the world to address the continuing threat of terrorism. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared on September 14, 2001, in response to certain terrorist attacks.

DONALD J. TRUMP.


MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 8, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representaties announcing that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:


The message also announced that the House, on the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 601) to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 8, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1616. An act to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman.

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–82. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to continue to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant;

H.R. 624. An act to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on Federal forms.

Whereas, in 1978, Louisiana Sea Grant, located at Louisiana State University, was designated as the thirteenth sea grant college under the National Sea Grant College Program, a network of thirty-three sea grant colleges and universities designated by the United States Congress in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the United States Department of Commerce; and

Whereas, the colleges and universities designated under the National Sea Grant College Program were so designated because the colleges and universities involved in scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that were aimed at preserving and developing coastal resources, including those along the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the Act that created the National Sea Grant College Program stated that the program was to support education, research, and extension by “Encouraging and developing programs consisting of instruction, practical demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, by sea grant colleges and other institutions, laboratories, and public and private agencies through marine advisory programs with the object of imparting useful information to persons currently employed or interested in fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public.”; and

Whereas, in 1978, Louisiana Sea Grant, located at Louisiana State University, was designated as the thirteenth sea grant college and in its most recent program review conducted by the National Sea Grant Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was rated as “...exceeds expectations by a substantial margin in some areas” ; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant, similar to the agricultural extension or “county agent” program of the United States Department of Agriculture, provides many educational and support services to local coastal communities and businesses, including our state’s commercial fishermen; and

Whereas, in 2015, Louisiana Sea Grant activities in the state resulted in $17.7 million in economic benefits, the establishment of one hundred five sea grant internships, and the educational experiences of nearly twenty-nine thousand students in our elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant was also able to assist twenty-four communities in the development and implementation of sustainable economic and environmental practices to the benefit of those communities and their citizens; and

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that, on September 8, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1616. An act to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–83. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to continue to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

Whereas, the National Sea Grant College Program, a network of thirty-three sea grant colleges and universities designated by the United States Congress in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the United States Department of Commerce; and

Whereas, the colleges and universities designated under the National Sea Grant College Program were so designated because the colleges and universities involved in scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that were aimed at preserving and developing coastal resources, including those along the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the Act that created the National Sea Grant College Program stated that the program was to support education, research, and extension by “Encouraging and developing programs consisting of instruction, practical demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, by sea grant colleges and other institutions, laboratories, and public and private agencies through marine advisory programs with the object of imparting useful information to persons currently employed or interested in fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public.”; and

Whereas, in 1978, Louisiana Sea Grant, located at Louisiana State University, was designated as the thirteenth sea grant college and in its most recent program review conducted by the National Sea Grant Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was rated as “...exceeds expectations by a substantial margin in some areas” ; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant, similar to the agricultural extension or “county agent” program of the United States Department of Agriculture, provides many educational and support services to local coastal communities and businesses, including our state’s commercial fishermen; and

Whereas, in 2015, Louisiana Sea Grant activities in the state resulted in $17.7 million in economic benefits, the establishment of one hundred five sea grant internships, and the educational experiences of nearly twenty-nine thousand students in our elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant was also able to assist twenty-four communities in the development and implementation of sustainable economic and environmental practices to the benefit of those communities and their citizens; and

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3732. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for increased fiscal year 2017 and 2018 payments for temporary assistance to United States citizens returned from foreign countries.

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to continue to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

Whereas, the National Sea Grant College Program, a network of thirty-three sea grant colleges and universities designated by the United States Congress in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the United States Department of Commerce; and

Whereas, the colleges and universities designated under the National Sea Grant College Program were so designated because the colleges and universities involved in scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that were aimed at preserving and developing coastal resources, including those along the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the Act that created the National Sea Grant College Program stated that the program was to support education, research, and extension by “Encouraging and developing programs consisting of instruction, practical demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, by sea grant colleges and other institutions, laboratories, and public and private agencies through marine advisory programs with the object of imparting useful information to persons currently employed or interested in fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public.”; and

Whereas, in 1978, Louisiana Sea Grant, located at Louisiana State University, was designated as the thirteenth sea grant college and in its most recent program review conducted by the National Sea Grant Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was rated as “...exceeds expectations by a substantial margin in some areas” ; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant, similar to the agricultural extension or “county agent” program of the United States Department of Agriculture, provides many educational and support services to local coastal communities and businesses, including our state’s commercial fishermen; and

Whereas, in 2015, Louisiana Sea Grant activities in the state resulted in $17.7 million in economic benefits, the establishment of one hundred five sea grant internships, and the educational experiences of nearly twenty-nine thousand students in our elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant was also able to assist twenty-four communities in the development and implementation of sustainable economic and environmental practices to the benefit of those communities and their citizens; and

S5102 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE September 11, 2017
Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant has been a part of the first response to many coastal crises including hurricanes, floods, and even the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, and the Louisiana Sea Grant has been an active part of the short-term and long-term recovery from those disasters by local coastal communities; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant annually reaches more than twenty-five thousand of our state's kindergarten through twentieth grade schoolchildren through professional development for teachers, and development of student coastal stewardship activities and has supported more than twelve hundred graduate and undergraduate students in their efforts to complete degrees and research opportunities, furthering the mission of Louisiana Sea Grant to impart "...useful information to persons currently employed or interested in the various fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public"; and

Whereas, one of the programs slated to be cut by $30 million in the Fiscal Year 2018 President's budget request is the National Sea Grant Program with an additional $10 million cut in fiscal year 2019 budget proposal that would eliminate funding for the Sea Grant program entirely; and

Whereas, the Fiscal Year 2018 proposed cut would eliminate the remaining budget for the National Sea Grant College Program this year and, if adopted, would terminate the National Sea Grant College Program on the day such a budget cut became effective; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant provides vital services to the state of Louisiana and its citizens through the scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that are aimed at preservation and practical development of coastal resources. These services are needed to deal a devastating blow to communities already stressed due to the magnitude of coastal loss and repeated natural disasters, such as hurricanes and flooding; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant, and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-84. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant.

