

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 30, 2019, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”; and

(2) ensures that the Federal Government implements the intent of the Founding Fathers, as reflected in the legislation passed on July 30, 1778 (relating to whistleblowers), by encouraging each executive agency to recognize National Whistleblower Appreciation Day by—

(A) informing employees, contractors working on behalf of the taxpayers of the United States, and members of the public about the legal right of a United States citizen to “blow the whistle” to the appropriate authority by honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, or other crimes; and

(B) acknowledging the contributions of whistleblowers to combating waste, fraud, abuse, and violations of laws and regulations of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 195—OPPOSING THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO IRAN WITHOUT ADDRESSING IRAN’S NUCLEAR PROGRAM, BALLISTIC MISSILE DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM, AND OTHER DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 195

Whereas the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), an agreement that was finalized by the administration of President Obama and the respective governments of the United Kingdom, Germany, France, the People’s Republic of China, and the Russian Federation (P5+1) in July 2015, provided Iran permanent sanctions relief and access to more than \$100,000,000,000 in return for temporary restrictive measures on Iran’s nuclear program;

Whereas, under the JCPOA, restrictions on the number and types of centrifuges that Iran may manufacture, the number and types of enrichment facilities that Iran may construct, and the amount and level of enriched uranium and heavy water that Iran may stockpile, will expire;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2231, unanimously adopted on July 20, 2015, contained an 8-year nonbinding restriction on Iranian nuclear-capable ballistic missile activities and a 5-year ban on conventional arms transfers to Iran;

Whereas neither the JCPOA nor UNSCR 2231 adequately addressed the threat emanating from Iran’s ballistic missile program or support for terrorism, and the sunset provisions applied to prohibitions in UNSCR 2231 inadvertently legitimized that program and support;

Whereas, based on the shortcomings of the JCPOA and UNSCR 2231, bipartisan majorities in both the Senate and the House of Representatives opposed the JCPOA and the sanctions relief for Iran contained in the agreement;

Whereas the sanctions relief contained in the JCPOA provided resources necessary for Iran to continue developing ballistic missiles and supporting terrorism;

Whereas the administration of President Trump has designated Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist group under Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism;

Whereas, on May 21, 2018, Secretary of State Pompeo outlined steps that the Iranian government must take to normalize relations with the United States, to include—

(1) providing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) a full account of the prior military dimensions of its nuclear program and permanently and verifiably abandoning such work;

(2) ceasing all enrichment and vowing never to pursue plutonium reprocessing;

(3) providing the IAEA with access to all sites throughout the entire country;

(4) ending its development and proliferation of ballistic missiles;

(5) releasing all United States citizens currently held hostage, as well as citizens of United States partners and allies;

(6) ending support for terrorist groups, including Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad;

(7) respecting the sovereignty of Iraq by demobilizing Iranian-controlled Shia militias in the country;

(8) ending its military support for the Houthi militia in Yemen;

(9) withdrawing all forces under Iranian command in Syria;

(10) ending support for the Taliban in Afghanistan and for senior al Qaeda leaders around the region;

(11) ending the IRGC’s support for terrorists and militant partners around the world; and

(12) halting its threatening behavior against its neighbors;

Whereas President Trump announced the withdrawal of the United States from the JCPOA on May 8, 2018, and, since then, has gradually reimposed sanctions that were suspended by the Obama administration under the JCPOA;

Whereas the JCPOA defined the sanctions that the Obama administration suspended under the JCPOA as “nuclear-related”, but “nuclear-related” is not a term recognized under existing statutory sanctions related to Iran;

Whereas the Obama administration agreed to define the most significant bilateral sanctions imposed by the United States on Iran as “nuclear-related”, waive the application of those sanctions under the JCPOA, and commit the executive branch to attempt to work with Congress and State and local governments in the United States to repeal the provisions of law providing for those sanctions upon the expiration of the JCPOA;

Whereas, pursuant to the terms of the JCPOA, sanctions were lifted on Iranian financial institutions, cargo vessels, aircraft, and charities, which were not linked to Iran’s nuclear program but were sanctioned for illicit conduct;

Whereas, pursuant to section 401(a) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8551(a)), in order to terminate sanctions against the Central Bank of Iran and other financial institutions of Iran, the President is required to certify that “the Government of Iran has ceased providing support for acts of international terrorism and no longer satisfies the requirements for designation as a state sponsor of terrorism”, and that “Iran has ceased the pursuit, acquisition, and development of, and verifiably dismantled its,

nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons and ballistic missiles and ballistic missile launch technology”;

Whereas, pursuant to section 8 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note), in order to terminate sanctions imposed with respect to the energy sector of Iran, the President is required to certify “that Iran—

