

Federal student loan forgiveness. Economic, family, and other reasons can cause individuals to leave the public sector workforce and despite their years of service, the service these workers provided are not taken into consideration. I propose to accelerate the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to provide more immediate student loan relief. For every two years of employment and corresponding monthly Federal student loan payments, hard-working public sector employees will receive a percentage of their student loans forgiven, with 100 percent of the Federal student loan balance being forgiven at the end of 10 years of service. By accelerating Public Service Loan Forgiveness, we can encourage additional individuals to stay in the public sector workforce despite the lower-paying salaries, reduce their cost of borrowing for home and auto loans, and set aside additional money for their own retirement.

As Congress moves forward with an overdue reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, I urge my colleagues to join in this effort to help individuals who are wholly committed to public service by supporting the Strengthening American Communities Act. No individual willing to serve his or her community in a public service career should be held back from that calling due to the high cost of obtaining a college education. No individual willing to serve his or her community should be forced to leave public service because of financial hardship.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 522—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 AS “GOLD STAR FAMILIES REMEMBRANCE WEEK”

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 522

Whereas the last Sunday in September—
(1) is designated as “Gold Star Mother’s Day” under section 111 of title 36, United States Code; and

(2) was first designated as “Gold Star Mother’s Day” under the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint Resolution designating the last Sunday in September as ‘Gold Star Mother’s Day’, and for other purposes”, approved June 23, 1936 (49 Stat. 1895);

Whereas there is no date dedicated to families affected by the loss of a loved one who died in service to the United States;

Whereas a gold star symbolizes a family member who died in the line of duty while serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, through their service, bear the burden of protecting the freedom of the people of the United States;

Whereas the selfless example of the service of the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, as well as the sacrifices made by the families of those individuals, inspires all in-

dividuals in the United States to sacrifice and work diligently for the good of United States; and

Whereas the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members of the Armed Forces and the families of veterans of the Armed Forces should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 23 through September 29, 2018 as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”;

(2) honors and recognizes the sacrifices made by the families of members of the Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to defend freedom and protect the United States and by the families of veterans of the Armed Forces; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Families Remembrance Week by—

(A) performing acts of service and good will in their communities; and

(B) celebrating families in which loved ones have made the ultimate sacrifice so that others could continue to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 523—ENCOURAGING COMPANIES TO APPLY PRIVACY PROTECTIONS INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 523

Whereas the European Union has enacted the General Data Protection Regulation (referred to in this preamble as the “GDPR”), which provides the 508,000,000 residents of the European Union with significant new privacy protections;

Whereas the GDPR takes effect on May 25, 2018;

Whereas the rules of the GDPR will apply to many entities in the United States that serve users and customers in both Europe and the United States;

Whereas the GDPR requires that—

(1) data processors have a legal basis for processing the data of users; and

(2) opt-in, freely given, specific, informed, and unambiguous consent from users is a primary legal basis;

Whereas polling shows that people in the United States are increasingly concerned about their privacy and the security of their personal information;

Whereas recent data breaches and privacy invasions affecting millions of people in the United States underscore the need for enhanced privacy protection in the United States; and

Whereas people in the United States have a right to privacy, and entities that control and process the data of people in the United States have an obligation to protect that data: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate encourages entities covered by the General Data Protection Regulation of the European Union (referred to in this resolving clause as the “GDPR”), including edge providers, broadband providers, and data brokers—

(1) to provide the people of the United States with the privacy protections included in the GDPR in a manner consistent with existing laws and rights in the United States, including the First Amendment; and

(2) to include in the protections described in paragraph (1)—

(A) the requirement that—

(i) data processors (as described in the GDPR) have a legal basis for processing the data of users;

(ii) opt-in, freely given, specific, informed, and unambiguous consent from users be a primary legal basis for purposes of clause (i);

(iii) data processors design their systems in a way that—

(I) minimizes the processing of data to only what is necessary for the specific purpose stated to the individual; and

(II) by default, protects personal information from being used for other purposes;

(iv) entities processing the data of children institute special protections, particularly with reference to the use of the data of children for marketing purposes;

(v) data processors and controllers (as described in the GDPR) ensure compliance with relevant privacy rules; and

(vi) data processors implement appropriate oversight over third party data processors; and

(B) the right of an individual—

(i) to revoke consent for data processing at any time;

(ii) to not be subject to automated decisionmaking, including profiling, without human intervention if the decisionmaking has legal or otherwise significant effects on the individual;

(iii) to know which entities have access to the data of the individual and how that data is being used;

(iv) to correct the data of the individual if it is inaccurate or incomplete; and

(v) to obtain and reuse the data of the individual for the purposes of the individual across other services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 524—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 1 THROUGH JUNE 3, 2018 AS “NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEKEND” AND JUNE 2018 AS “NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REED, Mr. NELSON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 524

Whereas, in the United States each year, more than—

(1) 35,000 individuals are killed and 80,000 individuals are injured by gunfire;

(2) 12,000 individuals are killed in homicides involving firearms;

(3) 21,000 individuals commit suicide by using firearms; and

(4) 500 individuals are killed in unintentional shootings;

Whereas, since 1968, more individuals have died from guns in the United States than have died on the battlefields of all the wars in the history of the United States;

Whereas, by one count, in 2017 in the United States, there were—

(1) 346 mass shooting incidents in which not fewer than 4 people were killed or wounded by gunfire; and

(2) 64 incidents in which a gun was fired in a school or college;

Whereas gun violence typically escalates during the summer months;

Whereas nearly 2,700 children and teens are killed by gun violence every year, including Hadiya Pendleton, who, in 2013, was killed at 15 years of age while standing in a Chicago park; and