POM-84. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 101

Whereas, since 1920, interior states with mineral production in the United States have maintained a revenue sharing agreement with the federal government that allowed those states to keep fifty percent of the revenues generated in their states from mineral production on federal lands within their borders, including royalties, severance taxes, and bonuses; and

Whereas, coastal states with onshore and offshore mineral production were included in that revenue sharing agreement and therefore face inequities under the federal energy policies because those coastal states have not been party to this same level of revenue sharing partnership with the federal government; and

Whereas, most coastal energy producing states have a limited partnership with the federal government that allows them to retain very little revenue generated from their offshore energy production, transportation, and activities associated with energy that are produced and transported for use throughout the nation; and

Whereas, the 2006 United States Congress passed the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) from which the state of Louisiana receives revenue sharing payments from mineral production in the Gulf of Mexico in 2017; an Act that calls for a sharing of thirty-seven and five tenths percent of coastal production revenues with four gulf states with a cap of $500 million per year; and

Whereas, according to the most recent data from the United States Energy Information Administration, Louisiana, including its state waters, is the ninth largest producer of oil in the United States while if offshore oil production in its state waters is included, it is the second largest oil producer in the country; and from wells located within the state boundaries including the state waters, Louisiana is one of the two states that produce natural gas in the United States while if gas production from federal offshore waters in the Gulf of Mexico is included, it is the second largest gas producing state; and

Whereas, with eighteen operating refineries in the state, Louisiana is second only to Texas in both total number of refineries and total refinery operating capacity, accounting for nearly one-fifth of the nation's total refining capacity; and

Whereas, Louisiana contributes to the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve with two facilities located in the state consisting of twenty-nine caverns capable of holding nearly three hundred million barrels of crude oil; and

Whereas, with three offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities and others already permitted, more LNG facilities than any other state in the country, and the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, the nation's only deepwater port, Louisiana plays an essential role in filling one of the United States Gulf Coast region to markets throughout the country; and

Whereas, it is apparent that Louisiana plays an essential role in the nation with energy and it is vital to the security of our nation's energy supply, roles that should be recognized and compensated at an appropriate revenue sharing level; and

Whereas, the majority of the oil and gas production from the Gulf of Mexico enters the United States through coastal Louisiana with all the necessary access to receive and transport such production, infrastructure that has for many decades damaged the coastal areas of Louisiana, an impact that Louisiana is not compensated through appropriate revenue sharing with the federal government; and

Whereas, because Louisiana is losing more coastal wetlands than any other state in the country, in 2006 the people of Louisiana overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment that directed a revenue received from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas activity through GOMESA to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund for the purposes of coastal protection, including, but not limited to, coastal protection, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and infrastructure directly impacted by coastal wetland losses; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant has developed, through a science-based and stakeholder-involved process, a "2017 Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast" which identifies and prioritizes the most efficient and effective projects in order to meet the state's critical coastal protection and restoration needs and may accolades from the country's scientific community; and

Whereas, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is making great progress implementing the projects in the "Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast" with all available projects that are essential to the protection of the infrastructure that is critical to the energy needs of the United States; and

Whereas, the federal budget proposal released on May 23, 2017, recommends the complete elimination of the revenue sharing payments under the GOMESA Act, in effect negating the long-fought projects that are the result of our congressional delegation along with the delegations from the other Gulf of Mexico states that had entered into with the federal government to compensate those states for the infrastructure demands and damages; and

Whereas, in order properly compensate the coastal states for the infrastructure demands that result from production of energy and fuels that heat and cool the nation's homes, offices, and businesses and fuel the nation's transportation needs, revenue sharing agreements between coastal and interior energy producing states should be at the same rate as interior states that produce oil, gas, and coal. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to treat oil and gas production in the Gulf Coast states in a manner that is at least equal to onshore oil, gas, and coal production in interior states for revenue purposes; and

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to include the Gulf of Mexico in the GOMESA Act to ensure that coastal states for the infrastructure demand and to rectify the revenue sharing inequities between coastal and interior energy producing states in order to address the nationally significant crisis of wetland loss in the state of Louisiana; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, along with the delegations from the other Gulf of Mexico states, to ensure that the agreement codified through the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) remains in place and that Coastal states receive their anticipated revenue sharing payments during Fiscal Year 2017–2018 as outlined in the Act; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California relative to a New Five-Year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Outer Continental Shelf; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 51

Whereas, California’s iconic coastal and marine waters are one of our state’s most precious resources, and as ocean resources, it is our duty to ensure the long-term viability of California’s fish and wildlife resources, and thriving fishing, tourism, and recreation sectors; and

Whereas, Hundreds of millions of California residents and visitors enjoy the state’s ocean and coast for recreation, exploration, and relaxation; and tourism and recreation comprise the largest sector of the state’s $445 billion ocean economy; and

Whereas, America has developed, through a science-based and stakeholder-involved process, a “2017 Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast” which identifies and prioritizes the most efficient and effective projects in order to meet the state’s critical coastal protection and restoration needs and may accolades from the country’s scientific community; and

Whereas, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is making great progress implementing the projects in the “Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast” with all available projects that are essential to the protection of the infrastructure that is critical to the energy needs of the United States; and
Whereas, Beginning in 1921, and many times since, the California Legislature has enacted laws that withdrew certain offshore areas from oil and gas leasing, and by 1989 the state’s offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium was in place; and

Whereas, In 1994, the California Legislature made a petition by Assembly Bill 2444, Chapter 970 of the Statutes of 1994, that offshore oil and gas production in certain areas of state waters poses an unacceptably high risk of damage and disruption to the marine environment; and

Whereas, In the same bill, the Legislature created the California Coastal Sanctuary Act, that all of the state’s offshore leased waters subject to tidal influence and prohibited new oil and gas leases in the sanctuary, unless the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the Department of Energy, has found a severe energy supply interruption and has ordered distribution of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, the Governor finds that the energy resources of the sanctuary will contribute significantly to alleviating that interruption, and the Legislature subsequently amended Chapter 970 of the Statutes of 1994, that said amendment is hereby affirmed; and

Whereas, Section 18 of the federal Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. Sec. 1331 et seq.) requires the preparation of a national energy and gas leasing program that sets a five-year schedule of lease sales implemented by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the United States Department of the Interior; and

Whereas, Consistent with the principles of Section 18 and the resulting regionally tailored moratorium on offshore gas drilling in the current exclusion of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas development is consistent with the longstanding interests of Pacific coast states to protect the ocean from the risk of oil spills, protect the environment; and

Whereas, Consistent with the principles of Section 18 and the resulting regionally tailored moratorium on offshore gas drilling, and along with previous California Governor Jerry Brown who heeded the call from the voters of both California and Oregon and Washington in an effort to commit to developing robust renewable energy sources to reduce our dependence on fossil fuel and help us reach our carbon emission goals; and

Whereas, The California Legislature has led the nation with its landmark climate change legislation, requiring ambitious greenhouse gas emission reductions of a 90% reduction by 2050, and achieving a renewables portfolio standard of 50% by 2030; California must lead the nation in fostering the transition away from offshore fossil fuel production to ocean energy, a climate change solution from the damaging impacts of climate change, which will affect all life on earth for generations to come; and

