

Mathematics (commonly known as “STEM”) fields among students of all ages through diverse and innovative education and public outreach efforts;

Whereas geoscientists and researchers in the labs, universities, research institutions, and Federal agencies of the United States continually push the frontiers of human knowledge, help develop and incubate the concepts and programs that keep the companies and industries of the United States at the innovative forefront of the world’s economy, and inspire future generations of researchers, scientists, and informed citizens; and

Whereas the Earth sciences make vital contributions to an understanding of and respect for nature and the Earth: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of October 9, 2016, through October 15, 2016, as “Earth Science Week”;

(2) expresses strong support for the goals and ideals of Earth Science Week to increase the understanding of and interest in the Earth sciences at the local, State, national, and international levels;

(3) recognizes the importance of education and public outreach efforts to ensure that the people of the United States gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the impact of the Earth sciences on their daily lives;

(4) encourages K-12 students—

(A) to participate in local, State, and national events in connection with Earth Science Week; and

(B) to get involved in the celebration of Earth Science Week by exploring artistic and academic applications of the Earth sciences; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to observe Earth Science Week with appropriate activities—

(A) to gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the Earth sciences; and

(B) to encourage stewardship of the Earth.

SENATE RESOLUTION 563—CALLING ON THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO INVESTIGATE, RECOVER, AND IDENTIFY ALL MISSING AND UNACCOUNTED-FOR PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. McCAIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 563

Whereas more than 83,000 personnel of the United States are still unaccounted-for around the world from past wars and conflicts;

Whereas, though recognizing that an estimated 50,000 of these World War II personnel, were lost deep at sea and are unlikely ever to be recovered, thousands of families and friends have waited decades for the accounting of their loved ones and comrades in arms;

Whereas the families of these brave Americans deserve our nation’s best efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting for their missing loved ones;

Whereas the National League of POW/MIA Families, and their iconic POW/MIA flag, pioneered the accounting effort since 1970 and has been joined in this humanitarian quest for answers by the Korean War, Cold War and World War II families, fully supported by the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign

Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, Special Forces Association, Special Operations Association, Rolling Thunder, and other more recently formed groups, and thousands of families are yearning and advocating for answers concerning the fates of their loved ones and comrades in arms;

Whereas the mission of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency of the Department of Defense is to provide the fullest possible accounting for missing members of the Armed Forces of the United States, designated civilians of the Department, and other designated personnel; and

Whereas the recovery and investigation teams of the Department of Defense deploy to countries around the world to account as fully as possible for these missing and otherwise unaccounted-for personnel of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and other elements of the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and all foreign countries to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, identify and account as fully as possible for all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States around the world; and

(2) calls upon all foreign countries with information on missing personnel of the United States, or with missing personnel of the United States within their territories, to cooperate fully with the Government of the United States to provide the fullest possible accounting for all missing personnel of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 564—CONDEMNING NORTH KOREA’S FIFTH NUCLEAR TEST ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 564

Whereas the Democratic People’s Republic of North Korea (DPRK) conducted its fifth nuclear test on September 9, 2016, in Punggye-ri, North Hamgyong Province;

Whereas North Korea’s nuclear test on September 9th, the second nuclear test this year, follows an unprecedented campaign of ballistic missile launches, which the Government of North Korea claims are intended to serve as delivery vehicles for nuclear weapons targeting the United States and United States allies South Korea and Japan;

Whereas North Korea continues to test nuclear weapons and intercontinental and submarine-launched ballistic missiles, which pose a major threat to the United States and United States allies and partners in Asia and around the world;

Whereas the Government of North Korea’s belligerent behavior has been in direct defiance of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1718 (adopted October 14, 2006), 1874 (adopted June 12, 2009), 2087 (adopted January 22, 2013), 2094 (adopted March 7, 2013), and 2270 (adopted March 2, 2016) and the non-proliferation regime;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council strongly condemned North Korea’s nuclear test and expressed its willingness to begin to work immediately on appropriate measures under Article 41 in a United Nations Security Council Resolution after its meeting on September 10, 2016;

Whereas President Barack Obama stated in response to the nuclear test that “far from achieving its stated national security and economic development goals, North Korea’s provocative and destabilizing actions have instead served to isolate and impoverish its people through its relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile capabilities”;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated in response to the nuclear test that “the D.P.R.K.’s repeated and willful violations of its obligations under U.N. Security Council Resolutions, its belligerent and erratic threats, and web of illicit activities around the world indicate it has no interest in participating in global affairs as a responsible member of the international community”;

Whereas United States Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power stated in explanation of the vote on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2270 that “the chronic suffering of the people of North Korea is the direct result of the choices made by the DPRK government, a government that has consistently prioritized its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs over providing for the most basic needs of its own people . . . the North Korean government would rather grow its nuclear weapons program than grow its children”;

Whereas Republic of Korea President Park Geun-hye stated, in response to the nuclear test, “North Korea’s nuclear test, already the second this year, cannot be regarded as anything else but a direct defiance against the international community . . . the nuclear threat posed by North Korea is an urgent and present threat. Accordingly, our and the international community’s response to should now be completely different from before.”;

Whereas Congress passed the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act (NKSPEA) on February 18, 2016 (Public Law 114-122);

Whereas NKSPEA imposes mandatory sanctions on individuals who contribute to North Korea’s nuclear program, proliferation activities, malicious cyberattacks, and human rights abuses;

Whereas, on June 1 2016, the Department of the Treasury designated North Korea as a “primary money laundering concern” under section 5318A of title 31, United States Code;

Whereas, on July 6, 2016, the Department of the Treasury designated top officials of the North Korean regime, including North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, ten other individuals, and five entities, for their role as perpetrators of human rights abuses in North Korea; and

Whereas additional measures to further curtail North Korea’s access to international financial markets, further impede trade that benefits the Government of North Korea, government and party officials, and military entities, and freeze assets of North Korean officials are available both through already authorized unilateral United States policy, including secondary sanctions on entities that facilitate trade with North Korea and designations for actions which undermine cybersecurity, and through the United Nations Security Council: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the North Korean regime for continuing its dangerous provocations, focusing solely on the advancement of its nuclear and missile capabilities while violating the human rights of its people;

(2) calls on the North Korean regime to immediately and unconditionally meet its obligation to abandon its nuclear weapons and missile programs in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible manner;