

his mother's health and safety and mismanaged her assets while she suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

More recently, a constituent called the Aging Committee Fraud Hotline after she discovered a contracting scam targeting her aunt and uncle. These scammers repeatedly charged her aunt and uncle, who both have dementia, for the same driveway sealing services and other handyman tasks, stealing \$34,000 of their hard-earned savings.

Identifying, investigating, and prosecuting elder abuse cases often involve several challenges. Victims may not be able to report the abuse they are experiencing, and prosecutors may need to prove the case without the victim's testimony. When elder abuse victims or witnesses have Alzheimer's or related dementia, these challenges can be exacerbated.

Specialized knowledge and training can help address the issues of abuse and fraud. The Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act, which became law in 2017, required the Department of Justice to develop training materials to help criminal justice, social services, and health care personnel investigate elder abuse cases and assess, respond to, and interact with the victims and witnesses in these cases. The legislation I am introducing today would build on this law by requiring the Department to ensure that these elder abuse training materials incorporate best practices for responding to elder abuse victims and witnesses who have Alzheimer's or other related dementias.

This legislation would also require the Department to consult with federal, state, and local partners and stakeholders in developing its elder justice training materials and to update these training materials to reflect new best practices.

As Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, one of my top priorities is protecting seniors against abuse. The Promoting Alzheimer's Awareness to Prevent Elder Abuse Act would help to ensure that the frontline professionals who are leading the charge against elder abuse have the training needed to respond to cases where the victim or a witness has Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Thank you, Mr. President.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 570—OPPOSING AND CONDEMNING THE POTENTIAL PROSECUTION OF UNITED STATES AND ISRAELI NATIONALS BY THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Mr. CRUZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 570

Whereas the United States has long objected to any assertion of jurisdiction by the

International Criminal Court (ICC) over nationals of states that are not parties to the Rome Statute, including the United States and Israel, absent a referral from the United Nations Security Council or the consent of such a state;

Whereas, on December 20, 2019, the Prosecutor of the ICC asked the ICC judges to confirm that the Court may exercise jurisdiction over the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza, facilitating the potential prosecution of Israeli nationals;

Whereas, on March 5, 2020, the ICC authorized an investigation into the actions of United States Armed Forces and intelligence officials operating in Afghanistan, facilitating the prosecution of United States nationals; and

Whereas prosecutions of nationals from states that are not parties to the Rome Statute, absent a referral from the United Nations Security Council or the consent of such a state, are illegitimate and terminally endanger the credibility of the ICC: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) the Senate opposes and condemns the potential prosecution of United States and Israeli nationals by the ICC; and

(2) it should be the policy of the United States to pursue a resolution by the United Nations Security Council prohibiting the ICC from prosecuting nationals of States that are not parties to the Rome Statute, including the United States and Israel, absent a referral from the United Nations Security Council or the consent of such a state.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 571—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 21ST ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE HELD MAY 10 THROUGH MAY 16, 2020

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BURR, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. LOEF-FLER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 571

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when the demand for enrollment is outmatched by the supply of available charter school seats;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools deliver a high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach their potential for academic success;

Whereas public charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas public charter schools throughout the United States provide millions of families with diverse and innovative educational options for the children of those families;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools and charter management organizations are increasing student achievement and attendance rates at institutions of higher education;

Whereas public charter schools are authorized by a designated entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, high performance, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, public charter schools are held accountable by the authorizers of the charter schools for improving student achievement and for sound financial and operational management;

Whereas public charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools;

Whereas public charter schools often set higher expectations for students, beyond the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), to ensure that the charter schools are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 45 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have enacted laws authorizing public charter schools;

Whereas, as of the 2018-2019 school year, more than 7,400 public charter schools served approximately 3,200,000 children;

Whereas enrollment in public charter schools grew from 400,000 students in 2001 to 3,200,000 students in 2019, an eightfold increase in 18 years;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) in 214 school districts, more than 10 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools; and

(2) in 21 school districts, more than 30 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools;

Whereas public charter schools improve the achievement of students enrolled in those charter schools and collaborate with traditional public schools to improve public education for all students;

Whereas public charter schools—

(1) give parents the freedom to choose public schools;

(2) routinely measure parental satisfaction levels; and

(3) must prove the ongoing success of the charter schools to parents, policymakers, and the communities served by the charter schools or risk closure;

Whereas a 2015 report from the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University found—

(1) significant improvements for students at urban charter schools; and

(2) that, each year, students at urban charter schools completed the equivalent of 28 more days of learning in reading and 40 more days of learning in math than the peers of those students in traditional public schools;

Whereas parental demand for charter schools is high, and there was an estimated 7 percent growth in charter school enrollment between the 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 school years; and

Whereas the 21st annual National Charter Schools Week is scheduled to be celebrated the week of May 10 through May 16, 2020: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) congratulates the students, families, teachers, leaders, and staff of public charter schools across the United States for—

(A) making ongoing contributions to public education;

(B) making impressive strides in closing the academic achievement gap in schools in the United States and particularly in schools with some of the most disadvantaged students in both rural and urban communities; and

(C) improving and strengthening the public school system throughout the United States;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of the 21st annual National Charter Schools Week, a week-long celebration to be held May 10 through May 16, 2020, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for public charter schools.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 4 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 BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Brian D. Miller, to be special inspector general for pandemic recovery, U.S. Department of Treasury and Dana T. Wade, to be Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

#### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### IMMIGRANT HEALTH HEROES

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, Americans owe a great debt of grati-

tude to the healthcare heroes on the frontlines of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, I would like to spend a few minutes talking about one special group of healthcare workers: immigrants.

