

discrimination due to their racial or ethnic heritage, such as being treated as if they were not smart, criticized for speaking Spanish, told to return to their country, called offensive names, or unfairly stopped by the police;

Whereas Black people in the United States experience overt and direct forms of violence that, when not fatal, can cause severe physical or psychological harm;

Whereas examples of such forms of violence include—

(1) that Black people are confronted and threatened by armed citizens while performing everyday tasks, such as jogging in neighborhoods, driving, or playing in a park;

(2) that Black people are 3 times more likely to be killed by police than White people, and police violence is the sixth leading cause of death for young Black men;

(3) the killings of Tamir Rice, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Elijah McClain, Jayland Walker, Jeenan Anderson, Timothy McCree Johnson, Jordan Neely, and countless other Black Americans by law enforcement;

(4) that it took the United States 66 years after the senseless and brutal murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till to make lynching a Federal crime;

(5) that, since 2015, mass shootings around the country, such as in Buffalo, New York, and Charleston, South Carolina, serve as reminders of the unresolved history of racism in the United States and highlight the threats Black people must take into consideration when going about their daily lives, both when outside their communities and within those communities; and

(6) the threat of brutality and violence adversely impacting mental health among Black communities;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives experience historical trauma, systemic oppression, and cultural genocide that, even when not fatal, can cause severe physical or psychological harm;

Whereas examples of such forms of violence include—

(1) forced relocation, termination, and assimilation policies, such as boarding schools, that contributed to health disparities and legacies of trauma inflicted on indigenous people;

(2) the Army attempting cultural genocide by instigating numerous massacres, including the mass execution of 38 Dakota men in Minnesota, and the murder of 300 Lakota people at the Battle of Wounded Knee, to eradicate American Indians and Alaska Natives;

(3) murder being the third leading cause of death for Native women, and 4% of indigenous women experiencing violence in their lifetime;

(4) that, since 2016, there have been 5,712 cases of missing and murdered indigenous women and people across the United States, including 506 cases in 71 urban cities and 153 cases missing from law enforcement databases, with those missing cases likely undercounting the actual number of cases due to the underreporting of cases within American Indian and Alaska Native communities;

(5) that the overall death rate from suicide among American Indians and Alaska Natives is 20 percent higher compared to non-Hispanic White populations; and

(6) cycles of violence that have overburdened indigenous communities to respond to increased levels of violence, including gender-based violence, human trafficking, suicide, and homicide with minimal resources;

Whereas American Indian, Alaska Natives, Hispanics or Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders experience racially motivated kidnapping, murders, and mass violence, such as shootings in

Oak Creek, Wisconsin, El Paso and Allen, Texas, Atlanta, Georgia, and Indianapolis, Indiana, that, even when not fatal, can cause severe physical or psychological harm;

Whereas, throughout the history of the United States, members of racial and ethnic minority groups have been at the forefront of civil rights movements for essential freedoms, human rights, and equal protection for marginalized groups and continue to fight for racial, environmental, and economic justice today;

Whereas racial inequities in health continue to persist because of historical and contemporary racism;

Whereas public health experts agree that racism meets the criteria of a public health crisis because—

(1) the condition affects many people, is seen as a threat to the public, and is continuing to increase;

(2) the condition is distributed unfairly;

(3) preventive measures could reduce the effects of the condition; and

(4) those preventive measures are not yet in place;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) declared racism a serious threat to public health; and

(2) acknowledged the need for additional research and investments to address that serious threat;

Whereas a Federal public health crisis declaration proclaims racism as a pervasive health issue and alerts the people of the United States to the need to enact immediate and effective cross-governmental efforts to address the root causes of structural racism and the downstream impacts of that racism; and

Whereas such a declaration requires the response of governments to engage significant resources to empower the communities that are impacted: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the resolutions drafted, introduced, and adopted by cities and localities across the United States declaring racism a public health crisis;

(2) declares racism a public health crisis in the United States;

(3) commits to—

(A) establishing a nationwide strategy to address health disparities and inequities across all sectors in society;

(B) dismantling systemic practices and policies that perpetuate racism;

(C) advancing reforms to address years of neglectful and apathetic policies that have led to poor health outcomes for members of racial and ethnic minority groups; and

(D) promoting efforts to address the social determinants of health for all racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States; and

(4) places a charge on the people of the United States to move forward with urgency to ensure that the United States stands firmly in honoring its moral purpose of advancing the self-evident truths that all people are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable rights, and that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I have two 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 Sen-

ate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive session to organize for the 119th congress and to consider a nomination.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

#### APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94-304, as amended by Public Law 99-7, appoints the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 119th Congress: The Honorable Roger Wicker of Mississippi (Chairman).

#### SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF "CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH"

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 66, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 66) supporting the goals and ideals of "Career and Technical Education Month".

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

Mr. COTTON. 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. 66) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 29

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 29) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

Mr. COTTON. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection having been heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

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ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY  
10, 2025

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, February 10; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of pro-

ceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume Executive Calendar No. 18, Tulsi Gabbard; finally, that the Senate vote at 5:30 p.m. on the motion to invoke cloture on the Gabbard nomination.

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

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 10, 2025, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. COTTON. 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 9:56 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 10, 2025, at 3 p.m.

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CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 6, 2025:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RUSSELL VOUGHT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF  
THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.