“(1) has ceased its efforts to design, develop, manufacture, or acquire—

“(A) a nuclear explosive device or related materials and technology;

“(B) chemical and biological weapons; and

“(C) ballistic missiles and ballistic missile launch technology;

“(2) has been removed from the list of countries the governments of which have been determined . . . to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism; and

“(3) poses no significant threat to United States national security, interests, or allies.”; and

Whereas the concept of “nuclear-related” sanctions does not exist in statute and existing statutes likely require a treaty to terminate such sanctions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms that it is the policy of the United States not to allow Iran to develop or otherwise acquire a nuclear weapons capability;

(2) resolves that the lifting or termination of sanctions with respect to Iran must take place only as provided for under section 401(a) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act (22 U.S.C. 8551(a)) and section 8 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note); and

(3) rejects the reapplication of sanctions relief provided for in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

SENATE RESOLUTION 196—RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN PEANUT SHELLERS ASSOCIATION FOR A CENTURY OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN THE PEANUT INDUSTRY AND THE BENEFICIAL WORK OF THE PEANUT INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 196

Whereas, in 1917 and 1918, commercial peanut shellers and crushers in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida recognized the need for an organization to promote the peanut industry in the southeastern United States;

Whereas, to address that need, the Southeastern Peanut Association was chartered on April 5, 1919, with a mission to promote the domestic peanut industry;

Whereas the Southeastern Peanut Association, now known as the American Peanut Shellers Association—

(1) is the oldest organized group in the United States dedicated to the promotion of the domestic peanut industry; and

(2) has been at the forefront of leadership in the peanut industry in the United States for more than a century, promoting that industry in the United States and throughout the world;

Whereas, in furtherance of the mission to promote the domestic peanut industry, the Southeastern Peanut Association began to cosponsor the USA Peanut Congress, the

largest meeting of all elements of the peanut industry in the United States;

Whereas, in 1986, the Southeastern Peanut Association completed a new headquarters office in Albany, Georgia, after outgrowing a previous office;

Whereas, in 1993, the name of the Southeastern Peanut Association was changed to the American Peanut Shellers Association, as the mission of the association had expanded throughout the United States;

Whereas, in 1996, the American Peanut Shellers Association formed The Peanut Institute to promote the nutritional benefits of peanuts;

Whereas The Peanut Institute has promoted nutritional research through outside universities and other organizations, and that research has verified the outstanding nutritional benefits of peanuts;

Whereas, on recognizing those nutritional benefits, the Food and Drug Administration, pursuant to the leadership of The Peanut Institute, granted nuts a qualified health claim;

Whereas the members, committees, and board of the American Peanut Shellers Association work collectively to meet the adopted annual goals of the American Peanut Shellers Association; and

Whereas, through that collective work, the American Peanut Shellers Association continues to be an effective voice for the promotion of—

(1) the peanut industry; and

(2) the nutritional benefits of peanuts:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes—

(1) the American Peanut Shellers Association for a century of effective leadership in the peanut industry; and

(2) the beneficial work of the peanut industry in—

(A) the United States; and

(B) the State of Georgia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 197—RECOGNIZING THE ROLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE TEACHERS OF THE UNITED STATES IN BUILDING AND ENHANCING THE CIVIC, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. COONS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CASEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KAINE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. JONES, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 197

Whereas education and knowledge are the foundation of the current and future strength of the United States;

Whereas teachers and other education staff have earned and deserve the respect of their students and communities for the selfless dedication of the teachers and staff to community service and the futures of the children of the United States;

Whereas the purposes of National Teacher Appreciation Week, celebrated from May 6, 2019, through May 10, 2019, are—

(1) to raise public awareness of the unquantifiable contributions of teachers; and

(2) to promote greater respect and encouragement for the teaching profession; and

Whereas students, schools, communities, and a number of organizations representing educators are hosting teacher appreciation events in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) thanks the teachers of the United States; and

(2) promotes the profession of teaching by encouraging students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to participate in teacher appreciation events during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "New entrants in the National Airspace."

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Oversight on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' civil work program."

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Examining MACRA implementation."

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "The Older American Act."

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION

The Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration of the Com-

mittee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Abigail Regitsky, a fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this week.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Sydney Fincher, a member of my staff, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 116th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN PEANUT SHELLERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 196, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 196) recognizing the American Peanut Shellers Association for a century of effective leadership in the peanut industry and the beneficial work of the peanut industry in the United States and the State of Georgia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 196) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RECOGNIZING THE ROLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE TEACHERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 197, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 197) recognizing the roles and contributions of the teachers of the United States in building and enhancing the civic, cultural, and economic well-being of the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution