

(A) the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration, which guarantees for 50 years the protection of the basic rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong, including those of speech, press, assembly, association, travel, movement, correspondence, and strike; and

(B) the Hong Kong Basic Law, which reserves the authority for enacting laws prohibiting treason, secession, sedition, subversion, and foreign interference to the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; and

(2) the United States Government should use all diplomatic means available, including targeted sanctions, to—

(A) dissuade the Government of the People's Republic of China from passing the proposed Hong Kong national security law;

(B) compel the Government of the People's Republic of China to rescind the proposed Hong Kong national security law, if it is passed; and

(C) rally all free nations to stand with the people of Hong Kong against increasingly severe violations by the Government of the People's Republic of China of the rights and liberties guaranteed to them under the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Hong Kong Basic Law.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 597—DESIGNATING MAY 2020 AS “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”**

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. JONES, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BURR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. WARREN, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 597

Whereas President John F. Kennedy first designated May as “Senior Citizens Month” in 1963;

Whereas, in 1963, only approximately 17,778,000 individuals living in the United States were 65 years of age or older, approximately 1/3 of those individuals lived in poverty, and few programs existed to meet the needs of older individuals in the United States;

Whereas, in 2019, there were more than 55,030,278 individuals who were 65 years of age or older in the United States, and those individuals accounted for 16.7 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas approximately 10,000 individuals in the United States turn 65 years of age each day;

Whereas, in 2019, more than 9,056,000 veterans of the Armed Forces were 65 years of age or older;

Whereas older individuals in the United States rely on Federal programs, such as programs under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) and the Medicaid program under title XIX of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), for financial security and high-quality affordable health care;

Whereas the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) provides—

(1) supportive services to help individuals in the United States who are 60 years of age or older maintain maximum independence in the homes and communities of those individuals; and

(2) funding for programs, including nutrition services, transportation, and care management, to assist more than 10,798,199 older individuals in the United States each year;

Whereas, compared to older individuals in the United States in past generations, older individuals in the United States in 2020 are working longer, living longer, and enjoying healthier, more active, and more independent lifestyles;

Whereas, in 2019, an estimated 6,422,000 individuals in the United States who were 65 years of age or older continued to work as full-time, year-round employees;

Whereas older individuals in the United States play an important role in society by continuing to contribute their experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments;

Whereas older individuals in the United States play vital roles in their communities and remain involved in volunteer work, the arts, cultural activities, and activities relating to mentorship and civic engagement; and

Whereas a society that recognizes the success of older individuals and continues to enhance the access of older individuals to quality and affordable health care will—

(1) encourage the ongoing participation and heightened independence of older individuals; and

(2) ensure the continued safety and well-being of older individuals: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2020 as “Older Americans Month”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to provide opportunities for older individuals to continue to flourish by—

(A) emphasizing the importance and leadership of older individuals through public recognition of the ongoing achievements of older individuals;

(B) presenting opportunities for older individuals to share their wisdom, experience, and skills with younger generations; and

(C) recognizing older individuals as valuable assets in strengthening communities across the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 598—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, AND ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO IMPLEMENT POLICIES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM**

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. JONES, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. KAIN, Mr. KING, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 598

Whereas National Foster Care Month was established more than 30 years ago to—

(1) bring foster care issues to the forefront;

(2) highlight the importance of permanency for every child; and

(3) recognize the essential role that foster parents, social workers, and advocates have in the lives of children in foster care throughout the United States;

Whereas all children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home;

Whereas the primary goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety and well-

being of children while working to provide a safe, loving, and permanent home for each child;

Whereas there are approximately 437,000 children living in foster care;

Whereas there were approximately 263,000 youth that entered the foster care system in 2018, while more than 71,000 youth were eligible and awaiting adoption at the end of 2018;

Whereas the number of children living in foster care has increased dramatically in recent years;

Whereas more than 94,000 children entered foster care in 2018 due to parental drug abuse;

Whereas children of color are more likely to stay in the foster care system for longer periods of time and are less likely to be reunited with their biological families;

Whereas foster parents—

(1) are the front-line caregivers for children who cannot safely remain with their biological parents;

(2) provide physical care, emotional support, and education advocacy; and

(3) are the largest single source of families providing permanent homes for children leaving foster care to adoption;

Whereas, compared to children in foster care who are placed with nonrelatives, children in foster care who are placed with relatives have more stability, including fewer changes in placements, have more positive perceptions of their placements, are more likely to be placed with their siblings, and demonstrate fewer behavioral problems;

Whereas some relative caregivers receive less financial assistance and support services than do foster caregivers;

Whereas an increased emphasis on prevention and reunification services is necessary to reduce the number of children that are forced to remain in the foster care system;

Whereas almost 18,000 youth “aged out” of foster care in 2018 without a legal permanent connection to an adult or family;

Whereas children who age out of foster care lack the security or support of a biological or adoptive family and frequently struggle to secure affordable housing, obtain health insurance, pursue higher education, and acquire adequate employment;

Whereas foster care is intended to be a temporary placement, but children remain in the foster care system for an average of 19 months;

Whereas 34 percent of children in foster care experience more than 2 placements while in foster care, which often leads to disruption of routines and the need to change schools and move away from siblings, extended families, and familiar surroundings;

Whereas youth in foster care are much more likely to face educational instability, with 1 study showing that 75 percent of foster youth experienced an unscheduled school change during a school year, compared to 21 percent of youth not in foster care;

Whereas children entering foster care often confront the widespread misperception that children in foster care are disruptive, unruly, and dangerous, even though placement in foster care is based on the actions of a parent or guardian, not the child;

Whereas 30 percent of children in foster care are taking at least 1 antipsychotic medication, and 34 percent of those children are not receiving adequate treatment planning or medication monitoring;

Whereas, due to heavy caseloads and limited resources, the average turnover rate for child welfare workers is 30 percent;

Whereas States, localities, and communities should be encouraged to invest resources in preventative and reunification services and postpermanency programs to ensure that more children in foster care are