

services providers conducted by the group ANCOR found that 68 percent of providers have had to close some of their services to people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. This same survey found that over half of the agencies had faced significant additional expenses because of pandemic expense.

We know that life has changed for so many Americans and so many institutions. This is one of these agencies that do such good work. Some of the expenses they face include increased levels of overtime, purchases of personal protective equipment, and additional training for workers. Perhaps most unsettling is that the agencies that provide essential services to older adults and people with disabilities don't have sufficient funding to keep offering services for more than 1 month if payments stop. This lack of cash on hand illustrates how fragile the home and community-based services system is.

Yesterday morning, administrators in Pennsylvania said that if home and community-based services were not available, thousands of additional people would need to enter nursing homes, which again, is a congregate setting, where the likelihood of contracting the virus is higher than a lot of other settings. That, of course, would put them at greater risk of contracting the virus and much greater risk of dying because of this horrible pandemic.

When we talk about investing in home and community-based services, that is tied to the goal of getting not just the case number down but the death number down.

The proposal by Republicans yesterday makes clear that they are not focused on this crisis. There is no investment in home and community-based services at all. The response to nursing homes is wholly insufficient. The level of funding provided in the proposal, in my judgment, is an insult to older Americans. It is an insult to people with disabilities and their families, and it is an insult to the workers who support them. Claiming that people with disabilities and seniors are supported in this legislation is just not true.

On top of the lack of funding, the bill blows a hole in the protections provided by the ADA, or the Americans with Disabilities Act, for people with disabilities. To ensure that seniors and people with disabilities are kept safe and healthy during this public health crisis, we need to ensure that strong policies are in place to keep nursing homes safe, and we need to ensure that there is dedicated funding for home and community-based services.

I am calling for an investment in both settings—home and community-based services—for seniors and people with disabilities, as well as investments in proven strategies that we know will help nursing homes and also get the death numbers down. To meet our responsibilities to those who are most at risk—the most vulnerable among us—the Senate should include

these provisions that I have described in the next COVID-19 legislation.

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RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 AND CALLING FOR FURTHER ACTION TO STRENGTHEN HOME AND COMMUNITY LIVING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, there is one more item to address before I relinquish the microphone.

We know that yesterday was the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, to which I just referred—the so-called ADA. This is legislation that Congress should be very proud of because of how much it has ensured that millions of Americans with disabilities have been able to exercise their rights as Americans. We still have some work to do on the goals of the ADA, but it is a good anniversary to remember and to celebrate. So, in honor of the anniversary, I offer this resolution to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 661, a resolution recognizing the importance of independent living for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for further action to strengthen home and community living for individuals with disabilities, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 661) recognizing the importance of independent living for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for further action to strengthen home and community living for individuals with disabilities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CASEY. I know of no further debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the resolution?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 661) was agreed to.

Mr. CASEY. I further ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I congratulate our friend from Pennsylvania who has demonstrated that bipartisanship is not dead in the U.S. Congress. In fact, I learned a long time ago that bipartisanship, collegiality, and cooperation don't really make much news, so people do get sort of a misimpression sometimes as to how Congress functions. Let me just say there are plenty of people on both sides of the aisle who are actually interested in solving some of our Nation's biggest problems. Again, they aren't necessarily the ones you see on cable news or grabbing the headlines, but they are doing important work. I am proud to be part of a body that does bipartisan work and solves problems in working together.

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HURRICANE HANNA

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, over the weekend, as Texans continued to battle COVID-19, those in parts of the State came to face with another disaster at the same time. It just seems like the challenges keep coming. First, we are in a pandemic. Then George Floyd lost his life unnecessarily and raised our consciousness to the racial injustice that still exists in this country. Then we had a natural disaster like a hurricane. Hurricane Hanna made landfall in South Texas and brought heavy rains and high winds to communities that were already grappling with the pandemic, especially the Rio Grande Valley. On Sunday, nearly 300,000 homes were without power in South Texas, and power is still being restored in a number of those communities. Navigating dangerous floodwaters and downed power lines is difficult under normal circumstances, and when you add a highly contagious virus to the mix, as you can imagine, it presents a host of logistical challenges.

I first thank the first responders and emergency crews who have been working overtime these last few days to get our neighbors to safety and to restore their power as quickly as possible. There is a strong sense of community in South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, and I have no doubt these communities will pull together and come out of this crisis stronger than before.

I have been talking to a number of the leaders in several of the counties that have been affected, and we will continue working with them to ensure they have the resources they need to sustain their response and recovery efforts in the short term and address those critical infrastructure needs in the long term.

I have also heard from a number of farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers whose crops have been flooded, and I expect to hear more in the coming days about how we might be helpful, especially, again, in this already challenging time.