

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 230. A bill to require a report on foreign nationals who flee from the United States while awaiting trial or sentencing for a criminal offense committed in the United States, to establish a list of countries who have assisted or facilitated with such departures, to penalize parties connected to such departures, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the exclusion from gross income from certain investments made by foreign governments who are identified on such list; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Preserving American Justice Act to ensure that foreign governments face serious consequences if they assist their citizens to escape legal accountability in the United States.

Recently, Oregon's largest newspaper, *The Oregonian*, uncovered that five Saudi nationals with criminal charges departed the Nation before facing justice. These men were arrested for serious crimes including vehicular murder of an innocent teenager, sexual assault, rape, and child pornography. According to news reports, U.S. government officials believe the Saudi government helped these five men with actions ranging from posting bail to facilitating their escape from the United States. These reports claiming the Saudi government is whisking away criminals facing justice in Oregon show a shocking disdain for our Nation's criminal justice system. Given the disturbing similarities in these five cases, a thorough investigation is essential to better understand the involvement of the Saudi government.

When anyone commits a crime in the United States, they must be held accountable. The Trump administration has failed to explain what, if anything, it is doing to ensure these men face American justice. That failure is completely unacceptable. Foreign governments cannot disregard our laws and abuse diplomatic privileges by helping criminals escape. No one is above the law, and I am committed to making sure the Saudi government understands that it cannot behave this way here in Oregon or anywhere in the United States.

The legislation I introduced today would direct the Department of Justice to investigate these five cases and bring to light the involvement of the Saudi government. If the Department of Justice concludes that the Saudi government was involved, then my bill would bar Saudi Arabia's leaders from the United States until their government returns the suspects who have fled. The legislation would also create a major tax penalty on governments and sovereign wealth funds for any country that help its citizens escape American justice. More broadly, my

legislation would help Americans understand how widespread this practice is, direct the Department of Justice to maintain a list of any foreign governments that help their citizens evade American justice, and create tough consequences for those governments and their leaders.

I believe that my colleagues who talk about "putting America First" would agree that foreign governments cannot undermine American laws. I'm all for doing more to protecting Americans from real threats and ensuring that the victims of these crimes get the justice they deserve in an American court of law. So I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting measures that would hold foreign governments accountable.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 29—EX-
PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE
DESIGNATION OF A "WOMEN'S
HEALTH RESEARCH DAY"

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CANTWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions:

S. RES. 29

Whereas women constitute 50.8 percent of people in the United States;

Whereas women of different races, ethnicities, ages, and socioeconomic status experience many diseases and disorders differently than men experience those diseases and disorders;

Whereas those different experiences are reflected in the incidence, prevalence, symptomology, and severity of the disease or disorder;

Whereas the risks and benefits of medical therapies vary based on the race, ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic status of a woman;

Whereas women and men have fundamental biological differences;

Whereas, for many years, women of different races, ethnicities, ages, and socioeconomic status were underrepresented in biomedical and clinical research;

Whereas the improvement of the health of women relies on sex- and gender-based biomedical and clinical research;

Whereas the promise of individualized medicine cannot be realized without sex- and gender-based parity in research;

Whereas, on January 25, 2016, the National Institutes of Health implemented a policy requiring federally funded investigators to consider sex as a biological variable in pre-clinical research; and

Whereas that policy ushered in a new era of inclusivity and parity in research relating to the health of women: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of a "Women's Health Research Day"; and

(2) supports efforts—

(A) to recognize the importance of biomedical and clinical research to the health and well-being of women;

(B) to increase awareness of the value of sex- and gender-based biomedical research; and

(C) to encourage individuals, including researchers and patients, to advocate on behalf of sex- and gender-inclusive research for women of different races, ethnicities, ages, and socioeconomic status.

SENATE RESOLUTION 30—CON-
DEMNING EFFORTS TO UNDER-
MINE DEMOCRACY IN HUNGARY
AND URGING PRESIDENT TRUMP
TO DEFEND THE UNIVERSAL
HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMO-
CRATIC NORMS UNDER ATTACK
BY THE ORBAN GOVERNMENT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 30

Whereas the United States and Hungary have a shared history dating to the times of Lajos Kossuth, whose bust graces the halls of the United States Congress;

Whereas Hungarians have come to the United States since its founding as immigrants and refugees, enriching our national fabric;

Whereas the United States first established diplomatic relations with Hungary in 1921;

Whereas the United States supported Hungary's accession to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 1999, improving Hungary's national security and building upon our common alliance;

Whereas NATO member states have collectively identified corruption and poor governance, including within member states, as "security challenges which undermine democracy, the rule of law and economic development";

Whereas Viktor Orban has led the Fidesz party since 2003 and has continuously served as Hungary's Prime Minister since 2010;

Whereas, since 2010, the Fidesz government has retained a super majority in Parliament despite not winning a majority of votes, and Prime Minister Orban has systematically undermined the Hungarian Constitution, independent media and judiciary;

Whereas Hungary's 2011 law on religion discriminates against some minority faiths by stripping legal recognition from more than 300 previously recognized faiths, violating their rights to freedom of association and freedom of religion, and has spurred a legal challenge from a range of religious faiths in Hungary, including the Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship and Mennonite, reform Jewish, and Buddhist congregations;

Whereas, following the 2014 Parliamentary elections in Hungary, the OSCE noted that Fidesz enjoyed an undue advantage because of restrictive campaign regulations, biased media coverage, and campaign activities that blurred the separation between political party and the state;

Whereas Prime Minister Orban used his parliamentary super majority to redraw Hungary's electoral map and reduce the number of seats in Hungary's Parliament, providing an advantage which has allowed the Prime Minister to more easily remain in power;

Whereas the Government of Hungary created the National Media and Communications Agency and empowered it to impose fines against independent media outlets for coverage the government finds unbalanced or offensive;

Whereas, in November 2018, more than 400 media publications, websites, television