

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the Congress of the United States to convene a constitutional convention upon the application of two-thirds of the several states; and

Whereas, The Nevada Legislature has, at various times, passed resolutions requesting Congress to convene a convention, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, to propose amendments to the Constitution relating to a wide range of subjects; and

Whereas, Over the course of time, the will of the people of the State of Nevada may have changed relating to these resolutions; and

Whereas, A constitutional convention convened by Congress could make sweeping changes to the United States Constitution and threaten the liberty of future generations of Nevadans; and

Whereas, The Nevada Legislature is aware that other state legislatures have made applications requesting that Congress convene a constitutional convention; and

Whereas, The Nevada Legislature no longer supports its previous resolutions which requested that Congress convene a constitutional convention, most of which were adopted over three decades ago, and does not wish for these resolutions to be included with similar applications which were made by other state legislatures; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate and Assembly of the State of Nevada, Jointly, That the members of the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby rescind, repeal, cancel, void, nullify and supersede each previous resolution passed by the Nevada Legislature which requested the Congress of the United States to convene a constitutional convention pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature urge each state legislature which requested Congress to convene a constitutional convention to withdraw such applications; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States as the presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

POM-65. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Texas applying to the United States Congress to call a convention of the states under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the United States Constitution, which impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for federal officials and members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Whereas, The drafters of the United States Constitution empowered state legislatures to be guardians of liberty against abuses of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, The federal government has abused its power by creating a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, The federal government has abused its power by invading the legitimate role of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates that are to a great extent unfunded; and

Whereas, The federal government has ceased to abide by a proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, It is the solemn duty of state legislatures to protect the liberty of the people and of future generations by proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that place clear restraints on federal power; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution authorizes the several state legislatures to restrict the power of the federal government through the amendment process; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution provides that on application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states Congress shall call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the constitution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 85th Texas Legislature apply to Congress to call a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

Resolved, That, unless rescinded by a succeeding legislature, this application by the 85th Texas Legislature constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have applied to Congress to call a convention for the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate of the Congress of the United States, and to all members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as an application to Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the secretaries of state and to the presiding officers of the legislatures of the several states with the request that they join this state in applying to Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress.

POM-66. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to grant temporary protective status to Haitians in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-67. A resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah, New Jersey, recognizing June 2, 2017, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1572. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide that extraction of helium from gas produced under a Federal mineral lease shall maintain the lease as if the helium were oil and gas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1573. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to place signage on Federal land along the trail known as the "American Discovery Trail", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1574. A bill to impose sanctions on individuals who are complicit in human rights abuses committed against nationals of Vietnam or their family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1575. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for taxpayers who remove lead-based hazards; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1576. A bill to provide that the owner of a water right may use the water for the cultivation of industrial hemp, if otherwise authorized by State law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SASSE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1577. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, with respect to the judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 635

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 652

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 720, a bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 1024

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1024, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1122

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1122, a bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to clarify when the time period for the issuance of citations under such Act begins and to require a rule to clarify that an employer's duty to make and maintain accurate records of work-related injuries and illnesses is an ongoing obligation.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1182, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 100th anniversary of The American Legion.

S. 1356

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1356, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the use of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to pursue independent study programs at certain educational institutions that are not institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1404, a bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to provide for expanded natural gas exports.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to state the policy of the United States on the minimum number of available battle force ships.

S. 1455

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1455, a bill to amend the United States Energy Storage Competitiveness Act of 2007 to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish new goals for the Department of Energy relating to energy storage and to carry out certain demonstration projects relating to energy storage.

S. 1457

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1457, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out demonstration projects relating to advanced nuclear reactor technologies to support domestic energy needs.

S. 1474

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1474, a bill to prohibit the use of fiscal year 2018 funds for the closure, consolidation, or elimination of certain offices of the Environmental Protection Agency.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1512, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, unless compliant with Office of Management and Budget guidance, and for other purposes.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1547, a bill to nullify the effect of the recent Executive order that establishes an "election integrity" commission, which will be used and is designed to support policies that will suppress the vote in minority and poor communities across the United States.

S. 1564

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1564, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit legally married same-sex couples to amend their filing status for returns outside the 3-year limitation.

S. RES. 114

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 114, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on humanitarian crises in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen.

S. RES. 139

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 139, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1574. A bill to impose sanctions on individuals who are complicit in human rights abuses committed against nationals of Vietnam or their family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1574

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The relationship between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has grown substantially since the end of the trade embargo in 1994, with annual trade between the countries reaching more than \$36,000,000,000 in 2014.

(2) However, the transition by the Government of Vietnam toward greater economic activity and trade, which has led to increased bilateral engagement between the United States and Vietnam, has not been matched by greater political freedom or substantial improvements in basic human rights for the people of Vietnam.

(3) Vietnam remains an authoritarian state ruled by the Communist Party of Vietnam, which continues to deny the right of the people of Vietnam to participate in free and fair elections.

(4) According to the Department of State's 2014 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, Vietnam's "most significant human rights problems . . . were severe government restrictions of citizens' political rights, particularly their right to change their government through free and fair elections; limits