

the claim involved until the completion of all such proceedings.

By Mr. CORKER (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 69. A joint resolution supporting a Diplomatic Solution in Yemen and Condemning the Murder of Jamal Khashoggi; considered and passed.

S.J. RES. 69

Whereas the ongoing civil war in Yemen has exacerbated that country's humanitarian crisis, in which nearly 12,000,000 people are suffering from "severe hunger," according to the United Nations' World Food Programme;

Whereas there is no military solution to the conflict;

Whereas the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship is important to United States national security and economic interests;

Whereas the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has, in recent years, engaged in concerning behavior, including its conduct in the civil war in Yemen, apparent detention of the Prime Minister of Lebanon, undermining the unity of the Gulf Cooperation Council, expulsion of the Canadian ambassador, suppression of dissent within the Kingdom, and the murder of Jamal Khashoggi;

Whereas misleading statements by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regarding the murder of Jamal Khashoggi have undermined trust and confidence in the longstanding friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and

Whereas such erratic actions place unnecessary strain on the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship, which is an essential element of regional stability: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Senate—

(1) believes Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is responsible for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi;

(2) acknowledges the United States Government has sanctioned 17 Saudi individuals under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) for their roles in the murder;

(3) calls for the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure appropriate accountability for all those responsible for Jamal Khashoggi's murder;

(4) calls on the Government of Saudi Arabia to release Raif Badawi, Samar Badawi, and the Saudi women's rights activists who were arrested as political prisoners in 2018;

(5) encourages the Government of Saudi Arabia to redouble its efforts to enact economic and social reforms;

(6) calls on the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to respect the rights of its citizens and moderate its increasingly erratic foreign policy;

(7) warns that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's increasing purchases of military equipment from, and cooperation with, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, challenges the strength and integrity of the long-standing military-to-military relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and may introduce significant national security and economic risks to both parties;

(8) demands that all parties seek an immediate cease-fire and negotiated political solution to the Yemen conflict and increased humanitarian assistance to the victims of the conflict;

(9) condemns the Government of Iran's provision of advanced lethal weapons to Houthi rebels, which have perpetuated the conflict and have been used indiscriminately against civilian targets in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Bab al Mandeb waterway;

(10) condemns Houthi rebels for egregious human rights abuses, including torture, use of human shields, and interference with, and diversion of, humanitarian aid shipments;

(11) demands that the Saudi-led coalition and all parties to the Yemen conflict seek to minimize civilian casualties at all times;

(12) supports the peace negotiations currently being managed by United Nations Special Envoy Martin Griffiths and encourages the United States Government to provide all possible support to these diplomatic efforts;

(13) declares that there is no statutory authorization for United States involvement in hostilities in the Yemen civil war; and

(14) supports the end of air-to-air refueling of Saudi-led coalition aircraft operating in Yemen.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 724—AMENDING RULE XXXI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO LIMIT THE TIME DURING WHICH A NOMINATION SHALL BE CONFIRMED OR REJECTED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 724

Resolved,
SECTION 1. PROCEEDINGS ON NOMINATIONS.

Rule XXXI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "A covered nominee shall submit the basic requirements to the appropriate committee within 30 legislative days of the covered nomination being transmitted to the Senate. The appropriate committee shall vote on the covered nomination within 30 legislative days of receipt of the basic requirements. By agreement of the chairman and ranking minority member, the committee may extend or suspend the deadline on the committee to vote. If the committee does not hold a vote, the nominee is deemed reported to the full Senate. For a covered nomination for a position described in section 5312 of title 5, United States Code, the Senate shall vote on the covered nomination within 40 legislative days of the committee reporting the covered nomination. For a covered nomination other than for a position described in section 5312 of title 5, United States Code, if not fewer than 10 Senators, within 30 legislative days of the committee reporting on the covered nomination, have submitted written requests for the record that the covered nomination be considered by the full Senate in executive session within 40 days of the committee reporting the covered nomination, the Senate shall vote on the covered nomination. If the covered nomination is not confirmed or rejected within 40 days of the committee reporting the covered nomination, the nomination shall be deemed to be confirmed. Debate

on any covered nomination other than for a position described in section 5312 of title 5, United States Code, debate shall be limited to not more than 2 hours." after "consent.;" and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"8. (a) In paragraph (1)—

"(1) the term 'basic requirements' means—

"(A) an agreement with the Office of Government Ethics;

"(B) a financial disclosure form;

"(C) a background check conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

"(D) responses to a questionnaire of each relevant committee;

"(E) tax forms, if required by a relevant committee; and

"(F) any other requirements of a relevant committee; and

"(2) the term 'covered nomination' means a nomination of an individual to a position in an executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code."

SENATE RESOLUTION 725—MODIFYING EXTENDED DEBATE IN THE SENATE TO IMPROVE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 725

Resolved,
SECTION 1. EXTENDED DEBATE.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by striking the second undesignated paragraph and inserting the following:

"Is it the sense of the Senate that the debate shall be brought to a close?" And unless that question shall be decided in the negative by one more than two-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn (except on a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules, in which case the necessary vote shall be two-thirds of the Senators present and voting in the affirmative, a quorum being present), then cloture has been invoked.

"If that question is on disposition of a bill or joint resolution, a resolution or concurrent resolution, a substitute amendment for a bill or resolution, a motion with respect to amendments between the Houses, a conference report, or advice and consent to a nomination or treaty, and if such question shall be decided in the affirmative by a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, and in the negative by more than two-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn (or in the affirmative by less than two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, in the case of a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules), then it shall be in order for the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to initiate a period of extended debate upon the measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, in relation to which the motion to close debate was offered, in which case the period of extended debate shall begin one hour later.

"During a period of extended debate, such measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, shall be the unfinished business to the exclusion of all other business, except on action or motion by the Majority Leader (or his or her designee).

"During a period of extended debate it shall not be in order for a Senator other than the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to raise a question as to the presence of a quorum, except immediately prior to a vote