

S. RES. 683

Whereas all major medical authorities recommend exclusive breastfeeding for about the first 6 months of life and continued breastfeeding for not less than the first year of life;

Whereas the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action has designated the first week of August as “World Breastfeeding Week”, and the United States Breastfeeding Committee has designated August as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

Whereas National Breastfeeding Month focuses on how data and measurements can be used to build and reinforce the connections between breastfeeding and a broad spectrum of other health topics and initiatives;

Whereas World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month provide important opportunities to address barriers to breastfeeding faced by families across the United States and around the world;

Whereas breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy that builds a foundation for life-long health and wellness;

Whereas the evidence of the value of breastfeeding to the health of women and children is scientific, solid, and continually reaffirmed by new research;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention publishes an annual Breastfeeding Report Card, which has found that, while the proportion of infants who were ever breastfed in the United States is increasing, the United States continues to miss targets for exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life;

Whereas there are substantial racial and ethnic disparities in access to breastfeeding support, resulting in reduced breastfeeding rates and an associated increase in risk for a variety of negative health outcomes;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, the National Immunization Survey reports that 86.6 percent of White infants have ever been breastfed, while—

(1) 74 percent of Black infants have ever been breastfed; and

(2) 79.5 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native infants have ever been breastfed;

Whereas the Healthy People initiative of the Department of Health and Human Services has consistently identified breastfeeding as a national health priority;

Whereas the majority of new parents want to breastfeed but face significant barriers in community, health care, and employment settings;

Whereas, while some parents may choose not to breastfeed or are unable to breastfeed, all parents can benefit from access to education on infant nutrition and wellness;

Whereas protecting and supporting breastfeeding for parents who are able to breastfeed is essential to ensuring critical food security and immunologic protection for the youngest residents of the United States; and

Whereas the consistent and well-documented health, economic, and environmental benefits of breastfeeding show that breastfeeding is an investment that will continue to produce measurable dividends many times over across the United States and for families, employers, and government entities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of August 2020 as “World Breastfeeding Week”;

(2) designates August 2020 as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

(3) supports the goals of World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month; and

(4) supports policies and funding to ensure that all parents who choose to breastfeed can

access a full range of appropriate support from child care and health care institutions, health care insurers, employers, researchers, and government entities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 43—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO ACHIEVE RESOLUTION AND REPAYMENT OF THE DEFAULTED SOVEREIGN DEBT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HELD BY 20,000 FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTED BY THE AMERICAN BONDHOLDERS FOUNDATION, LLC

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 43

Whereas sovereign debt obligations (in this preamble referred to as “bonds”) of the Government of the People's Republic of China were offered and sold in United States capital markets;

Whereas the bonds constitute full faith and credit sovereign obligations of the internationally recognized Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the People's Republic of China subsequently defaulted on those bonds;

Whereas the bonds constitute an unpaid general obligation of the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, under the successor government doctrine of settled international law (relating to establishing the continuity of obligations among successor governments), the repayment obligation for the bonds is the obligation of the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to refuse to repay the bonds held by United States citizens and has officially repudiated the debts, which is a clear violation of United States law, international law, and the rules and regulations of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China honored repayment of the exact same bonds held by citizens of the United Kingdom while rejecting the claims of citizens of the United States;

Whereas, since the normalization of bilateral relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China in the 1970s, the United States has shown good will to the People's Republic of China by focusing on an expansion of bilateral trade while deferring discussion of repayment of the People's Republic of China's defaulted national debt;

Whereas, under standard legal principles, the People's Republic of China's defaulted sovereign gold debt has been accumulating compound interest for more 82 years and is estimated to exceed the total amount of the United States national debt to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, as representative of United States bondholders who own the People's Republic of China's defaulted sovereign gold bonds, American Bondholders Foundation, LLC, has proposed using the People's Republic of China's obligations as payment for the United States national debt to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, the Government of the People's Republic of China covered up the outbreak of

the coronavirus disease 2019 (commonly referred to as “COVID-19”) during its early stages, resulting in a global pandemic and more than \$2,000,000,000,000 in financial damage to the United States; and

Whereas the United States Government pays its debts, and so should the Government of the People's Republic of China: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the President should do everything in his power to achieve resolution and repayment of the defaulted sovereign debt of the People's Republic of China held by 20,000 families in the United States who are represented by the American Bondholders Foundation, LLC, for the benefit of the bondholders and the people of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2651. Ms. MCSALLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2651. Ms. MCSALLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation shall use any amounts made available to the Secretary for grant programs for covered projects, and not otherwise obligated, to provide additional funds to covered projects.

