportunity to participate, when appropriate, in individualized education program meetings, behavior intervention team meetings, and other similar meetings relating to the students the paraprofessionals and education support staff support, to the extent permitted by law;

(L) should experience a safe and healthy working environment free from recognized hazards that cause or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm;

(M) should experience appropriate staffing levels to ensure that students have adequate support and that paraprofessionals and education support staff can complete their jobs effectively, efficiently, and safely;

(N) should receive adequate notification regarding the duration of their employment;

(O) should have an employment contract that includes a provision for the automatic renewal of the contract at the expiration of the contract, rather than the automatic termination of the contract at such expiration, and a provision for termination of employment for just cause, rather than termination of employment at will; and

(P) should have a process for reporting workplace issues and concerns to their employer in a manner that protects paraprofessionals and education support staff and other employees from retaliation;

(2) in recognition of the importance of collective bargaining in maintaining good working conditions, employers of paraprofessionals and education support staff should—

(A) engage in good faith negotiations;

(B) strive to reach timely and just contracts that fairly compensate and protect paraprofessionals and education support staff;

(C) refrain from replacing paraprofessionals or education support staff who engage in a strike; and

(D) refrain from locking out such workers; and

(3) nothing in this resolving clause should be interpreted to supersede, or as an expression of the Senate's support for any law that would supersede, employment terms or conditions agreed upon in collective bargaining agreements that are more beneficial to paraprofessionals and education support staff than those described in this resolving clause.

SENATE RESOLUTION 159—HONORING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE JOHN BENNETT JOHNSTON, JR., FORMER SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms.

ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HUSTED, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MORENO, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHEEHY, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 159

Whereas, on June 10, 1932, John Bennett Johnston, Jr. (referred to in this preamble as "Senator Johnston"), was born in Shreveport, Louisiana;

Whereas Senator Johnston graduated from C.E. Byrd High School in Shreveport, and later attended Washington and Lee University, the United States Military Academy at West Point, and Louisiana State University Law School;

Whereas Senator Johnston excelled in his academic pursuits at Louisiana State University Law School, graduating with distinction as a member of the Order of the Coif in 1956;

Whereas Senator Johnston married Mary Hunter Gunn in 1956, and they later had 4 children and 10 grandchildren;

Whereas Senator Johnston served as a First Lieutenant in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, and was stationed in Germany from 1956 to 1959;

Whereas Senator Johnston began his career in public service to the State of Louisiana as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1964 to 1968, where he served as floor leader before his election to the Louisiana State Senate, where he served from 1968 to 1972;

Whereas the people of the State of Louisiana elected Senator Johnston to represent the State of Louisiana in the Senate, where he served from 1972 to 1997;

Whereas Senator Johnston served on several important committees throughout his Senate career, including—

- (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources;
- (2) the Committee on Appropriations;
- (3) the Committee on the Budget;
- (4) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship;

(5) the Special Committee on Aging; and

(6) the Select Committee on Intelligence;

Whereas his tenure as Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources from 1987 to 1995 cemented the legacy of Senator Johnston as guiding the energy policy of the United States;

Whereas Senator Johnston achieved many legislative triumphs important to the State of Louisiana during his tenure in the Senate, supporting and passing legislation on—

- (1) flood control and hurricane protection;
- (2) natural resource conservation;
- (3) expanding offshore oil and gas drilling off the coast of the State of Louisiana;
- (4) deregulating the natural gas industry; and

(5) national energy security, including Senate Bill 2166, 102d Congress, a comprehensive energy measure providing for national security and reducing the dependency of the United States on foreign energy;

Whereas Senator Johnston championed legislation to create national wildlife refuges, to preserve more than 120,000 acres of Louisiana-inland wetlands, and to honor the rich history of the State of Louisiana through the establishment of the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park and the Cane River Creole National Historical Park;

Whereas Senator Johnston lived to be 92 years old; and

Whereas, throughout his life, Senator Johnston served the State of Louisiana and the United States with integrity and distinction, and never wavered in his commitment to honorable public service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable John Bennett Johnston, Jr. (referred to in this resolution as "Honorable Bennett Johnston"), former Senator from the State of Louisiana; and

(B) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(i) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(ii) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable Bennett Johnston; and

(2) when the Senate adjourns on the date of the adoption of this resolution, the Senate stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Bennett Johnston.