Whereas, President Trump’s proposed five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program represents a renewed call for opening of offshore drilling and new leasing moratoriums on energy production in federal areas, that could lead to more oil spills, increased dependence on fossil fuel, and more damaging impacts to the climate change

Whereas, The California Legislature considers new oil and gas development offshore of the Pacific coast to be a threat to the nation’s national security, and to the state’s ambitious renewable energy goals; and

Whereas, The California Senate has previously adopted Senate Resolutions 35 and 44 in 2017, which support the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal areas of California, oppose attempts to modify the prohibition, and defend the United States’ National Marine Sanctuaries; and

Whereas, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke took action on June 29, 2017, to open up a 45-day public comment period for a new five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Pacific coast’s Outer Continental Shelf pursuant to President Donald J. Trump’s Executive order on American energy that was issued on April 28, 2017; and

Whereas, Despite the Trump administration’s assertion of support for the program from state and local governments, the States of Washington, Oregon, and California have been consistently united in their opposition to any new oil and gas activities off their coasts, which has resulted in the exclusion of the Pacific coast’s Outer Continental Shelf from any National Outer Continental Shelf Program since the 1989–1992 program; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate strongly urges the President and the Congress of the United States to continue the current moratorium on offshore gas drilling from new oil and gas leasing, and declares the Senate’s unequivocal support for the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal waters offshore of the Pacific coast, its opposition to the proposed five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Pacific coast’s Outer Continental Shelf or any attempts to modify that prohibition, and its determination to consider any appropriate actions to maintain the current prohibition; and be it

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the National Program Manager of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management as public comment of the Legislature in opposition to the proposed new five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Pacific coast’s Outer Continental Shelf; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, to each Senator, and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, to the Director of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and to each member of the California State Senate and Assembly.

POM-56. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Comptroller General of the United States comply with the provisions of Section 411 of Public Law 114-117, known as the “Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act,” in order to conduct and submit to the United States Congress an audit of the public debt of the territory of Puerto Rico; and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. CON. RES. 17

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The Government of Puerto Rico is under the control of the “Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act” (PROMESA), passed on June 30, 2016. Said federal statute provides for the creation of a Fiscal Oversight Board to assist the Government of Puerto Rico in managing its public finances and enable Puerto Rico to regain access to capital markets.

During the floor debate on PROMESA, it was made clear that the intent of said federal measure was to provide for the restructuring of each jurisdiction without favoring any specific creditor. To achieve this end, the aforementioned federal legislation requires transparent audits along with annual fiscal and budget plans, and the temporary stay of litigation to allow the Fiscal Oversight Board a space for carrying out voluntary negotiations. Thus, it was made clear that Puerto Rico’s citizens would be audited. In the words of Congressman Ryan: “Congress and the President will appoint the members of this board. It will audit Puerto Rico’s books and make sure the restructuring is open and fair […]”.

In light of such reality and as part of said processes and the approval of PROMESA, Section 411 was incorporated, directing the Comptroller General of the United States to submit reports on the public debt of the territory, that is, Puerto Rico, within a year of enactment and every two years after that. Said report would include the historical levels of public debt, current amount and composition thereof, and future projections of the outstanding debt. It should also include the historical levels of each territory’s revenue, current amount and composition of each territory’s revenue, and future projections of each territory’s revenue. Moreover, the report shall state the drivers and composition of the public debt as well as the ability of each territory to repay its public debt. To fulfill said undertaking, the Government of Puerto Rico would provide the Comptroller General with any information necessary to carry out said statutory task.

The approval of PROMESA and Section 411 invalidated the functions of the Commission for the Comprehensive Audit of the Public Credit (hereinafter, the Commission) created under Act No. 97-2015, to set a fiscal and financial restructuring process in motion in order to audit the entire public debt of Puerto Rico. Consequently, the Commission’s purpose became redundant, entailing superfluous public spending.

Objectives of the Commission were considered even during the incorporation of Section 411 to PROMESA. For such reason, upon the enactment of said federal statute, it was early stated that the functions of the Commission would be independent to those provided in PROMESA. Furthermore, it was stated that “[…] this particular amendment does not override the authority of the oversight board.” Therefore, given the fiscal situation facing the Island, it would be contradictory to allocate resources and efforts, when the provisions of PROMESA require an audit conducted by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Consequently, and in accordance with President Trump’s proposal, the Comptroller General of the United States is entrusted with the audit Puerto Rico’s debt, including the historical levels, current amount and composition thereof, and future projections of the People of Puerto Rico. Thusly, we obtain an independent and transparent evaluation of accountability that may be free from collateral attack and that may be effectively undertaken and carried out by the Comptroller General of the United States Department of the Interior, to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and to each member of the California State Senate and Assembly.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the Puerto Rico:

Section 1—The Comptroller General of the United States is hereby directed to comply with the provisions of Section 411 of Public Law 114-117, known as the “Puerto Rico
Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act.’’ in order to conduct and submit to the U.S. Congress an audit of the public debt of the territory of Puerto Rico.

Section 2—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect immediately after its approval.

POM-67. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey opposing the President of the United States’s nomination for Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and urging the United States’ Congress to reject the nomination, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Assembly Resolution No. 211

Whereas, Created in the wake of elevated concern about environmental pollution, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established on December 2, 1970 to consolidate in one agency a variety of federal monitoring, standard-setting, and enforcement activities to ensure protection of the environment and public health; and

Whereas, With a stated mission to protect the environment and human health the EPA, since its inception, has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people; and

Whereas, The EPA’s primary focus has always been, and should be, protecting residents of this country from threats to their air, water and land, not serving the industries that pay for the interests of the very industries that it is charged with regulating; and

Whereas, President Trump nominated Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and urges the United States Congress to oppose this nomination.

1. This House strongly opposes President Trump’s nomination of Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and urges the United States Congress to oppose this nomination.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Congress selected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-88. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to authorize the use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to complete the construction of an authorized United States Army Corps of Engineers project under the current emergency rules and circumstances; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-89. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey urgently calling on the President H.R. 1628, the ‘‘American Health Care Act of 2017’’, to the Committee on Finance.