Consider this: 1 in 6 healthcare and social service workers—3.1 million out of 18.7 million—are immigrants. These immigrants are playing a critical role in the battle against the pandemic, yet our broken immigration system does not allow many of them to fulfill their dreams of becoming part of America's future.

I have come to the floor today to tell a story of one of our immigrant health heroes, and I will continue to highlight these stories in the coming weeks. I am also inviting my colleagues from across the Nation to come tell their own stories on social media or on the floor with #ImmigrantHealthHeroes, shown on this chart.

Thousands of immigrant health workers are suffering because of a serious problem in our immigration system: It is the green card backlog. This backlog puts them and their families at risk of losing their immigration status, and it hinders their ability to participate in the fight against COVID-19. Under our current laws, there are not nearly enough immigrant visas, also known as green cards, available each year. As a result, immigrants are stuck in crippling backlogs not just for years but for decades.

Close to 5 million future Americans are in line waiting for green cards. Hundreds of thousands of them are already working in the United States on temporary visas, while many more are waiting abroad, separated from their American families. Only 226,000 family green cards and 140,000 employment green cards are available each year. The backlogs are really hard on these families who are caught in this immigration limbo. For example, children in many of these families age out and face deportation as their parents are waiting in line for their green cards.

The green card backlog includes thousands of doctors—medical doctors—who are currently working in our country on a temporary basis. These doctors face many restrictions due to their temporary status, such as not being able to volunteer at hospitals in COVID-19 hotspots where they are so desperately needed.

The solution to the green card backlog is clear: Increase the number. In 2013, I joined a group of four Republicans and four Democrats who authored a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill. The bill passed the Senate with a strong vote, 68–3, and it would have eliminated the green card backlog.

Last year, I introduced the RELIEF Act, legislation based on the 2013 comprehensive immigration reform bill that would clear the backlog for all immigrants waiting in line for green cards within 5 years. I will keep fighting to help all immigrants who are stuck in this backlog.

Last week, I joined with my colleagues, Republican Senators DAVID PERDUE of Georgia, TODD YOUNG of Indiana, and JOHN CORNYN of Texas and Democratic Senators CHRIS COONS of Delaware and PAT LEAHY of Vermont to introduce legislation to quickly address the plight of immigrant doctors and nurses who are stuck in this green card backlog. This backlog poses a significant risk to our ability to effectively respond to this pandemic. Our bill, the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act, is a temporary stopgap bill that will strengthen our healthcare workforce and improve healthcare access for Americans in the midst of this crisis.

Our bill would recapture 25,000 unused immigrant visas for nurses and 15,000 unused visas for doctors. These are visas that Congress previously authorized, but we never used. Our bill would quickly allocate these visas to doctors and nurses who can help us today in the fight against COVID-19.

It is important to note that our bill requires employers to attest that any immigrant from overseas who receives these visas will not displace an American worker. We want to ensure that all beneficiaries of this bill complement our American healthcare workforce. As Congress begins to work on the next legislation to address this pandemic, I will push for the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act to be included.

Today, I want to tell you the story of one immigrant healthcare worker who is stuck in this green card backlog and would benefit from the act I just described.

This is Dr. Ram Sanjeev Alur. Dr. Alur was born in India. As a child, he survived a bout with meningitis, a disease that is often fatal. This experience inspired him to become a doctor. He went to medical school in India, then trained in internal medicine in the United Kingdom. Dr. Alur came to the United States in 2007 for medical residency training. In 2011, he began working as an internist and hospitalist in the Marion Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Marion, IL. Dr. Alur has led the emergency room inpatient unit for the last 3 years, and now, he is on the frontlines of the pandemic as a member of his hospital's COVID-19 response team.

Dr. Alur lives in Marion with his wife and three kids. Their ages are 12, 8, and 6. He sent me a letter, but listen to what he said about his life in southern Illinois living in Marion:

I consider the opportunity to work at the VA medical center as a blessing. To serve the veterans is an honor, responsibility and satisfaction that enhances anyone's life. I found my calling and hope to spend the rest of my career and raise my family here. I would like to see my children blossom in this community and grow into successful, responsible citizens.

Unfortunately, Dr. Alur is one of thousands of doctors stuck in this green card backlog. He has been forced to renew his temporary visa four times