

SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 438

Whereas there are far too many unparented children in the United States;

Whereas the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System Report on fiscal year 2018 foster care and adoption population characteristics (referred to in this preamble as the "AFCARS report") indicates that there are approximately 437,300 children in the foster care system in the United States, approximately 125,400 of whom are waiting for adoption;

Whereas the AFCARS report indicates that—

(1) 65 percent of the children in foster care in the United States are 10 years of age or younger;

(2) the average length of time a child spends in foster care is approximately 20 months;

(3) in fiscal year 2018, approximately 17,800 youth "aged out" of foster care by reaching adulthood without being placed in a permanent home; and

(4) in fiscal year 2018, the number of children who—

(A) achieved permanency through adoption increased for the fourth year in a row; and

(B) entered foster care decreased for the second year in a row;

Whereas, still, for many foster children, the wait for a loving family in which they are nurtured, comforted, and protected seems endless;

Whereas a survey conducted in 2017 (referred to in this preamble as the "2017 survey") showed that a quarter of respondents who had not adopted had considered adoption;

Whereas the 2017 survey showed that 46 percent of respondents either somewhat or strongly agreed that children enter the foster care system because of juvenile delinquency, despite the AFCARS report revealing that neglect was associated with 62 percent of cases involving the removal of a child, or approximately 163,500 cases;

Whereas the 2017 survey showed that—

(1) 39 percent of respondents believed foster care adoption is expensive; and

(2) a majority of respondents considering foster care adoption indicated that receiving financial and emotional support would make a difference in their decision to pursue adoption;

Whereas the Children's Bureau, an office of the Administration for Children and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services, supports programs, research, and monitoring to help eliminate barriers to adoption and find permanent families for children;

Whereas, every day, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month;

Whereas National Adoption Day has been celebrated as a collective national effort to find permanent and loving families for children in the foster care system; and

Whereas the Saturday before Thanksgiving has been recognized as National Adoption Day since at least 2000, and, in 2019, the Saturday before Thanksgiving is November 23; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and throughout the year.

SENATE RESOLUTION 439—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 1, 2019, AS "DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY"

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. BURR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 439

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on roads and highways should drive in a safe manner so as to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle crashes;

Whereas, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves as many as 15,000 lives each year; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to focus on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms—

(i) to alert employee drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(ii) to publicize the importance of driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving on the Citizens Band Radio Service and at truck stops across the United States;

(C) clergies to remind congregations to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving;

(E) motorists to drive safely during the holiday season and throughout the rest of the year; and

(F) the people of the United States—

(i) to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt; and

(ii) to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates December 1, 2019, as "Drive Safer Sunday".

SENATE RESOLUTION 440—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 14, 2019, AS "WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY"

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KING, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 440

Whereas, in 1992, the Wreaths Across America project—

(1) began by establishing an annual tradition of donating and transporting Maine bal-

sam fir veterans' wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery each December and placing those wreaths on the graves of fallen heroes buried there; and

(2) placed 5,000 donated veterans' wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, during the 28-year period preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 7,882,300 wreaths were sent to locations, including national cemeteries and veterans memorials in every State and overseas;

Whereas the mission of the Wreaths Across America project, to "Remember, Honor, Teach", is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and overseas, including at—

(1) Arlington National Cemetery;

(2) veterans cemeteries; and

(3) other memorial locations;

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project carries out a week-long veterans parade between the State of Maine and the Commonwealth of Virginia, stopping along the way to spread a message about the importance of—

(1) remembering the fallen heroes of the United States;

(2) honoring those who serve; and

(3) teaching the next generation of children about—

(A) the service of veterans; and

(B) the sacrifices made by veterans and the their families to preserve freedoms enjoyed by the people of the United States;

Whereas, in 2018, approximately 1,800,000 veterans' wreaths were delivered to 1,644 locations across the United States and overseas, including more than 9,300 wreaths placed at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in Colleville-sur-Mer, France, an increase of more than 200 locations compared to the previous year;

Whereas, in December 2019, the tradition of escorting tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine, to Arlington National Cemetery will be continued by—

(1) the Patriot Guard Riders; and

(2) other patriotic escort units, including—

(A) motorcycle units;

(B) law enforcement units; and

(C) first responder units;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals volunteer each December to help lay veterans' wreaths;

Whereas, in 2019, the trucking industry in the United States will continue to support the Wreaths Across America project by providing drivers, equipment, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the United States to more than 1,700 locations;

Whereas the Senate designated December 15, 2018, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; and

Whereas, on December 14, 2019, the Wreaths Across America project will continue the proud legacy of bringing veterans' wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 14, 2019, as "Wreaths Across America Day";

(2) honors—

(A) the Wreaths Across America project;

(B) patriotic escort units, including—

(i) motorcycle units;

(ii) law enforcement units; and

(iii) first responder units;

(C) the trucking industry in the United States; and

(D) the volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes—

(A) the service of veterans and members of the Armed Forces; and

(B) the sacrifices that veterans, their family members, and members of the Armed