

SENATE RESOLUTION 432—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CARPER, and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 432

Whereas equality of opportunity for all people is one of the noblest aspirations of the United States;

Whereas the National Center for Education Statistics reports that the employment rate for young adults with a bachelor's degree and the employment rate for young adults whose highest credential is a high school diploma differ by 14 percentage points;

Whereas a 2015 study by Georgetown University identified that the average lifetime earnings gap between college graduates and individuals with only a high school diploma is \$1,000,000;

Whereas the Pew Economic Mobility Project finds that whether a child born in the lowest income quintile obtains a 4-year degree or higher credential is associated with—

(1) an approximately 70 percent difference in the probability of that child earning an income outside the lowest income quintile; and

(2) a threefold difference in the probability of that child going on to earn an income in the highest income quintile;

Whereas the Education Commission of the States highlights that the number of non-traditional students at colleges and universities is expected to rise 65 percent faster than the number of traditional students during the 15-year period ending in 2024;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that approximately 31 percent of high school graduates in 2018 did not matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester, representing little change in the college enrollment of new high school graduates from the prior year;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics also reports that the unemployment rate for recent high school graduates not enrolled in college in the fall semester of 2018 was 18.6 percent, significantly higher than the national unemployment rate;

Whereas many secondary students struggle to identify and assess postsecondary options due to a number of factors, including insufficient information on programmatic outcomes and difficulties in accessing effective or consistent counseling services and resources;

Whereas the complexity of financial aid systems and processes, rising college costs, and a shortage of effective financial education and literacy programs can serve as additional deterrents or barriers for students and families as they assess the viability of higher education programs as a postsecondary option;

Whereas the United States built a thriving middle class in part by nurturing the potential for colleges and universities to provide avenues to economic opportunity;

Whereas the data on the benefits of higher education demonstrate that, in spite of ongoing barriers to access and student success, colleges and universities can still provide pathways to economic opportunity; and

Whereas completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is one of the best predictors of future college enrollment, as high school seniors who complete the form are 63 percent more likely to begin postsecondary education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2019 as “National College Application Month”;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) evaluate options for pursuing higher education;

(B) submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid to understand college financing opportunities; and

(C) support every student, regardless of the background or resources of the student, in obtaining the skills and knowledge needed to thrive;

(3) supports efforts to better assist low-income and first generation students throughout the financial aid and college application process;

(4) urges public officials, educators, parents, students, and communities in the United States to observe National College Application Month with appropriate activities and programs designed to encourage students to consider, research, and apply to college and for financial aid; and

(5) commends teachers, counselors, mentors, and parents who support students throughout the college application process, as well as the organizations and institutions partnering to eliminate barriers to higher education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 433—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 1, 2020, AS “BLUE STAR MOTHER’S DAY”

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 433

Whereas, on January 22, 1942, in the midst of the Second World War, United States Army Captain George Maines ran an advertisement in the Flint News Observer calling for mothers of members of the Armed Forces to meet;

Whereas, on February 1, 1942, 300 mothers of members of the Armed Forces held their first meeting at the Durant Hotel in Flint, Michigan, and February 1, 2020, is the 78th anniversary of that meeting;

Whereas, on July 14, 1960, the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., received its charter from Congress;

Whereas Blue Star Mothers make enormous sacrifices while their sons and daughters are providing for the defense of the United States;

Whereas Blue Star Mothers pack and ship thousands of care packages every year to members of the Armed Forces deployed overseas, volunteer to help homeless veterans, provide support for wounded warriors, visit with hospitalized veterans, honor fallen heroes during funeral services, and offer a compassionate community for the mothers of men and women of the Armed Forces serving in harm's way;

Whereas Blue Star Mothers promote the values of the United States, demonstrate a patriotic spirit, and advance a national sense of pride and appreciation for the men and women of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas there are 198 active chapters of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., throughout the United States representing thousands of military families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 1, 2020, as “Blue Star Mother’s Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes—

(A) the contributions of the members of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.; and

(B) the important role Blue Star Mothers play in supporting each other and members and veterans of the Armed Forces; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) to observe Blue Star Mother’s Day; and

(B) to support the work of local chapters of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

SENATE RESOLUTION 434—HONORING THE LIFE OF NICHOLAS ANTHONY BUONICONTI

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 434

Whereas Nicholas Anthony Buoniconti (referred to in this preamble as “Nick Buoniconti”) passed away at his home in Bridgehampton, New York, on July 30, 2019;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti was born on December 15, 1940, in Springfield, Massachusetts;

Whereas the parents of Nick Buoniconti, Nicholas Buoniconti Sr. and Pasqualina (Mercolino) Buoniconti, contributed greatly to the Springfield community and ran an Italian bakery named Mercolino’s in the South End neighborhood of the city;

Whereas the brother of Nick Buoniconti, Peter Buoniconti, remembers him as the best athlete and the smartest and toughest kid in the South End;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti played guard on offense and linebacker on defense for the football team of the University of Notre Dame and graduated from the university in 1962;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti was chosen in the 13th round of the 1962 American Football League (referred to in this preamble as the “AFL”) draft by the Boston Patriots;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti played for the Patriots from 1962 until 1968;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti appeared in 5 AFL All-Star games and made 24 interceptions during his time with the Patriots;

Whereas, in 1968, Nick Buoniconti earned his juris doctor from Suffolk University Law School in Boston and was a member of both the Florida Bar and the Massachusetts Bar;

Whereas, in 1969, Nick Buoniconti was traded to the Miami Dolphins, for whom he played until 1976;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti was the captain of the back-to-back Super Bowl Championship teams of the Dolphins, including the undefeated 1972 team;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti earned the Most Valuable Player title of the Dolphins 3 times during his career with the team;

Whereas, in 7 seasons with the Dolphins, Nick Buoniconti earned 3 Pro Bowl berths and advanced to 3 straight Super Bowl appearances, winning 2 of them;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti was inducted into the National Football League (referred to in this preamble as the “NFL”) Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2001 for his years as a middle linebacker with the Patriots and the Dolphins;

Whereas Nick Buoniconti served as an agent to professional athletes and, for 23 seasons, co-hosted the weekly sports show “Inside the NFL”;

Whereas, on September 8, 2019, the Dolphins honored the passing of Nick Buoniconti by wearing a helmet sticker with his initials, “NAB”, during the regular season opener of the team;

Whereas current NFL commissioner Roger Goodell praised Nick Buoniconti for his grit, fearlessness, and skill while playing with the Patriots and the Dolphins;