

S. RES. 685

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 685, a resolution honoring the service and sacrifice of members of the United States Armed Forces and veterans and condemning the disgraceful denigration by President Donald Trump of military service, prisoners of war, and Gold Star families.

S. RES. 709

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 709, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the August 13, 2020, and September 11, 2020, announcements of the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Bahrain are historic achievements.

S. RES. 711

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 711, a resolution calling on the President of the United States to take executive action to broadly cancel Federal student loan debt.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BURR, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina):

S. 4672. A bill to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies (TRANSPLANT) Act of 2020 with Senators RICHARD BURR, TINA SMITH, and TIM SCOTT. This bill offers promise to the tens of thousands of individuals diagnosed with leukemia and lymphomas, sickle cell anemia, and rare genetic blood disorders.

Our bipartisan legislation renews the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI), the only programs in the country that maintain donor registries for individuals in need of a bone marrow and umbilical cord blood transplantation. Over twenty-two million Americans are registered bone marrow donors resulting in nearly 6,500 transplants just last year. In the years since NCBI was established, more than 300,000 cord blood units have been collected, facilitating more than 100,000 blood stem cell transplants. The TRANSPLANT Act would reaffirm the commitment to these life-saving programs, which have been helping to connect individuals in need of bone marrow or umbilical cord blood transplants with donors for more than two decades.

The public registries, made up of donors from all over the country, have

been a true lifeline for the Americans who have found an unrelated match. By strengthening and enhancing the important programs operating these registries, many more Americans will be afforded the opportunity to find a match if they are ever in need. I look forward to swift consideration of this legislation in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and working toward passage in the full Senate.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 713—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE AUGUST 13, 2020, ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2020, ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN IS A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT

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

S. RES. 713

Whereas President Donald J. Trump, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, and other world leaders have worked tirelessly to announce agreements on the full normalization of relations between Israel and other nations;

Whereas the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain have been the first Arab states to announce formal relations with Israel;

Whereas, under the agreements, the two countries agree to the establishment of reciprocal embassies and the exchange of Ambassadors;

Whereas opening direct ties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and between Israel and Bahrain could begin to transform the region by spurring economic growth, enhancing technological innovation, and forging closer people-to-people relations;

Whereas these agreements could promote investment, tourism, direct flights, security, telecommunications, technology, energy, healthcare, culture, and the environment;

Whereas the United States, Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain share a commitment to promoting stability through diplomatic engagement, increased economic integration, and closer security coordination;

Whereas Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain will partner with the United States to launch a Strategic Agenda for the Middle East to expand diplomatic, trade, and security cooperation;

Whereas these historic agreements could help advance peace between Israel and other Arab nations;

Whereas these bilateral breakthroughs could set a precedent for further diplomatic openings throughout the region;

Whereas support for peace between Israel and its neighbors has longstanding bipartisan support in Congress and among the American people; and

Whereas the agreements build upon the decades-long leadership of the United States

in helping Israel broker peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan and promoting peace talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon, and the Palestinians: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Governments and people of Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the Governments and people of Israel and Bahrain on reaching their respective historic agreements;

(2) encourages other Arab nations to establish full relations with Israel with the vision of realizing full peace between Israel and all of its Arab neighbors; and

(3) urges the President to continue to engage with the Government of Israel and the United States' Arab partners in reaching these historic agreements.

SENATE RESOLUTION 714—ENCOURAGING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND REVERSE ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TO WEAKEN THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND PROTECTIONS FOR WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 714

Whereas access to clean water is a fundamental human right;

Whereas the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (62 Stat. 1155, chapter 758) was enacted into law in 1948;

Whereas the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (Public Law 92-500; 86 Stat. 816) were enacted with bipartisan support and significantly reorganized and expanded the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) (commonly known as and hereinafter referred to in this preamble as the "Clean Water Act");

Whereas the Clean Water Act is one of the most important laws of the United States and the principal safeguard of the United States against unregulated pollution or destruction of surface waters of the United States;

Whereas the objective of the Clean Water Act is to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters";

Whereas the Clean Water Act declared national goals of eliminating the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States by 1985 and, wherever attainable, ensuring that waters were fishable and swimmable by 1983;

Whereas the Clean Water Act provides strong and comprehensive requirements for the control of pollutants in the waters of the United States;

Whereas the Clean Water Act authorizes Federal financial assistance for building and upgrading municipal sewage treatment plants and other types of water quality improvements projects;

Whereas rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, and other waters have enormous public health, community welfare, economic, and ecological importance to the United States, considering that—

(1) 1 in 3 individuals in the United States receive drinking water from systems that

draw supply from headwater, intermittent, or ephemeral streams;