Assembly Resolution No. 252

Whereas, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), which was signed into law on March 23, 2010, established a comprehensive series of health insurance reforms designed to make universal, quality, cost-effective health care available to all Americans while ending certain common health insurance industry practices that limited access to coverage; and

Whereas, since its enactment, the ACA has helped reduce the number of people without health insurance through the use of tax subsidies, coverage mandates, and expansions to Medicaid. In New Jersey alone, an additional 480,000 people obtained coverage under the Medicaid expansion, and the uninsured rate in the State was reduced to 8.7 percent, representing a 34 percent decrease in the uninsured population between 2013 and 2015; and

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, H.R.1628, the American Health Care Act of 2017 (AHCA), urgency the United States House of Representatives. On May 4, 2017, the House voted to pass the bill; and

Whereas, on March 23, 2017, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that the AHCA would result in an additional 24 million people being without health insurance by the year 2026, with the uninsured rate under the ACA. Although the House of Representatives amended the bill to provide additional funding, the House did not wait for a new CBO score before holding a vote, suggesting the House passed the bill without the benefit of an impartial analysis of the potential effects; and

Whereas, as passed by the House of Representatives, the AHCA would eliminate many of the provisions of the ACA that were designed to expand access to health insurance, including rolling back the Medicaid expansion; and

Whereas, in its current form, Trumpcare would change the way health care is structured and allow states to opt out of certain ACA protections designed to prevent certain industry practices that limited access to health care for women and individuals with preexisting conditions; and

Whereas, specifically, under the current version of the AHCA, states would be allowed to opt out of the requirement that all health insurance policies include coverage for essential health benefits, including emergency services, habilitative and rehabilitative services, maternity and newborn care, mental health and addiction treatment, lab tests, preventative care, prescriptions, and pediatric services; and

Whereas, before enactment of the ACA, women who wanted coverage for maternity

S. Environmental Protection Agency is like putting an arsonist in charge of fighting fires He is a climate science denier who, as Attorney General for the state of Oklahoma, regrettably, has spent taxpayer dollars on an out-of-court settlement resulting in the loss of life and destruction of property; and

Whereas, the flood of 2016 has shown the national declaration of emergency; and

Whereas, the flood of 2016 has shown the urgent need to complete the project as a means to protect life and property in the future as citizens impacted by the flood rebuild their homes and lives: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the people of New Jersey urge the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and be it further

Resolved, That the Comite River Diversion Canal Project remains incomplete twenty-five years after its authorization and completion, which represents a significant setback to the people of the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, According to numerous press reports, President Trump has said ‘‘For too long, the Environmental Protection Agency has spent taxpayer dollars on an out-of-control and anti-energy agenda that has destroyed millions of jobs’’; and

Whereas, Strong environmental standards that protect public health and the environment are necessary in this country and are contrary to a strong economy and the creation of jobs; and

Whereas, The Sierra Club, the nation’s largest grassroots environmental organization, has made the following statement about the nomination. ‘‘Having Scott Pruitt in charge of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is like putting an arsonist in charge of fighting fires He is a climate science denier who, as Attorney General for the state of Oklahoma, regrettably, has spent taxpayer dollars on an out-of-court settlement resulting in the loss of life and destruction of property; and

Whereas, Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act.’’ in order to conduct and submit to the U.S. Congress an audit of the public debt of the territory of Puerto Rico.

Section 2—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect immediately after its approval.

POM-67. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey opposing the President of the United States’s nomination for Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and urging the United States’ Congress to reject the nomination, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Assembly Resolution No. 211

Whereas, Created in the wake of elevated concern about environmental pollution, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established on December 2, 1970 to consolidate in one agency a variety of federal monitoring, standard-setting, and enforcement activities to ensure protection of the environment and public health; and

Whereas, With a stated mission to protect the environment and human health the EPA, since its inception, has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people; and

Whereas, The EPA’s primary focus has always been, and should be, protecting residents of this country from threats to their air, water and land, not serving the industries that pay for the interests of the very industries that it is charged with regulating; and

Whereas, President Trump nominated Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and urges the United States Congress to oppose this nomination.

1. This House strongly opposes President Trump’s nomination of Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and urges the United States Congress to oppose this nomination.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Congress selected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-88. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and be it further

Resolved, That the Comite River Diversion Canal Project remains incomplete twenty-five years after its authorization and completion, which represents a significant setback to the people of the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, According to numerous press reports, President Trump has said ‘‘For too long, the Environmental Protection Agency has spent taxpayer dollars on an out-of-control and anti-energy agenda that has destroyed millions of jobs’’; and

Whereas, Strong environmental standards that protect public health and the environment are necessary in this country and are contrary to a strong economy and the creation of jobs; and

Whereas, The Sierra Club, the nation’s largest grassroots environmental organization, has made the following statement about the nomination. ‘‘Having Scott Pruitt in charge of the U
and newborn care were frequently charged premiums and deductibles that nearly matched the out of pocket costs for those services. Experts predict that, in states that opt out of the maternity and newborn care coverage requirement, women will again be charged significantly higher rates for this coverage; and

Whereas the nation is currently in the midst of an opioid addiction epidemic that has caused overdose and mortality rates to skyrocket. Efforts to address and curtail opioid addiction could be significantly hampered in states that opt out of mandatory coverage for mental health and addiction treatment; and

Whereas prior to enactment of the ACA, insurers denied coverage to people with preexisting conditions or charged them significantly higher premiums and deductibles; 45 states and the federal government created high risk pools to attempt to provide coverage to these individuals, however, the pools were expensive to operate and were required significant governmental subsidies. Even with the subsidies, the pools were generally unable to provide coverage to everyone with a preexisting condition; and

Whereas federal funding each year to cover everyone with preexisting conditions or charged them significantly higher premiums and deductibles; 35 states and the federal government created high risk pools to attempt to provide coverage to these individuals, however, the pools were expensive to operate and were required significant governmental subsidies. Even with the subsidies, the pools were generally unable to provide coverage to everyone with a preexisting condition; and

Whereas, in its current form, Trumpcare would allocate an average $353 million to each state, leaving New Jersey with a $437 million funding gap, the 11th highest in the nation; and

Whereas numerous health care groups have expressed opposition to the AHCA, including the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and the American Diabetes Association; and

Whereas, an increase in the number of uninsured individuals will likely increase costs for hospitals, which are required to treat anyone who presents at the emergency department, regardless of their coverage status. In New Jersey, Medicare coverage under the ACA resulted in $400 million in cost savings from payments to hospitals to offset the cost of caring for individuals without insurance. These gains are likely to be erased under Trumpcare to its current form; and

Whereas, if enacted, the AHCA will eliminate health security for millions of Americans, particularly older adults, women, and individuals with preexisting conditions. The United States Senate will lose the opportunity and the responsibility to stop this disastrous legislation from becoming law; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The General Assembly of New Jersey respectfully urges the United States Senate not to enact the American Health Care Act of 2017.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the New Jersey House of Representatives, and every member of the Congress of the United States elected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-90. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Texas urging the United States Congress to support policies to increase the operational efficiency, and thereby the environmental performance, of existing electric generating units and to support the preservation and expansion of the electric generation portfolio critical to our domestic economic, energy, and national security; to the Committee on Finance.

Whereas, Fossil fuels, including coal, natural gas, and oil, currently meet more than three of primary global energy demand around the world and in the United States; and

Whereas, According to the International Energy Agency, under current energy and environmental policies, fossil fuels will continue to play a significant role in the next quarter century or more; even assuming global adoption of policies consistent with the IEA’s “climate-stabilizing” 450 Scenario, more than half of total world energy demand would still be met by fossil fuels in 2040; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Energy has acknowledged that fossil fuel capture, utilization, and storage technologies provide a key pathway to address the urgent U.S. and global need for affordable, secure, resilient, and reliable energy supplies; and environmental advocates who recognize the value and enduring role of fossil fuels as an essential source of energy have come to support and strongly advocate the development and deployment of carbon capture technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and environmental and energy advocates have come together in support of this critical research and the development and deployment of CCUS technologies such as geologic sequestration, mineral carbonation, and the beneficial use of captured carbon dioxide; and

Whereas, In Texas, many academic, private, and governmental initiatives and institutions engaged in applied research and development of technologies that provide clean, safe, and reliable power generation, and it is committed to continued research and development of construction strategies for fossil fuels, including existing and emerging CCUS technologies such as geologic sequestration, mineral carbonation, and the beneficial use of captured carbon dioxide; and

Whereas, The nation is currently in the midst of an opioid addiction epidemic that has caused overdose and mortality rates to skyrocket. Efforts to address and curtail opioid addiction could be significantly hampered in states that opt out of mandatory coverage for mental health and addiction treatment; and

Whereas, Congress and the president are also currently considering a large-scale federal infrastructure initiative to strengthen transportation, power, and energy infrastructure, which could also serve as a vehicle for advancing “jobs-ready” carbon capture projects; the U.S. Department of Energy has acknowledged that fossil fuel capture, utilization, and storage technologies provide a key pathway to address the urgent U.S. and global need for affordable, secure, resilient, and reliable energy supplies; and

Whereas, the Center for American Progress conservatively estimates that it will cost $700 million annually to improve health insurance coverage for the 37,000 New Jerseyans with a preexisting condition. Currently, the AHCA would allocate an average $353 million to each state, leaving New Jersey with a $437 million funding gap, the 11th highest in the nation; and

Whereas, the nation’s largest producer of natural gas, coal, and oil, and it has the nation’s largest proved reserves of both natural gas and oil, as well as the ninth-largest recoverable reserves of coal; it is the nation’s largest provider of electricity generation and the largest consumer of natural gas for both electricity generation and industrial use; 77 percent of the electricity generated in the nation is produced from the use of fossil fuels; and

Whereas, Reliable and affordable electricity is vital to economic growth and job creation and to the well-being of all citizens; according to the U.S. Department of Energy, “A diverse portfolio of energy resources is critical for a secure, resilient, and sustainable energy future” ... being more robust and resilient in comparison to a system that is heavily dependent on a limited set of energy resources ... (addressing infrastructural failures for certain critical risks, including price volatility and risks from supply disruptions); and

Whereas, Texas is a major oil and gas producing state, and the environmental, health, and economic impacts of energy production and use through collaborations on applied CO2 research, practical applications, workforce development, and public education; among them are the Petra Nova Project at the W. A. Parish Electric Generating Station in Fort Bend County, the Texas Clean Energy Project in Harris County, the Energy and Environment Initiative at Rice University’s Petroleum Management Project, and the Gulf Coast Carbon Center at The University of Texas at Austin; and

Whereas, Legislation was introduced in the 114th U.S. Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives, under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and

Resolved, by the Senate of the 114th U.S. Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives, under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and

Resolved, by the Senate of the 114th U.S. Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives, under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and

Resolved, by the Senate of the 114th U.S. Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives, under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and
Resolved, That the House of Representa-
tives of the 85th Texas Legislature hereby re-
spectfully urges Congress to take measures to make Social Secu-
raries many workers to fear that they will never be able to retire and maintain their standard of living; and
Whereas, Social Security in fact had a sur-
plus of $2.8 trillion at the end of 2015 that is expected to grow to $3.9 trillion by 2020; and
Whereas, Social Security has sufficient re-
sources to meet all its obligations through 2034 and has dedicated revenues that would meet three-quarters of promised benefits thereafter; and
Whereas, Social Security’s funding short-
fall after 2034 is modest; about half the cost of the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003; and
Whereas, There are many policy options available to Congress to close Social Security’s long-term funding gap and to improve its benefits, including eliminating or increasing the cap on earnings subject to the payroll tax, or gradually increasing the contribu-
tional rate to 7.2 percent, or subjecting investment income to Social Security contributions, or treating contribu-
tions to all salary reduction plans like 401(k) plans as Social Security contribu-
tions, or by dedicating revenues from progres-
sive taxes like the estate tax or a financial transactions tax to pay part of the future cost of Social Security; and
Whereas, According to a multigeneration study conducted by the National Academy of Social Insurance, 77 percent of Americans (89 percent of Democrats, 76 percent of Demo-
crats, and 76 percent of Independents) agree that it is critical to preserve Social Security for future generations even if it means increas-
ing taxes paid by working Americans; and there is even greater multipartisan sup-
port (71 percent of Republicans, 92 percent of Democrats, and 84 percent of Independents) for preserving it by increasing taxes paid by wealthier Americans; and
Whereas, Medicaid is a solution to the retirement crisis; as well as to other serious problems such as ris-
ing income inequality; and
Whereas, Social Security’s funding is inde-
pendent of that of the rest of the federal gov-
ernment, and has never contributed to, and by law can never contribute to, the federal deficit; and
Whereas, Social Security in fact had a sur-
plus of $2.8 trillion at the end of 2015 that is expected to grow to $3.9 trillion by 2020; and
Whereas, Social Security has sufficient re-
resources to meet all its obligations through 2034 and has dedicated revenues that would meet three-quarters of promised benefits thereafter; and
Whereas, Social Security’s funding short-
fall after 2034 is modest; about half the cost of the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003; and
Whereas, There are many policy options available to Congress to close Social Security’s long-term funding gap and to improve its benefits, including eliminating or increasing the cap on earnings subject to the payroll tax, or gradually increasing the contribu-
tional rate to 7.2 percent, or subjecting investment income to Social Security contributions, or treating contribu-
tions to all salary reduction plans like 401(k) plans as Social Security contribu-
tions, or by dedicating revenues from progres-
sive taxes like the estate tax or a financial transactions tax to pay part of the future cost of Social Security; and
Whereas, According to a multigeneration study conducted by the National Academy of Social Insurance, 77 percent of Americans (89 percent of Democrats, 76 percent of Demo-

