

Security, is the cornerstone for advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific region, and contributes internationally to peace and stability;

Whereas the United States and Japan are indispensable partners in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, improving global health, countering human trafficking and promoting human rights, assisting the victims of conflict and disaster worldwide, and contributing to global economic development;

Whereas the alliance is a testament to the ability of great nations to overcome the past and jointly work to create a more secure and prosperous future;

Whereas our two countries, coming from different cultural backgrounds, have created an active and dynamic relationship beneficial to both peoples; and

Whereas cultural and people-to-people ties between the United States and Japan are long-standing and deep, as exemplified by the 1912 gift from the People of Japan to the People of the United States of the beautiful cherry trees that grace our Nation's capital, signifying the unbreakable bond between the two nations: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the endorsement of long-standing United States policy to pursue close and cooperative ties with Japan in the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409), signed into law on December 31, 2018, and the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond;

(2) underscores the importance of the close people-to-people and cultural ties between our two nations;

(3) calls for the strengthening and broadening of diplomatic, economic, and security ties between the United States and Japan; and

(4) further calls for the continued cooperation between the Governments of the United States and Japan in addressing global challenges that threaten the security of people everywhere in the new Reiwa era of “beautiful harmony”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 184—CON-DEMNING THE EASTER SUNDAY TERRORIST ATTACKS IN SRI LANKA, OFFERING SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS, TO THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, AND TO THE PEOPLE AND NATION OF SRI LANKA, AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR SRI LANKA

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 184

Whereas, on April 21, 2019, Sri Lanka suffered a horrific series of coordinated terrorist attacks that killed more than 250 people and injured more than 500 additional people;

Whereas the attacks targeted Christian churches, in which innocent men, women, and children were celebrating Easter Sunday;

Whereas the attacks targeted several locations frequented by foreign tourists, resulting in the deaths of over 40 people from nations other than Sri Lanka, including four American citizens: Dieter Kowalski, Amelie Linsey, Daniel Linsey, and Kieran Shafritz de Zoysa;

Whereas Sri Lanka has determined that a local Islamist militant group perpetrated this horrifying attack and is responsible for the resulting loss of life, injury, and destruction;

Whereas the use of nine suicide bombers in multiple locations demonstrates a high degree of coordination and planning;

Whereas growing evidence links the Islamic State to these attacks, demonstrating this terrorist organization's continued reach and capability to inflict terror, violence, and brutality around the world, despite its loss of physical territory;

Whereas religious freedom is a foundational and universal right of all people, and religious freedom and tolerance are important to the flourishing of multi-religious societies like Sri Lanka;

Whereas Sri Lanka has worked towards a lasting peace, ethnic and religious harmony, and prosperity for all;

Whereas the rights of all religious minorities must be protected, including the rights of Christians, who, among other religious communities, have faced increased violence in recent years from terrorist groups around the world;

Whereas the United States values its partnership with Sri Lanka and seeks to build on that partnership by pursuing shared goals in the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the United States is home to a large Sri Lankan diaspora, who make significant contributions to American society; and

Whereas American law enforcement officials and military personnel are supporting the Sri Lankan Government's investigation of this attack: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns, in the strongest terms, the terrorist attacks perpetrated by violent Islamist extremists against innocent civilians on Easter Sunday;

(2) condemns the use violence against people of religious faith, including in their places of worship;

(3) offers its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the victims, their families and friends, and to the nation of Sri Lanka;

(4) reaffirms its solidarity with the people of Sri Lanka and its support for the United States partnership with the nation of Sri Lanka;

(5) notes, on this 10th anniversary of the end of Sri Lanka's civil war, the importance of national unity and encourages the Government of Sri Lanka to foster such unity, including religious and ethnic tolerance;

(6) supports efforts to ensure the protection of all Sri Lankans against retaliatory attacks as the country recovers from this tragedy;

(7) reaffirms its commitment to religious freedom and the importance of protecting the rights of all religious minorities, including Christians;

(8) calls attention to the continued and serious threat posed by the Islamic State and other international terrorist organizations; and

(9) calls upon the United States Government and all other governments to continue the fight against violent extremism.

SENATE RESOLUTION 185—COM-MENDING THE NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY BEARCATS MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR ANOTHER NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following reso-

lution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 185

Whereas, on March 30, 2019, the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats men's basketball team (referred to in this preamble as the “Bearcats”) defeated Point Loma Nazarene University by a score of 64 to 58 in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the “NCAA”) Division II national championship game in Evansville, Indiana;

Whereas that victory is the second national championship victory in 3 years for the Bearcats;

Whereas the Bearcats ended the 2018-2019 season as the only undefeated men's basketball program in the NCAA, with an overall record of 38-0, tying the NCAA Division II record for most wins in a season and making the Bearcats only the fifth team in the history of NCAA Division II men's basketball to win a national title with a perfect record;

Whereas, with 38 wins, the undefeated 2018-2019 season—

(1) was only the fourth time in the history of the men's basketball program at Northwest Missouri State University that the Bearcats reached the 30-win mark; and

(2) broke the previous Bearcat record of 31 wins and zero losses set by the 1929-1930 Bearcats led by Coach Hank Iba;

Whereas all 11 players on the Bearcats roster should be congratulated, including—

- (1) Diego Bernard;
- (2) Tyler Dougherty;
- (3) Kirk Finley;
- (4) Ryan Hawkins;
- (5) Trevor Hudgins;
- (6) Daric Laing;
- (7) Xavier Rhodes;
- (8) Dray Starzl;
- (9) Luke Waters;
- (10) Ryan Welty; and
- (11) Joey Witthus;

Whereas, during the 2018-2019 season, the Bearcats—

(1) held opponents to an average of 61.7 points;

(2) forced 13 turnovers per game; and

(3) shot 50 percent or better from the field in 22 of 38 games;

Whereas all 5 starters on the Bearcats roster (Diego Bernard, Ryan Hawkins, Trevor Hudgins, Ryan Welty, and Joey Witthus) made 40 or more 3-point field goals during the 2018-2019 season;

Whereas 3 players on the Bearcats roster (Ryan Hawkins, Trevor Hudgins, and Joey Witthus) scored more than 500 points during the 2018-2019 season;

Whereas, with 339 rebounds during the 2018-2019 season, Ryan Hawkins set the Northwest Missouri State University single-season record for rebounds;

Whereas Trevor Hudgins—

(1) tied the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (referred to in this preamble as the “MIAA”) record for consecutive free throws made, with 36 consecutive free throws made during the 2018-2019 season;

(2) set a Northwest Missouri State University single-season record for assists, with 203 assists during the 2018-2019 season; and

(3) set the MIAA freshman scoring record for points, scoring 712 points during the 2018-2019 season;

Whereas Joey Witthus—

(1) set the Northwest Missouri State University single-season record for 3-point field goals made, with 114 3-point field goals made during the 2018-2019 season; and

(2) set the Northwest Missouri State University single-season record for points, scoring 780 points during the 2018-2019 season;

Whereas the 2018-2019 Bearcats—

(1) set the single-season MIAA record for points, scoring a total of 3,130 points during the 2018-2019 season;