Whereas, during the weekend of June 1 through June 3, 2018, the weekend in which Hadiya Pendleton would have had her 21st birthday, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya and other victims of gun violence and the loved ones of those victims: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of June 2018 as “National Gun Violence Awareness Month” and the goals and ideals of that month; and

(B) the designation of June 1 through June 3, 2018 as “National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend” in remembrance of the victims of gun violence; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to—

(A) promote greater awareness of gun violence and gun safety;

(B) wear orange, the color that hunters wear to show that they are not targets, during the weekend of June 1 through June 3, 2018;

(C) concentrate heightened attention on gun violence during the summer months, when gun violence typically increases; and

(D) bring community members and leaders together to discuss ways to make communities safer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 525—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2018 AS NATIONAL DEMOCRACY MONTH AS A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO A MORE FREE AND STABLE WORLD

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 525

Whereas, 2,000 years after the ancient Greeks laid the groundwork for democracy, the founders of the United States built an even greater system of government, a democratic republic, propelling the United States to become the most advanced nation in human history;

Whereas the model of government of the United States has been reproduced around the world;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, despite the expansion of democracy worldwide, today more than 1 in 3 people in the world do not live in states considered free;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights, with the addition of the Reconstruction Era amendments, including the 14th and 15th Amendments, and the 19th Amendment, enshrine the rights and civil liberties of citizens of the United States, including the right to vote in free and fair elections;

Whereas the perpetuation of the ideals of democracy does not happen on its own, and can be stalled or reversed;

Whereas surveys show that citizens of the United States are losing faith in the democratic system;

Whereas, according to a study published in the *Journal of Democracy*—

(1) 91 percent of young people in the United States in the 1930s thought it “essential” to live in a democracy;

(2) only 30 percent of young people in the United States in 2018 think that it is “essential” to live in a democracy; and

(3) 24 percent of young people in the United States in 2018 think that democracy is a “bad” or “very bad” way of running the country;

Whereas Freedom House concluded that “Democracy as the world’s dominant form of government is under greater threat than at any point in the last 25 years”;

Whereas former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor said “The practice of democracy is not passed down through the gene pool. It must be taught and learned anew by each generation of citizens”;

Whereas President John F. Kennedy said “Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to effort, to sacrifice, and a willingness to live and to die in its defense”;

Whereas President Ronald Reagan said “Democracy is worth dying for, because it’s the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man”;

Whereas World War II demonstrated the fragility of democracy and its accompanying civilized life;

Whereas British Prime Minister Winston Churchill observed that “Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others that have ever been tried”;

Whereas President George Washington said the United States must recognize the immense value of the national Union and work towards its preservation with “jealous anxiety” and wrote that the security of a free Constitution may be accomplished by “teaching the people themselves to know and to value their own rights”;

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson wrote “Educate and inform the whole mass of the people . . . They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty”;

Whereas evidence of the diminution of strong support for democratic principles in recent years among citizens of the United States suggests the government of the United States must once more teach and educate the people by taking appropriate actions to highlight and emphasize the importance of democratic principles and their essential role in our freedoms and way of life: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2018 as “National Democracy Month”;

(2) encourages States and local governments to designate September 2018 as “National Democracy Month”;

(3) recognizes the celebration of “National Democracy Month” as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe “National Democracy Month” with appropriate ceremonies and activities that—

(A) provide appreciation for the system of government of the United States; and

(B) demonstrate that the people of the United States shall never forget the sacrifices made by past generations of people of the United States to preserve the freedoms and principles of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 526—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT POLITICIANS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH A WOMAN’S PERSONAL HEALTH CARE DECISIONS OR ATTEMPT TO PREVENT PROVIDERS FROM OFFERING THEIR FULL MEDICAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THEIR PATIENTS

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 526

Whereas, since the enactment of title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.) (referred to in this preamble as the “title X family planning program”) nearly half a century ago, the title X family planning program has provided family planning and related preventive health care services to those most in need and has enjoyed broad bipartisan support;

Whereas the title X family planning program was created to assist in making comprehensive voluntary family planning services readily available to all individuals desiring those services and to enable public and nonprofit private entities to plan and develop comprehensive programs that provide those family planning services;

Whereas the title X family planning program serves 4,000,000 individuals each year, many of whom would otherwise be unable to access the types of health care services supported under the title X family planning program;

Whereas the title X family planning program helps ensure that every individual, regardless of where the individual lives, how much money the individual earns, the background of the individual, or whether or not the individual has health insurance, has access to basic, preventive reproductive health care, such as birth control, cancer screenings, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment, and well-woman exams;

Whereas the title X family planning program serves a racially and ethnically diverse patient base, not less than 1/3 of patients served under the title X family planning program are people of color, and 13 percent of patients served under the title X family planning program have limited proficiency in English;

Whereas, for decades, individuals receiving services supported under the title X family planning program have been given the full range of information needed to make fully informed decisions about their own pregnancy options, including access to safe and legal abortion;

Whereas efforts to stigmatize abortion care and providers of abortion care undermine the ability of patients to make fully informed health care decisions;

Whereas the Code of Medical Ethics of the American Medical Association states that health care providers should “[p]resent relevant information accurately and sensitively, in keeping with the patient’s preferences” and that “withholding information without the patient’s knowledge or consent is ethically unacceptable”;

Whereas the 1982 report of the President’s Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and in Biomedical and Behavioral Research stated that, “a physician is obliged to mention all alternative treatments, including those he or she does not provide or favor, so long as they are supported by respectable medical opinion”;