Whereas, Each year, Texas sends about 36 percent of the state’s total exports to Mexico, and in 2015, exports to Mexico totaled nearly $92.5 million; goods exported to Mexico include machinery and electronic products, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, machinery, and transportation equipment, all of which are produced by industries that employ thousands of jobs to the Lone Star State; and

Whereas, Since the ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, the trade balance of goods between Mexico and the United States has increased 325 percent, while imports into the United States from Mexico have increased 58 percent; in 2012, Americans spent $277.5 billion for products from Mexico, and Mexico is America’s third-largest supplier of oil, after Canada and Saudi Arabia; additionally, nearly half of the tomatoes and two-thirds of the mangos consumed in the United States come from Mexico; and

Whereas, The importance of this trade to Texas border cities, counties, and businesses is very significant, and disruption to international commerce would be economically damaging; and

Whereas, Mexico is the largest trading partner of Texas and the third-largest of the United States, and it is imperative that our federal government take proactive steps to strengthen trade ties with Mexico and build bridges of economic opportunity that will benefit Texas and the entire nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby urge the United States Congress to recognize the importance of trade between Texas and Mexico and foster international commerce; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk of the house forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, the president of the Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and Clerk of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM–98. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida opposing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and requesting its repeal or fundamental alteration; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 281

Whereas, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security, and

Whereas, since 1967, the United States has facilitated direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties toward achieving a two-state solution and ending all outstanding claims, and

Whereas, it is the long-standing policy of the United States that a peaceful resolution to the conflict will only come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties, and

Whereas, it was the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto United Nations Security Council resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and

Whereas, the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto one-sided or anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions, and


Whereas, the United States recently signed a new memorandum of understanding with the Israeli government regarding security cooperation and extending support for Israel among successive administrations and Congresses and representing an important United States commitment toward Israel’s qualitative military edge, and

Whereas, on November 29, 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously adopted House Resolution 116, expressing and reaffirming long-standing United States policy in support of a direct, bilaterally negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as the only opposition to United Nations Security Council resolutions that impose a solution to the conflict, and

Whereas, on December 23, 2016, the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations disregarded House Concurrent Resolution 116 and departed from longstanding United States policy by abstaining and permitting United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and

Whereas, the United States’ abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contradicts the Oslo Accords and its associated principles, proceeding toward resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict between the parties through direct, bilateral negotiations, and

Whereas, United States Security Council Resolution 2334 claims that “the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, and the construction and expansion of settlements that constitute a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and just, lasting and comprehensive peace,” and

Whereas, by referring to the “4 June 1967 lines” as the basis for negotiations, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively states that the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Judaism’s holiest site, are “occupied territory” with Israeli sovereignty and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and just, lasting and comprehensive peace, and

Whereas, passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 unilaterally legitimizes efforts by the Palestinian Authority to impose its own solution through international organizations and unjustified boycotts or divestment campaigns against Israel by calling “upon all states, bearing in mind paragraph 1 of this resolution, to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967:” and will require the United States and Israel to take effective action to counteract the resolution’s potential harmful impact on United States-Israel relations, and

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. for transmission to the proper authorities of the State and for a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.

POM–94. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida opposing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and requesting the repeal of, or fundamental alteration to, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.

(2) Authorizes all final-status issues to come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(3) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

That the Florida House of Representatives opposes and requests the repeal of or fundamental alteration to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.

(2) Authorizes all final-status issues to come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(3) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 281

Whereas, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security, and

Whereas, since 1967, the United States has facilitated direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties toward achieving a two-state solution and ending all outstanding claims, and

Whereas, it is the long-standing policy of the United States that a peaceful resolution to the conflict will only come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties, and

Whereas, it was the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto United Nations Security Council resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and

Whereas, the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto one-sided or anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions, and


Whereas, the United States recently signed a new memorandum of understanding with the Israeli government regarding security cooperation and extending support for Israel among successive administrations and Congresses and representing an important United States commitment toward Israel’s qualitative military edge, and

Whereas, on November 29, 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously adopted House Resolution 116, expressing and reaffirming long-standing United States policy in support of a direct, bilaterally negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as the only opposition to United Nations Security Council resolutions that impose a solution to the conflict, and

Whereas, on December 23, 2016, the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations disregarded House Concurrent Resolution 116 and departed from longstanding United States policy by abstaining and permitting United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and

Whereas, the United States’ abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contradicts the Oslo Accords and its associated principles, proceeding toward resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict between the parties through direct, bilateral negotiations, and

Whereas, United States Security Council Resolution 2334 claims that “the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, and the construction and expansion of settlements that constitute a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and just, lasting and comprehensive peace,” and

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. for transmission to the proper authorities of the State and for a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.

POM–94. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida opposing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and requesting the repeal of, or fundamental alteration to, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.

(2) Authorizes all final-status issues to come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(3) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

That the Florida House of Representatives opposes and requests the repeal of or fundamental alteration to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.

(2) Authorizes all final-status issues to come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(3) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 281

Whereas, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security, and

Whereas, since 1967, the United States has facilitated direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties toward achieving a two-state solution and ending all outstanding claims, and

Whereas, it is the long-standing policy of the United States that a peaceful resolution to the conflict will only come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties, and

Whereas, it was the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto United Nations Security Council resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and

Whereas, the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto one-sided or anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions, and

Whereas, the United States has stood in the minority internationally over successive
resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and
Whereas, it was also the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, to vet, United Nations Security Council resolutions, and
Whereas, the United States recently signed a new agreement of understanding with the Israeli government regarding security assistance, consistent with long-standing support for Israel among successive administrations and Congresses and representing as important United States commitment toward Israel’s qualitative military edge, and
Whereas, on November 29, 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 163, expressing and reaffirming long-standing United States policy, it is in the national interest of the United States to oppose United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and
Whereas, the United States’ abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contradicts the Oslo Accords and its associated frameworks of peacemaking, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and in opposition to United Nations Security Council resolutions that impose a solution to the conflict, and
Whereas, on December 23, 2016, the United States House of Representatives, 114th Congress, 2nd Session, representing the United Nations, disregarded House Concurrent Resolution 165 and departed from long-standing United States policy by abstaining and subsequently voting against United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and
Whereas, the United States’ abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 claims that “the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, is a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and a just, comprehensive peace,” and
Whereas, by referring to the “4 June 1967 Lines” as the basis for negotiations, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively states that the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Judaism’s holiest site, are “occupied territory,” thereby equating these sites with outposts in the West Bank that the Israeli government has deemed illegal, and
Whereas, passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 would serve to legitimize efforts by the Palestinian Authority to impose its own solution through international organizations and unjustified boycotts and sanctions, including by calling “upon all States, bearing in mind paragraph 1 of this resolution, to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967,” and will require the United States and Israel to take effective action to counteract the resolution’s potential harm.