SENATE RESOLUTION 160—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CRUZ, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 160

Whereas, each year, the underground utility infrastructure of the United States, including pipelines, electric, gas, telecommunications, fiber, water, sewer, and cable television lines, is jeopardized by unintentional damage caused by those who fail to have underground utility lines located prior to digging;

Whereas some utility lines are buried only a few inches underground, making the lines easy to strike, even during shallow digging projects;

Whereas digging prior to having underground utility lines located often results in unintended consequences, such as service interruption, environmental damage, personal injury, and even death;

Whereas the month of April marks the beginning of the peak period during which excavation projects are carried out around the United States;

Whereas, in 2002, Congress required the Department of Transportation and the Federal Communications Commission to establish a 3-digit, nationwide, toll-free number to be used by State “One Call” systems to provide information on underground utility lines;

Whereas, in 2005, the Federal Communications Commission designated “811” as the nationwide “One Call” number for homeowners and excavators to use to obtain information on underground utility lines before conducting excavation activities (referred to in this preamble as the “One Call”/811 program”);

Whereas the nearly 4,000 damage prevention professionals who are members of the Common Ground Alliance, States, the “One Call”/811 program, and other stakeholders who are dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services, promote the national “Contact 811 Before You Dig” campaign to increase public awareness about the importance of homeowners and excavators contacting 811 to find out the location of underground utility lines before digging;

Whereas the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-90; 125 Stat. 1904) affirmed and expanded the “One Call”/811 program by eliminating exemptions given to local and State government agencies and their contractors regarding notifying “One Call”/811 centers before digging;

Whereas, according to the 2023 Damage Information Reporting Tool Report published by the Common Ground Alliance in October 2024—

(1) “No notification to the 811 center” remains the number 1 top root cause of damage;

(2) failure to notify 811 prior to digging contributed to 26 percent of damages; and

(3) landscaping is the top type of work performed when professionals cause no-notification damages; and

Whereas the Common Ground Alliance has designated April as “National Safe Digging Month” to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the United States and to celebrate the anniversary of the designation of 811 as the national “Contact Before You Dig” number: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month;

(2) encourages all homeowners and excavators throughout the United States to contact 811 by phone or online before digging; and

(3) encourages all damage prevention stakeholders to help educate homeowners and excavators throughout the United States about the importance of contacting 811 to have the approximate location of buried utilities marked with paint or flags before digging.

SENATE RESOLUTION 161—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 7 THROUGH APRIL 11, 2025, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS WEEK”

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 161

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals (referred to in this preamble as “NASSP”), the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the American Federation of School Administrators have designated the week of April 7 through April 11, 2025, as “National Assistant Principals Week”;

Whereas an assistant principal, as a member of the school administration, interacts with many sectors of the school community, including support staff, instructional staff, students, and parents;

Whereas assistant principals are responsible for establishing a positive learning environment and building strong relationships between school and community;

Whereas assistant principals play a pivotal role in the instructional leadership of their schools by supervising student instruction, mentoring teachers, recognizing the achievements of staff, encouraging collaboration among staff, ensuring the implementation of best practices, monitoring student achievement and progress, facilitating and modeling data-driven decision making to inform instruction, and guiding the direction of targeted intervention and school improvement;

Whereas the day-to-day logistical operations of schools require assistant principals to monitor and address facility needs, attendance, transportation issues, and scheduling challenges, as well as to supervise extra- and co-curricular events;

Whereas assistant principals are entrusted with maintaining an inviting, safe, and orderly school environment that supports the growth and achievement of each and every student by nurturing positive peer relationships, recognizing student achievement, mediating conflicts, analyzing behavior patterns, providing interventions, and, when necessary, taking disciplinary actions;

Whereas, since its establishment in 2004, the NASSP National Assistant Principal of the Year Program has recognized outstanding middle and high school assistant principals who demonstrate success in leadership, curriculum, and personalization; and

Whereas the week of April 7 through April 11, 2025, is an appropriate week to designate as “National Assistant Principals Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “National Assistant Principals Week”;

(2) honors the contributions of assistant principals to the success of students in the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Assistant Principals Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role played by assistant principals in school leadership and ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117-263, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: the Honorable CHRIS COONS of Delaware, Michael C. Casey of the District of Columbia.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE JOHN BENNETT JOHNSTON, JR., FORMER SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 159, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 159) honoring the life of the Honorable John Bennett Johnston, Jr., former Senator for the State of Louisiana.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MORENO. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 159) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 160, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 160) supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MORENO. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 160) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour