

MERKLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KING, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 316

Whereas, from November 1, 2017, through November 30, 2017, the United States celebrates National Native American Heritage Month;

Whereas National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimated that, in 2010, there were more than 5,000,000 individuals of Native American descent in the United States;

Whereas Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community;

Whereas Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations;

Whereas Native Americans speak and preserve indigenous languages, which have contributed to the English language by being used as names of individuals and locations throughout the United States;

Whereas Congress has consistently reaffirmed the support of the United States of tribal self-governance and self-determination and the commitment of the United States to improving the lives of all Native Americans by—

(1) enhancing health care and law enforcement resources; and

(2) improving the housing and socioeconomic status of Native Americans;

Whereas the United States is committed to strengthening the government-to-government relationship that the United States has maintained with the various Indian tribes;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy and the influence of the Iroquois Confederacy on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of—

(1) freedom of speech;

(2) the separation of governmental powers; and

(3) the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas, with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

(1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and

(2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art;

Whereas Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless lives in the United States; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements

and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2017 as “National Native American Heritage Month”;;

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as “Native American Heritage Day” in accordance with section 2(10) of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1923); and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 317—CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SENATE BLACK LEGISLATIVE STAFF CAUCUS AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE SENATE

Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. SCOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 317

Whereas, in 1977, Jackie Parker and Ralph Everett had the vision and courage to improve the working conditions of Black Senate staffers;

Whereas the Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus continues to promote diversity and inclusion within the Senate;

Whereas, for the first time in its 40-year history, the Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus celebrates 3 African-Americans serving simultaneously in the Senate;

Whereas the Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus recognizes each of the 10 current or former Senators of African-American descent; and

Whereas, the Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus continues to fight for the justice and equality that started during the civil rights movement of the 1960s: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus for its many contributions and commitment to enrich the Senate community.

SENATE RESOLUTION 318—HONORING THE PORTLAND THORNS FC AS THE CHAMPION OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE IN 2017

Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 318

Whereas the Portland Thorns FC won the National Women's Soccer League (referred to in this preamble as the “NWSL”) Championship on October 14, 2017;

Whereas the Portland Thorns FC won the NWSL Championship, an event that has been held for 5 years, for the second time by defeating the North Carolina Courage by a score of 1 to 0;

Whereas Portland Thorns FC midfielder Lindsey Horan scored the only goal in the 2017 NWSL Championship and was named the Most Valuable Player of that Championship;

Whereas the Head Coach, Mark Parsons, and Chief Executive Officer, Merritt Paulson, of the Portland Thorns FC won the NWSL Championship for the second time;

Whereas the Rose City Riveters and the fans of the Portland Thorns FC, who provide

the Providence Park venue with spirit and pride, are the best fans in the NWSL;

Whereas the Portland Thorns FC holds the record for highest average game attendance in the NWSL in 2017 and has held that record in each year since the establishment of the NWSL in 2013;

Whereas the goalkeeper of the Portland Thorns FC, Adrianna Franch, was named the NWSL Goalkeeper of the Year for 2017;

Whereas the Portland Thorns FC adopted the official State motto of Oregon, “Alis Volat Propriis”, meaning “She Flies with Her Own Wings”, to capture the independent spirit of Oregon;

Whereas the Portland Thorns FC holds community service events to inspire and involve young women and men in the Portland community through science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and environmental education; and

Whereas the success of the Portland Thorns FC soccer team will broaden an appreciation of athletics in young people and encourage Oregonians to engage in their communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the Portland Thorns FC as the 2017 champion of the National Women's Soccer League;

(2) recognizes the outstanding achievement of the players, ownership, and staff of the Portland Thorns FC; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Merritt Paulson, the Chief Executive Officer of the Portland Thorns FC;

(B) Gavin Wilkinson, the General Manager of the Portland Thorns FC; and

(C) Mark Parsons, the Head Coach of the Portland Thorns FC.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I have 9 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SR-253 to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Leon A. Westmoreland, of Georgia, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Raymond Martinez, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Diana Furchtgott-Roth, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation, and Bruce Landsberg, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-430 to conduct a hearing entitled "Implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act: Achieving the Promise of Health Information Technology."

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "2017 Hurricane Season: Oversight of the Federal Response."

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "2020 Census: Examining Cost Overruns, Information Security, and Accuracy."

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-106 to conduct a hearing on the nomination of John C. Demers, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in room SH-219 to conduct a closed hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS, ATMOSPHERE,
FISHERIES, AND COAST GUARD

The Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in room SR-253 to conduct a hearing entitled "Exploring Native American Subsistence Rights and International Treaties."

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME AND TERRORISM

The Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in room SH-216 to conduct a hearing entitled "Extremist Content and Russian Disinformation Online: Working with Tech to Find Solutions."

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-224, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Virgin Islands of the United States Cen-

tennial Commission: the Honorable BILL NELSON of Florida.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF IRAN TO RELEASE UNJUSTLY
DETAINED UNITED STATES CITI-
ZENS AND LEGAL PERMANENT
RESIDENT ALIENS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 244, S. Res. 245.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 245) calling on the Government of Iran to release unjustly detained United States citizens and legal permanent resident aliens, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 245) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of August 3, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 315, S. Res. 316, and S. Res. 317.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE-
MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, that at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1, there be 30 minutes of postcloture time remaining on the Larsen nomination, equally divided between the leaders or their designees, and that following the use or

yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on the confirmation of the Larsen nomination; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 1, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, November 1; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Larsen nomination under the previous order.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators CASEY and SANDERS.

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

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

OUR SYSTEM OF JUSTICE

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this evening to talk about our system of justice. If we were to walk out from the Senate, out the front door, and across the front of the Capitol directly, we would find ourselves across the street from the U.S. Supreme Court.

As everyone knows, inscribed across the front of the U.S. Supreme Court are these words: "Equal justice under law"—a pretty simple statement about our system of justice, but of course that has a profound meaning in our system.

Hundreds of years ago, Saint Augustine said the following about justice: Without justice what are kingdoms but great bands of robbers.

So we have always had this focus on what justice means. It came into sharper focus, of course, when our Nation was born. We set up three branches of government—or, I should say, our Founders set up three branches of government—one of them being the judiciary and, of course, that was followed, after the Constitution was ratified, by the Judiciary Act of 1789. We have had that system of justice in one form or another all these years.

In so many ways, our system of justice sets us apart from the world. Our