

\$1,000,000,000 in damages and, in total, an estimated amount of \$182,700,000,000 in damages;

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration determined that in 2020, the decrease in greenhouse gas emissions in the United States was due to the economic recession associated with the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic;

Whereas, in 2021 and 2022, carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel consumption in the United States rose 8 percent relative to 2020 and 1 percent relative to 2021, returning to pre-pandemic levels;

Whereas, in 2022, the Energy Information Administration reported that renewable energy generated more power than coal for the first time in the United States;

Whereas, in 2023, approximately 40 percent of the global electricity supply was provided by zero-carbon sources, according to the International Energy Agency;

Whereas, in 2024, automakers sold more than 1,300,000 electric vehicles in the United States, making up 8 percent of all new vehicles sales;

Whereas 32 States have released a climate plan;

Whereas 29 States and the District of Columbia adopted a renewable portfolio standard;

Whereas 36 States and the District of Columbia have adopted clean vehicle policies;

Whereas 24 States and the District of Columbia have adopted greenhouse gas emissions targets;

Whereas 33 States have adopted energy efficiency resource standards;

Whereas 11 States have implemented the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to construct a market-based system that sets a cap on emissions from the electric sector that declines by 3 percent per year from 2021 through 2030, with a current goal of reducing power sector emissions among the participating States by 30 percent below 2020 levels by 2030;

Whereas the State of California has a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 48 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent by 2045;

Whereas, in the United States, 90 cities, 11 counties, 2 States, and the District of Columbia have adopted 100 percent clean and renewable energy goals, and 217 companies have committed to 100 percent renewable energy;

Whereas, since Public Law 117-168 (commonly known as the 'Inflation Reduction Act'), the largest United States investment in climate and clean energy in history was passed in August 2022, clean energy companies have announced or advanced nearly 750 projects, more than \$422,000,000,000 in investments, and created more than 400,000 new clean energy jobs;

Whereas more than 85 percent of the investments from the Inflation Reduction Act were made in counties with below average college graduation rates and more than 75 percent of investments were made in areas with below average median household incomes;

Whereas the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) and the Inflation Reduction Act are estimated to create up to 1,700,000 new jobs by 2030 and 2,900,000 jobs by 2035;

Whereas, in 2024, the United States submitted a new nationally determined contribution, in accordance with the Paris Agreement, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the United States by 61 to 66 percent below 2005 levels by 2035, which is made possible in part by programs and investments supported by the Inflation Reduction Act

and the Infrastructure Law Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58);

Whereas, in 2023, more money was invested in solar energy than in oil for the first time globally;

Whereas, in 2023, more than 8,300,000 people in the United States worked in the energy sector in all 50 States, including in industries relating to wind energy, solar energy, energy efficiency, clean vehicles, and energy storage;

Whereas, in 2023, approximately 495,871 people in the United States were working in the solar and wind industries, including roofers, electricians, and steel workers;

Whereas the 2024 U.S. Energy and Employment Jobs Report published by the Department of Energy found that new clean energy jobs are outpacing the rest of the energy sector and United States economy by more than 2 times;

Whereas the vehicle emissions standards updated by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2024 for vehicle model years 2027 through 2032 are predicted—

(1) to provide \$13,000,000,000 in annual health benefits from air pollution reduction;

(2) to save drivers nearly \$6,000 over the lifetime of a new vehicle from fuel and maintenance costs; and

(3) to prevent 25,000 premature deaths;

Whereas the America Is All In coalition—

(1) has evolved from the 2017 launched We Are Still In Coalition to become the largest subnational climate coalition in the United States composed of States, Tribal nations, cities, businesses, universities, healthcare organizations, faith groups, and cultural institutions;

(2) has committed to uphold the Paris Agreement and formally reaffirmed that commitment at the recent ninth anniversary of the landmark Paris Agreement;

(3) represents approximately ¾ of the gross domestic product of the United States and ¾ of the population of the United States through city and State partners; and

(4) has committed to supporting subnational climate leaders as they build climate resilience and sustainable supply chains;

Whereas on the day before President Donald Trump announced the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement on June 1, 2017, Hua Chunying, spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, which is the world's current largest emitter of greenhouse gas emissions, said "China will stay committed to upholding and promoting the global governance on climate change, and take an active part in the multilateral process on climate change and promote green, low-carbon and sustainable growth of the world.";

Whereas, according to the International Energy Agency, China has made more than \$800,000,000,000 in foreign investment in clean energy and energy storage infrastructure around the world since 2016; and

Whereas the United States needs both a fully engaged Federal Government and States, cities, businesses, and all subnational actors working together to reduce emissions, avoid the worst effects of climate change, and compete in the global clean energy market: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States—

(1) should remain a party to the Paris Agreement;

(2) should support policies at the Federal, State, and local level that promote the reduction of global warming pollution and aim to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement; and

(3) should support the clear intents and efforts of businesses, investors, and whole-of-American-society to take action on climate change.