(b) AMOUNT.—In providing additional funds for a covered project under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall provide an amount equal to not less than 10 percent of the total project costs.

(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—Amounts made available for a covered project under subsection (a) shall not be counted toward the Federal share of the project.

(d) MODIFICATIONS TO AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall modify a grant agreement for a covered project as necessary to provide additional funds under subsection (a) in accordance with the amount determined under subsection (b).

(e) DEFINITION OF COVERED PROJECT.—In this section, the term “covered project” means a highway project, a public transportation project, a rural transportation project, or a tribal transportation project that—

(1) during the period beginning on January 1, 2017, and ending on the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) has been awarded a grant under a competitive grant program of the Secretary of Transportation; or

(B) in the case of a new fixed guideway capital project proposed to be carried out using a grant under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, advanced to the engineering phase under subsection (g) of that section; and

(2) requires additional funding to complete the project due to the effects of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME EN BLOC—H.R. 3, H.R. 51, H.R. 1425

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there are three bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3) to establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish an out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union.

A bill (H.R. 1425) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for a Improve Health Insurance Affordability Fund to provide for certain reinsurance payments to lower premiums in the individual health insurance market.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two houses, or by order of the Senate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 81-754, as amended by Public Law 93-536 and further amended by Public Law 100-365, appoints the following Senator to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: the Honorable DANIEL SULLIVAN of Alaska.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, August 14, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, August 18, at 12 p.m.; Friday, August 21, at 11:15 a.m.; Tuesday, August 25, at 2:30 p.m.; Friday, August 28, at 2 p.m.; Tuesday, September 1, at 7 a.m.; Friday, September 4, at 10 a.m.

I further ask unanimous consent that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, September 4, it next convene at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon the closing of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume the Ludwig nomination; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned, under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:59 p.m., adjourned until Friday, August 14, 2020, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

ROBERT BENEDICT BOWES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2025, VICE BRIAN D. QUINTENZ, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

EDWARD J. COLEMAN
MICHAEL E. KELLY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

RENN D. POLK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be lieutenant colonel

WILLIAM R. BROWN
JAY M. CHUNG
JUSTIN W. CROCKER
JOEL R. HILBORN

CHRISTOPHER M. LOFTON
EMILY H. SPENCER
JUDE T. VERGE
PAUL S. WINTERSTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be colonel

JONATHAN BENDER
JOHN BISHOP
KEVIN T. BLACK
DREW R. CONOVER
KIRBY R. DENNIS
BRYAN FRIZZELLE
JOSHUA M. GASPARD
RYAN M. HANSON
ANTHONY A. KELLER
JEROME A. PARKER
SHAWN M. PATRICK
JOSEPH RUZICKA
BRENDA J. SPENCE
CHRISTOPHER J. VITALE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be major

RAYMOND COLSTON, JR.
DAVID CONRAD
MITCHELL G. DAUGHERTY
CHAD EVANS
JOEL M. FAHLING
BRETT E. HUMPHREYS
SCOTT LOUGHRIDGE
IAN A. MORRIS
NORRIS E. POTTER
MATTHEW J. RIVAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

JAMES O. BOWEN
RICHARD P. CIPRO
JAYSON A. COBLE
ELIZABETH A. EVANS
WYATT E. HANSEN
SETH T. HIBLE
KEVIN G. LITTLE
TYRONE V. PATENAUDE
GERI L. SWARTS
ROBERT W. WALKER, JR.
PHILIP A. WINN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

ANDREW T. CONANT
ERIC J. DINOTO
ROBERT GUEVARA
BROCK G. LARSON
TAMMY E. MANWARING
TANYA S. MCGONEGAL
PATRICK D. NOLAN
TODD A. PEGG
SHANE P. SLATER
RAVINDRA V. WAGH

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

KRISTEN L. KINNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

JEFFREY B. PARKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

WILLIAM F. BLANTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

MICHAEL J. ARMSTRONG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CHADWICK G. SHROY

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624: