

the manner in which such criminal organizations have sought to influence the Guatemalan political system;

Whereas, on May 15, 2019, a Guatemalan court issued a politically motivated ruling that Thelma Aldana—Guatemala's former Attorney General who led efforts to tackle corruption in Guatemala—was ineligible to run in Guatemala's presidential election;

Whereas, according to Guatemalan media, approximately 150 candidates running for a seat in Guatemala's legislature have been cited with irregularities, including having received suspicious government contracts, not meeting electoral requirements, and possible linkages to narcotics trafficking;

Whereas Guatemala has a long history of debilitating corruption due to the pervasive influence of narcotics trafficking and organized crime, with the Department of State estimating earlier this decade that as much as 80 percent of the cocaine that eventually reached the United States had passed through Guatemala;

Whereas Guatemala's endemic corruption and criminality led to the 2006 agreement that established the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) as an independent body tasked with working with the Public Ministry to combat corruption, organized crime, and institutional impunity;

Whereas the United States Government provided considerable funding and political support for CICIG during both Republican and Democratic administrations, yet the Trump Administration has been notably silent on President Morales' efforts to undermine CICIG;

Whereas a May 2019 report to Congress by the Department of State report stated that Guatemala, with the support of CICIG since 2007, previously took steps "to root out clandestine networks of corrupt actors, including the uncovering of a massive corruption scheme in 2015 led by former President Perez-Molina and former Vice President Baldetti";

Whereas the May 2019 report also noted setbacks to Guatemala's fight against corruption and stated that "since announcing in 2018 it would not renew the [CICIG's] mandate, the Guatemalan Government has impeded anti-corruption efforts, attacked judicial independence, and misused U.S.-donated equipment";

Whereas setbacks to the fight against corruption weaken the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala;

Whereas weak rule of law, violence, corruption, human rights abuses, impunity, and failure to take effective actions to ameliorate widespread poverty in Guatemala contribute to the outflow of refugees and migrants towards the United States, including the more than 165,000 Guatemalan nationals who have been apprehended on the United States-Mexico border during the current fiscal year alone;

Whereas it is in the strategic interest of the United States to support free, fair, and transparent elections and encourage continued efforts to strengthen the rule of law and democratic governance in Guatemala; and

Whereas the Trump Administration announced in March 2019 that it will reprogram United States assistance for Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras, thereby undermining the ability of the United States Government to address challenges to security, the rule of law, and economic development in the Northern Triangle of Central America: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the people of Guatemala as they prepare to exercise their fundamental democratic right to vote in their country's upcoming June 16, 2019, general elections;

(2) encourages all Guatemalan political actors and institutions to take continued steps to uphold a free, fair, and transparent electoral process;

(3) expresses grave concerns about—

(A) the involvement of certain Guatemalan presidential candidates in illicit activities;

(B) efforts by international criminal organizations to influence the Guatemalan political system;

(C) the politically motivated disqualification of certain competitive, independent candidates in order to restrict the choices available to the people of Guatemala; and

(D) ongoing evidence of corruption of officials that permitted an estimated 1400 metric tons of cocaine to pass through Guatemala destined for the United States last year;

(4) encourages Guatemalan presidential candidates to commit to taking strong and sustained action following the election to strengthen the rule of law, combat corruption and impunity, and address human rights abuses and the underlying conditions of poverty in the country;

(5) urges the next president of Guatemala to take effective steps to strengthen the rule of law, address the influence of criminal organizations and drug cartels on Guatemala's political system, and combat corruption and impunity, including by reestablishing the mandate of the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG);

(6) condemns the efforts of President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales to expel and undermine CICIG;

(7) expresses dismay about the Trump Administration's failure to demonstrate America's commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Guatemala; and

(8) opposes the Trump Administration's decision to reprogram United States assistance to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 245—DESIGNATING JULY 17, 2019, AS "GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 245

Whereas an estimated 13,310 new cases of glioblastoma will be diagnosed in the United States in 2019;

Whereas glioblastoma is—

(1) the most common malignant (cancerous) brain tumor, accounting for 47 percent of all primary malignant brain tumors; and

(2) the most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat, and deadliest brain tumor;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 15,000 people in the United States will succumb to glioblastoma every year;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for glioblastoma patients is only 5.6 percent and the average survival for glioblastoma patients is estimated to be only 12 to 18 months;

Whereas glioblastoma is described as a disease that affects the "essence of self", as the treatment and removal of glioblastoma presents significant challenges because of the uniquely complex and fragile nature of the brain, the primary organ in the human body that controls not only cognitive ability, but the actions of every organ and limb;

Whereas brain cancer has—

(1) the highest per-patient initial cost of care for any cancer group, with an annualized mean net cost of care approaching \$150,000; and

(2) the highest annualized mean net costs for last-year-of-life care, relative to other cancers, at \$135,000 to \$210,000 (depending on age and gender) per patient;

Whereas, although research advances may fuel the development of new treatments for glioblastoma, challenging obstacles to accelerating progress toward new treatments for glioblastoma remain, and there are no screening or early detection methods;

Whereas, although glioblastoma was first described in medical and scientific literature in the 1920s, and despite its devastating prognosis, only 4 drugs and 1 medical device have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat glioblastoma since the 1920s, and the mortality rates associated with glioblastoma have changed little during the past 30 years; and

Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of glioblastoma, including both the urgent unmet medical need, as well as the opportunities for research and treatment advances for glioblastoma patients: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 17, 2019, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day";

(2) encourages increased public awareness of glioblastoma;

(3) honors those individuals who have lost their lives to that devastating disease or are currently living with it;

(4) supports efforts to develop better treatments for glioblastoma that will improve the long-term prognosis of individuals diagnosed with glioblastoma;

(5) expresses its support for those individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals; and

(6) urges a collaborative approach to brain tumor research, which is a promising means of advancing understanding of, and treatment for, glioblastoma.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 252. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 504, to amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 252.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)) proposed an amendment to the bill D. 504, to amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 10, strike line 16 and all that follows and insert the following:

Section 21703 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "during any period from—" and all that follows through the end of clause (vii) and inserting the following: "during—

"(i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or

"(ii) any time after December 7, 1941; or"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or time" after "a period"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or time" after "that period".