SENATE RESOLUTION 37—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES SHOULD HAVE CONTINUOUS ACCESS TO TIMELY, UP-TO-DATE, AND ACCURATE HEALTH INFORMATION

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 37

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services provides crucial external communications to protect the health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas urgent communications provided by the Department of Health and Human Services help health care providers and the public learn about and respond to public health incidents and threats, including outbreaks of infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and the opioid overdose epidemic;

Whereas the United States has published the epidemiological digest, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, every week since 1961;

Whereas foodborne disease outbreak notices published by the Department of Health and Human Services are essential in coordinating and investigating illness, helping to respond to the estimated 48,000,000 people who get sick from foodborne disease each year in the United States; and

Whereas in 2024, public health information reported through the Health Alert Network of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included information regarding increased risks in the United States of avian influenza, dengue virus, and measles: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the people of the United States should have continuous access to timely, up-to-date, and accurate health information provided through the Department of Health and Human Services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 38—TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. THUNE submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 38

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committees for the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs. Capito (Chair), Mr. Cramer, Ms. Lummis, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Graham, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Wicker, Mr. Boozman, Mr. Husted.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS: Mr. Cassidy (Chair), Mr. Paul, Ms. Collins, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Mullin, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Scott (SC), Mr. Hawley, Mr. Tuberville, Mr. Banks, Mr. Husted, Mrs. Moody.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: Mr. Paul (Chair), Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lankford, Mr. Scott (FL),

Mr. Hawley, Mr. Moreno, Ms. Ernst, Mrs. Moody.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Grassley (Chair), Mr. Graham, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Lee, Mr. Cruz, Mr. Hawley, Mr. Tillis, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Blackburn, Mr. Schmitt, Mrs. Britt, Mrs. Moody.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE: Mr. Cotton (Chair), Mr. Risch, Ms. Collins, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Moran, Mr. Lankford, Mr. Rounds, Mr. Young, Mr. Budd.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING: Mr. Scott (FL) (Chair), Mr. McCormick, Mr. Justice, Mr. Tuberville, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Moody, Mr. Husted.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE: Mr. Schmitt (Chair), Mr. Cotton, Mr. Budd, Mr. McCormick, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Moody.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Ms. Ernst (Chair), Mr. Risch, Mr. Paul, Mr. Scott (SC), Mr. Young, Mr. Hawley, Mr. Budd, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Justice, Mr. Husted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT TAX-EXEMPT FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES HAVE HISTORICALLY PROVIDED AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE CRITICAL BENEFITS TO THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. RISCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. CON. RES. 6

Whereas the fraternal benefit societies of the United States are longstanding mutual aid organizations created more than a century ago to serve the needs of communities and provide for the payment of life, health, accident, and other benefits to their members;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies represent a successful, modern-day model under which individuals come together with a common purpose to collectively provide charitable and other beneficial activities for society;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies operate under a chapter system, creating a nationwide infrastructure, combined with local energy and knowledge, which positions fraternal benefit societies to most efficiently address unmet needs in communities, many of which the government cannot address;

Whereas the fraternal benefit society model represents one of the largest member-volunteer networks in the United States, with approximately 7,000,000 people belonging to local chapters across the country;

Whereas research has shown that the value of the work of fraternal benefit societies to society averages more than \$3,800,000,000 per year, accounting for charitable giving, educational programs, and volunteer activities, as well as important social capital that strengthens the fabric, safety, and quality of life in thousands of local communities in the United States;

Whereas, in 1909, Congress recognized the value of fraternal benefit societies and ex-

empted those organizations from taxation, as later codified in section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies have adapted since 1909 to better serve the evolving needs of their members and the public;

Whereas the efforts of fraternal benefit societies to help people of the United States save money and be financially secure relieves pressure on government safety net programs; and

Whereas Congress recognizes that fraternal benefit societies have served their original purpose for more than a century, helping countless individuals, families, and communities through fraternal member activities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the fraternal benefit society model is a successful private sector economic and social support system that helps meet needs that would otherwise go unmet;

(2) the provision of payment for life, health, accident, or other benefits to the members of fraternal benefit societies in accordance with section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is necessary to support the charitable and fraternal activities of the volunteer chapters within the communities of fraternal benefit societies;

(3) fraternal benefit societies have adapted since 1909 to better serve their members and the public; and

(4) the exemption from taxation under section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of fraternal benefit societies continues to generate significant returns to the United States, and the work of fraternal benefit societies should continue to be promoted.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following members of my team be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Lindsey Williams, Tracey Henry, Poki'i Balaz, Sujith Ramachandran, Jack Pitsor, Robert Walsh, Samantha Fein, Shannon Rogers, Eoghan Stafford, Yezi Yang, Helin Unal, Eric LoPresti, and Ian Hunter.

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

CONSTITUTING THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 38, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 38) to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

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

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and that the motion 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. 38) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the postcloture time on the Noem nomination expire at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 25. I further ask that if cloture is invoked on the Bessent nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Bessent nomination at 5:30 p.m., Monday, January 27; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Duffy nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the Duffy nomination at noon on Tuesday, January 28; finally, that the cloture vote with respect to the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 3, H.R. 23, ripen at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28.

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

ORDERS FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. Saturday, January 25; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that morning business be closed and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume Executive Calendar No. 4, Kristi Noem, postcloture.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:59 p.m., adjourned until Saturday, January 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 24, 2025:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

PETER HEGSETH, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.