

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—EXPRESSING 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”;