(2) according to a report of the Environmental Protection Agency, streams provide the majority of water to most rivers and “transport sediment, wood, organic matter, nutrients, chemical contaminants, and many of the organisms found in rivers”;

(3) chemical, physical, and biological processes in streams can convert nitrogen and other nutrients, preventing nitrogen and other nutrients from causing downstream harm;

(4) wetlands prevent and minimize flooding by storing as much as between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 gallons of water for each acre of wetland;

(5) wetlands and other waters in the flood plains of rivers and streams help prevent pollution from reaching downstream waters;

(6)  $\frac{3}{4}$  of fish harvested commercially depend on wetlands;

(7) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that “about 91 million people over the age of 16 swim in oceans, lakes, and rivers each year in the United States”;

(8) approximately 37 percent of water withdrawals, or 118,000,000,000 gallons of water withdrawals per day, are used for irrigation, and 52 percent of water withdrawals are taken from surface waters;

(9) a recent study estimated that wetlands around the world provide ecosystem services like flood prevention and pollution filtration worth more than \$47,000,000,000 per year;

(10) fishing and other water sports contribute \$175,000,000,000 annually to the economy of the United States and support more than 1,500,000 jobs;

(11) companies often need clean water in their industrial processes or as a component of their end product, such as craft beer brewers that depend on a reliable source of clean water, add approximately \$76,000,000,000 annually to the economy of the United States, and support more than 500,000 jobs;

(12) according to 1 study, the ecological restoration economy, which includes mitigation for harms to waters due to discharges of dredged or fill material, “directly employs 126,000 workers and generates \$9.5 billion in economic output” per year, which “supports an additional 95,000 jobs and \$15 billion in economic output through indirect (business-to-business) linkages and increased household spending”;

(13) more than 318,000,000 individuals visited national parks in the United States in 2018 to engage in recreation and be inspired by thundering waterfalls, streaming geysers, desert springs, ocean beaches, and jeweled lakes, generating \$40,000,000,000 for the economy of the United States and more than 330,000 private sector jobs;

(14) the Environmental Protection Agency reports that the Great Lakes contain “84% of North America’s surface fresh water” and “about 21% of the world’s supply of surface fresh water”;

(15) restoring and protecting the Great Lakes and their tributaries also protects the \$6,000,000,000,000 regional economy of the Great Lakes and the 1,500,000 jobs and \$62,000,000,000 in wages directly connected to the Great Lakes; and

(16) the Great Lakes and their tributaries facilitate nearly \$16,000,000,000 in annual spending by residents and the 37,000,000 hunters, anglers, bird watchers, and other tourists who visit the region for recreation;

Whereas water pollution and the loss of water resources can cause catastrophic harm to the health and economic strength of communities, evidenced by the fact that—

(1) in 2014, a harmful algal bloom in western Lake Erie prompted a 3-day shutdown of the drinking water supply of Toledo, Ohio, affecting approximately 500,000 individuals;

(2) a spill of a toxic chemical into the Elk River in Charleston, West Virginia, caused a cutoff of drinking water for approximately 300,000 individuals for several days;

(3) outbreaks of blue-green algae and red tide in Florida have caused widespread harm to businesses and have killed a substantial number of aquatic animals over multiple years, with the effects of the outbreaks in 2018 being particularly severe;

(4) in 2008, the coal ash waste pit of the Tennessee Valley Authority near Kingston, Tennessee, experienced a mammoth structural failure and released more than 1,000,000,000 tons of waste into the Emory and Clinch Rivers, and a 2019 analysis found that similar pits around the country routinely leak and contaminate nearby groundwater and surface waters;

(5) beaches in multiple States, including Mississippi, New Jersey, Washington, and New York, were forced to close due to outbreaks of algae that are commonly fueled by nitrogen and phosphorus pollution;

(6) intense flooding is occurring in places like Houston, Texas, where wetland destruction is believed to be contributing to the severity of the flooding; and

(7) many areas of the United States are expected to experience worsened drought conditions with climate change, making the preservation of water resources more critical;

Whereas the Clean Water Act dramatically slowed the rate of wetlands loss in the United States from more 500,000 acres annually in the 1950s to approximately 80,000 acres annually in the late 1990s;

Whereas the quality of numerous water bodies has substantially improved since the adoption of the Clean Water Act, including the Charles River in Massachusetts, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Great Lakes;

Whereas, despite the improvements brought about by the Clean Water Act, the United States still faces major water resource and pollution challenges, evidenced by the fact that—

(1) according to the most recent State data submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency—

(A) 53 percent of assessed rivers and streams do not meet 1 or more water quality standards, which are established to ensure waters are clean enough for specific uses like fishing and swimming;

(B) 71 percent of assessed lakes, reservoirs, and ponds are impaired;

