

(4) beginning in December 2017, and continuing for several months after protests erupted over economic conditions in more than 80 cities, confronting protestors with excessive force that resulted in at least 25 deaths and 4,000 arrests: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands with the people of Iran that are engaged in legitimate protests against an oppressive, corrupt regime;

(2) supports the right of Iranians to peacefully assemble, without fear of persecution and violence, whether in Iran or internationally;

(3) respects the proud history and rich culture of the Iranian nation and fully supports efforts by the people of Iran to promote the establishment of basic freedoms that build the foundation for the emergence of a freely elected and transparent republic;

(4) condemns the Iranian regime's downing of Ukrainian International Airlines Flight 752 and its repeated lying to the people of Iran and around the world about its responsibility for the disaster;

(5) condemns the Iranian regime for its record of brutal repression against peaceful protests;

(6) condemns the Iranian regime's serious human rights abuses against Iranians, significant corruption, and destabilizing activities abroad;

(7) commends the statements of support for protesters from the United States and key United States allies;

(8) calls on all democratic governments and institutions to support the ability of the people of Iran to live in a free society such that they can exercise their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(9) demands that the Iranian regime abide by its international obligations with respect to human rights and civil liberties, including freedoms of peaceful assembly and speech, including for members of the press;

(10) urges the President to work to convene emergency sessions of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations Human Rights Council to condemn the ongoing human rights violations perpetrated by the Iranian regime and establish a mechanism by which the Security Council can monitor such violations;

(11) encourages the United States Government to do everything in its power to ensure the Iranian people have free and uninterrupted access to the internet;

(12) calls on telecommunications companies to reject requests by the regime to cut off the Iranian people from social media and other communications platforms; and

(13) urges the President and the Secretary of State to work with the international community to signal through future multilateral and bilateral discussions that the Government of Iran's human rights violations are unacceptable.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 540—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI TO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN,

Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

#### S. RES. 540

Whereas, since its inception in 1994, the AmeriCorps national service program has proven to be a highly effective way—

(1) to engage the people of the United States in meeting a wide range of local and national needs; and

(2) to promote the ethics of service and volunteerism;

Whereas, since 1994, more than 1,100,000 individuals have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to “get things done for America” by becoming AmeriCorps members;

Whereas, each year, AmeriCorps, in coordination with State service commissions, provides opportunities for approximately 75,000 individuals across the United States to give back in an intensive way to communities, States, Tribal nations, and the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members have served more than 1,600,000,000 hours nationwide, helping—

(1) to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people of the United States;

(2) to protect the environment;

(3) to contribute to public safety;

(4) to respond to disasters;

(5) to strengthen the educational system of the United States; and

(6) to expand economic opportunity;

Whereas, since 1994, AmeriCorps funds have been invested in nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based groups, and those funds leverage hundreds of millions of dollars in outside funding and in-kind donations each year;

Whereas AmeriCorps members recruit and supervise millions of community volunteers, demonstrating the value of AmeriCorps as a powerful force for encouraging people to become involved in volunteering and community service;

Whereas AmeriCorps members serve at more than 21,000 locations across the United States, including at nonprofit organizations, schools, and faith-based and community organizations;

Whereas AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps campuses in the States of Mississippi, Iowa, California, and Colorado strengthen communities and develop future leaders through team-based service;

Whereas AmeriCorps members nationwide, in return for the service of those members, have earned nearly \$4,000,000,000 to use to further their own educational advancement at colleges and universities across the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members, after their terms of service with AmeriCorps end, have been more likely to remain engaged in their communities as volunteers, teachers, and nonprofit professionals than the average individual;

Whereas AmeriCorps is a proven pathway to employment, providing members with valuable career skills, experience, and contacts to prepare them for the 21st century workforce and to help close the skills gap in the United States;

Whereas, in 2009, Congress passed the bipartisan Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13; 123 Stat. 1460), which authorized the expansion of national service, expanded opportunities to serve, increased efficiency and accountability, and strengthened the capacity of organizations and communities to solve problems;

Whereas national service programs have engaged millions of people in the United States in results-driven service in the most vulnerable communities of the United

States, providing hope and help to individuals with economic and social needs;

Whereas national service and volunteerism demonstrate the best of the spirit of the United States, with people turning toward problems and working together to find community solutions; and

Whereas AmeriCorps Week, observed in 2020 from March 8 through March 14, is an appropriate time for the people of the United States—

(1) to salute current and former AmeriCorps members for their positive impact on the lives of people in the United States;

(2) to thank the community partners of AmeriCorps for making the program possible; and

(3) to encourage more people in the United States to become involved in service and volunteering: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages the people of the United States to join in a national effort—

(A) to salute AmeriCorps members and alumni; and

(B) to raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;

(2) acknowledges the significant accomplishments of the members, alumni, and community partners of AmeriCorps;

(3) recognizes the important contributions made by AmeriCorps members and alumni to the lives of the people of the United States; and

(4) encourages individuals of all ages to consider opportunities to serve in AmeriCorps.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 541—RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTRY OF MAINE INTO THE UNION AS THE 23D STATE

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

#### S. RES. 541

Whereas the place now known as Maine is Wabanaki Homeland and is home to vibrant indigenous cultures and communities;

Whereas Maine was a district of Massachusetts, 1 of the 13 original colonies of the United States;

Whereas, by 1820, people living in Maine had built a thriving economy that included farming, forestry, fishing, and shipbuilding industries;

Whereas, in March 1820, Congress and President James Monroe approved the Missouri Compromise, authorizing the establishment of the State of Maine and making Maine the 23d State of the United States;

Whereas Maine is characterized by hardworking, altruistic, and independent people and a strong community spirit;

Whereas the State motto of Maine, “Dirigo”, Latin for “I lead”, reflects the trailblazing nature of Maine and the 1,300,000 inhabitants of Maine;

Whereas Maine has 1 of the highest numbers of veterans per capita in the United States, and is the home of Togus, the first veterans hospital in the United States;

Whereas Maine contributes greatly to national defense through the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Bath Iron Works, Pratt & Whitney, and numerous other suppliers and installations whose skilled employees are a vital asset to the United States;

Whereas distinguished statesmen from Maine include William King, Joshua Chamberlain, Hannibal Hamlin, Margaret Chase Smith, and Edmund Muskie;