POM–95. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida recognizing the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana as an Indian tribe; and
Whereas, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused Indians living in the South to embark on what became known as the “Trail of Tears” from 1830 to 1842; and
Whereas, pursuant to the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small groups of the five tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into Louisiana and settled near the present central and western parishes, in the present-day parishes of Rapides, Vernon, Natchitoches, and Cascaicu, which was referred to as “No Man’s Land” or “Rio Hondo”; and
Whereas, the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana exists today, and the tribe has full recognition by the United States government, as well as by the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions, and
Whereas, it is imperative that the state of Louisiana recognize Indian tribes within its borders, to support their tribal aspirations, to preserve their cultural heritage and improve their economic conditions, and to assist them in the achievement of their just rights; Therefore, be it
Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana as an Indian tribe of the State; and
Whereas, the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana is an Indian tribe of the State; and
Resolved, That the Congress of the United States and the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs are hereby memorialized, recognized, and requested to support the tribe’s interests,

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 227

Whereas, Article 5 of the United States constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress, on the Application of the Legislatures and two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”; and
Whereas, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed House Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution; and
Whereas, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States Constitution; and
Whereas, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States Constitution; and
Whereas, the passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermines the prospects for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace, and
Whereas, the passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermines the prospects for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace, and
Resolved, That the United States government should oppose and veto United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues, and
Whereas, the Florida House of Representatives finds:
(1) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermines the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and veto United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues or are one-sided and anti-Israel, reversing decades of bipartisan agreement.
(3) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contributes to the politically motivated acts of boycotting, divesting from, and sanctioning Israel and represents a concerted effort to extract concessions from Israel outside of direct, bilateral negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians, which must be actively rejected.
(4) Any future measures taken by any organization, including the United Nations Security Council, to impose an agreement or parameters for an agreement will set back the peace process and harm the security of Israel, contradict the enduring bipartisan consensus on strengthening the United States-Israel relationship, and weaken support for such actions. and
(5) A durable and sustainable peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians is only possible with direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties resulting in a Jewish, democratic state living next to a demilitarized Palestinian state in peace and security.
(6) The United States government should work to facilitate serious, direct, unconditional negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.
(7) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.
(8) That the Florida House of Representatives opposes and requests the repeal or fundamental amendment to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:
(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.
(2) Authorizes issues toward a two-state solution to be resolved through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties involved; and be further
Resolved, That the resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities of the State of Israel as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed hereinafter.

POM–96. A joint resolution adopted by the Louisiana congressional delegation, and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior.
Resolved, By the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that House Joint Resolution Number 12, passed in the first session of the twenty-eighth legislature of the state of New Mexico, Senate Joint Resolution Number 2, passed in the first session of the twenty-seventh legislature of the state of New Mexico, and Senate Joint Resolution 1, passed in the second session of the thirty-second legislature of the state of New Mexico, be rescinded; and be it further Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted today by the Clerk of the United States Senate to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Vice Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, every member of Congress elected from New Jersey, and the New Jersey Attorney General.

POM–98. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment to prevent the United States Department of Justice from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical marijuana laws; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment does not change the status of marijuana with respect to Federal law; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment states, “None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Justice may be used, with respect to any of the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, or with respect to either the District of Columbia or Guam, to prevent any of them from implementing their own laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana”; and

Whereas, On December 16, 2014, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was initially signed into Federal law as part of an omnibus spending bill; and

Whereas, On December 18, 2015, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was reauthorized as part of the fiscal year 2016 Federal omnibus appropriations bill; and

Whereas, In September 2016, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was reauthorized again as a part of a short-term spending bill; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment must be reauthorized each fiscal year in order to remain in effect; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment expires on April 28, 2017; therefore be it Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment to prevent the United States Department of Justice from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical marijuana laws; and

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

Whereas, Article 5 of the United States constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress...on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”;

and

Whereas, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States constitution;

and

Whereas, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States constitution;

and

Whereas, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 1 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the United States Constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress...on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”;

and

WHEREAS, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States Constitution;

and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States Constitution;

and

WHEREAS, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 1 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the United States Constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress...on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”; and

WHEREAS, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 to make an application to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the website of the RACER Trust explains that after the bankruptcy of General Motors, “the RACER Trust was created in 2009 by the U.S. Government” and equipped with “nearly $500 million...received at the time of the Trust’s establishment” to “clean up and position for redevelopment the properties and other facilities owned by the former General Motors Corporation”; and

WHEREAS, such properties and facilities are to be included for clean up and revitalization necessarily include the former GM-Shreveport plant; and

WHEREAS, during February 2013, the RACER Trust and Elio Motors entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement whereby Elio Motors was expected to acquire from the RACER Trust all of the property, both movable and immovable property, relative to the former GM-Shreveport plant; however, Elio Motors purchased only the movable property, which, entered into an Agreement with the RACER Trust in the amount of twenty-three million dollars to acquire the movable property; and

WHEREAS, circumstances changed regarding the sale of all of the former GM-Shreveport plant to Elio Motors; instead, the movable property of the plant was purchased by the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board; and

WHEREAS, at the request of the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board, a parent company known as Industrial Realty Group first purchased the immovable property of the former GM-Shreveport plant and immediately resold this same property to the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board then leased the immovable property back to Industrial Realty Group; and

WHEREAS, as the lessee and property manager of the former GM-Shreveport plant, Industrial Realty Group has not materialized as projected and desired; and

WHEREAS, with the present and future state of the former GM-Shreveport plant subject to the direction and actions of Industrial Realty Group and Elio Motors, the House Commerce Committee was interested in hearing the testimony of certain stakeholders to identify and expound upon the circumstances and conditions confronting the automobile manufacturing industry and the anticipated accompanying job growth; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to House Resolution No. 37 of the 2016 Second Extraordinary Session, the House Committee on Commerce met in Shreveport, Louisiana, on October 26, 2016, to do all of the following: study the state of the automobile manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana since the onset of the most recent worldwide economic downturn that began in 2008; investigate and report on the activities of the RACER Trust in the state of Louisiana;
RACER Trust: Now, therefore, be it

Whereas, the attainment of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland pursuant to the terms of Article V of the Committee on the Judiciary;

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States has been, since its creation in 1787, the bulwark of American liberty and strength. It was the first written national document to declare the rights and duties of the people and the powers and functions of the government. It is the basis of America’s checks and balances system of governance, ensuring the majority while protecting the rights of the minority. It provides for the peaceful resolution of our basic political disputes and allows for an orderly transition of political leaderships without bloodshed or revolution; and

Whereas, since its ratification, the Constitution has been amended 27 times, each proposal being presented by the states and always with subsequent ratification by the requisite number of state legislatures. No state’s political turmoil, and many grave political and economic problems—including the Great Depression—our nation has not had another Constitutional Convention, 1976, and

Whereas, the First Convention was called to make revisions to the Articles of Confederation and decided instead to discard that document and create an entirely new and extremely different one. In recent years, we have heard such diverse proposals as the elimination of portions of the Bill of Rights as a way for the President to dissolve Congress; and

Whereas, although historical records maintain that the Library of Congress is incomplete and in some instances unclear as to the final disposition of legislation proposed by the General Assembly to initiate a call to Congress for a Constitutional Convention, it is reported that the Maryland General Assembly has passed several such calls for a Constitutional Convention, these calls include:

1. House Resolution 39 (1939) (unconfirmed) calling for limitations on the federal taxing power; 2. House Joint Resolution 40 (1964) calling for amendments to the size and boundaries of congressional districts; 3. Senate Joint Resolution 1 (1965) calling for legislative autonomy concerning the apportionment of State legislative bodies; 4. Senate Resolution 47 (1975) (unconfirmed), a memorial from the Senate of Maryland calling for the allowance of school prayer in public schools; and 5. Senate Joint Resolution 4 (1975) calling for a balanced federal budget. It is generally believed that these calls never expire, and current generations are now bound by decisions from different time and culture. The need to advance these various policy reforms should be debated anew, and not bind future generations without any consideration of the Constitution.

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland, that this body does hereby resolve, rescind, repeal, cancel, void, nullify, and supercede any or all applications of the General Assembly to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardles of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects or purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited subject matter.

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM–102. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland rescinding any and all prior applications by the General Assembly to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of whether or not the calls are confirmed by the historical records maintained by the State or the Library of Congress, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects or purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited subject matter.
Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Andrew P. Harris, President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and that this Resolution be published in the Congressional Record of the United States of America.

Resolved, That certified copies of this Joint Resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to:

(1) the Honorable Michael R. Pence, Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Suite S-212, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Orrin Hatch, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Suite H-104, Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, 123 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(2) the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Benjamin L. Cardin and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Andy Harris, Dutch Ruppersberger III, John P. Sarbanes, Anthony G. Brown, Steny Hoyer, Joaquin Castro, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Elijah E. Cummings, and Jamie Raskin, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(3) the Honorable David S. Ferrero, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 709 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004; and

(4) the Honorable Julie E. Adams, Secretary, National Archives and Records Administration, United States Capitol Building, Suite S-312, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Elizabeth MacDonough, Parliamentarian of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, United States Capitol Building, Suite S-133, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Suite H-194, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and the Honorable Thomas J. Wickham, Jr., Parliamentarian of the United States House of Representatives, Room H-209, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, requesting that they publish this Joint Resolution in the Congressional Record and list this application in the official tally of state legislative applications that repeal and withdraw any prior application by a state legislature that calls for the convention of a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to the Articles of Confederation and Perpetuation of the United States, and the call of Congress to adopt the Articles of the United States Constitution.

WHEREAS, Without eligibility for State student financial aid programs, many of these students are unable to continue their education and are forced to leave or drop out of college or university;

WHEREAS, New Jersey students are not subject to immediate deportation and have been granted the opportunity to continue their education under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program;

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump was sworn into office on January 20, 2017 and is expected to rescind DACA, exposing these students to the threat of immediate deportation;

WHEREAS, Such action by President Trump would punish young men and women who followed the proper course of action in registering for DACA so that they could pursue their higher education, and

WHEREAS, These students have spent their formative years in the United States and know only America as their home, pay taxes that contribute to our economy as hard-working employees, and add rich diversity to our schools through class participation and campus programs; and

RESOLVED, That the adoption of the DACA policy would deprive the State of the many contributions of these students: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House opposes any action by President Donald Trump to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy.

2. This House further urges Governor Chris Christie, given that his conditional veto of the New Jersey Dream Act bill led many of these students to leave for DACA, to use all power within his means to urge President Trump to leave DACA intact so that these New Jersey students are not subject to immediate deportation, and to a country they have never known and so that these students may continue to work and pursue their higher education;

3. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, the Governor of this State, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the New Jersey General Assembly, and the leadership of the Senate and House of the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey.
Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and every member of Congress elected from this State.

POM-105. A resolution adopted by the Fish and Game Commission of the State of California supporting the existing four California national marine sanctuaries, their boundaries, and regulations; strongly unequivocally supporting the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal waters offshore California; opposing attempts to modify the prohibition, and considering any appropriate actions to maintain the prohibition; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-106. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Lakeport, California urging the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument and the economic, historical, cultural, and ecological values which it provides, and to honor and protect the integrity of all National Monuments as they have been designated by Presidents of the United States since 1906; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-107. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida expressing support for the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument and the economic, historical, cultural, and ecological values which it provides, and to honor and protect the integrity of all National Monuments as they have been designated by Presidents of the United States since 1906; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-108. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida opposing the President of the United States's withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement; honoring and upholding the City's commitment to the policies, goals, and standards set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement; reaffirming the City's role as a global urban leader in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate the impacts of human activities that contribute to climate change, and enhance resiliency; and respectfully urging Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature to join the growing number of states seeking to meet or exceed the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-109. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida expressing support for the Paris Climate Accord and expressing an intent to symbolically join with other local governments to adopt, honor and uphold the commitments to the goals enshrined in the Paris Climate Accord; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 770. A bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to disseminate resources to help reduce the risks of cybercrime, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-153).

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

S. 775. To amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 102. At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 102, a bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical communications networks during times of emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 194. At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 194, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a public health insurance option, and for other purposes.

S. 236. At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 307. At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 307, a bill to enhance the database of emergency response capabilities of the Department of Defense.

S. 313. At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to clarify that volunteers at a children's consignment event are not employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

S. 428. At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to amend title XXI and title XXII of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

S. 568. At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 568, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 609. At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 609, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

S. 617. At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 617, a bill to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001 and title 38, United States Code, to require the provision of chiropractic care and services to veterans at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and to expand access to such care and services, and for other purposes.

S. 706. At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 706, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.