(C) 80 percent of assessed bays and estuaries are impaired; and

(D) 72 percent of assessed coastal shoreline waters are impaired; and

(2) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a report stating that the increasing frequency of harmful algal blooms is associated with increasing temperatures and levels of nutrients in waters of the United States;

Whereas the 2017 Infrastructure Report Card of the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the wastewater infrastructure of the United States a grade of D+;

Whereas the most recent Clean Watersheds Needs Survey report to Congress identified not less than \$271,000,000,000 worth of capital needs for wastewater, storm water, and other clean water infrastructure;

Whereas the condition of the waters of the United States consistently ranks as one of the most acute environmental worries of individuals in the United States, with 80 percent of respondents in a March 2019 Gallup Poll indicating that they worry a great deal or a fair amount about the pollution of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs;

Whereas the United States Commission on Civil Rights recommended further study and

analysis of Federal laws, including the Clean Water Act, to analyze gaps in civil rights protections and found that the “EPA’s definition of environmental justice recognizes environmental justice as a civil right, fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies”;

Whereas the United States Geological Survey conducted limited monitoring of 17 perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (referred to in this preamble as “PFAS”) in source and treated public water supplies from 25 drinking water facilities and found PFAS in all source water and public water supply samples collected;

Whereas a study led by Harvard University researchers found that the drinking water supplies for not less than 6,000,000 individuals in the United States exceed the health advisory of the Environmental Protection Agency for 2 PFAS, perfluorooctanoic acid (commonly referred to as “PFOA”) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (commonly referred to as “PFOS”), and more recent information indicates that more comprehensive monitoring would find that the drinking water of many times more than 6,000,000 individuals in the United States contains PFAS at levels that pose significant health hazards;

Whereas the Environmental Protection Agency has initiated numerous administrative actions that collectively would eviscerate the protections of the Clean Water Act and other safeguards for clean water, including—

(1) repealing science-based protections for streams, wetlands, and other waters and the exclusion of millions of miles of streams and tens of millions of acres of wetlands from the pollution control programs of the Clean Water Act;

(2) easing restrictions on wastewater plants, authorizing the plants to release partially treated sewage during rainstorms;

(3) refusing to develop regulations mandated by the Clean Water Act aimed at avoiding and minimizing spills of hazardous substances;

(4) weakening rules relating to the siting, operating, monitoring, and closing of pits where coal ash and other coal combustion waste is dumped;

(5) exempting polluters who harm waterways from the penalties of the Clean Water Act if their discharge first travels through groundwater from the discharge permitting program of the Clean Water Act;

(6) restricting the authority of experts from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act to stop dumping projects that cause unacceptable harms to water bodies;

(7) delaying and weakening toxic pollution discharge limits for power plants; and

(8) curtailing the rights of States and Tribal nations under the Clean Water Act to review federally-permitted projects and impose conditions on or reject a project, as appropriate, to prevent harm to their waterways;

Whereas the United States remains far from achieving the objective of the Clean Water Act by putting critical resources that provide enormous value to the United States at risk; and

Whereas the proposed actions of the Environmental Protection Agency would substantially worsen the risk to critical resources: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate encourages the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to—

(1) maintain and strengthen, rather than attack, requirements that keep waterways of the United States clean;

(2) end any ongoing administrative actions that weaken—

(A) existing regulations that were promulgated under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); and

(B) other requirements protecting the waters of the United States; and

(3) initiate actions to reverse any administrative actions that have already been completed that weaken the implementation by the Federal Government of—

(A) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); and

(B) other requirements that protect the waters of the United States.

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46—TO CORRECT THE ENROLLMENT OF S. 2330

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MORAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 46

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring).* That in the enrollment of S. 2330, an Act to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes, the Secretary of the Senate shall—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(D) of section 220504 of title 36, United States Code, as amended by section 6(b)(2) of the Act, strike “percent”;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)(H) of section 220541 of title 36, United States Code, as added by section 8(a)(1)(B) of the Act, strike “in a manner than” and insert “in a manner that”;

(3) in subsection (f)(4)(B) of section 220541 of title 36 United States Code, as added by section 8(a)(1)(E) of the Act, insert “and the Committee on the Judiciary” after “the Committee on Energy and Commerce”;

(4) amend paragraph (1) of section 220541(g) of title 36, United States Code, as added by section 8(a)(1)(E) of the Act, to read as follows:

“(1) MANDATORY PAYMENTS.—

“(A) FISCAL YEAR 2021.—On January 4, 2021, the corporation shall make a mandatory payment of \$20,000,000 to the Center for operating costs of the Center for fiscal year 2021.

“(B) SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—For fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the corporation shall make a mandatory payment of \$20,000,000 to the Center not later than the close of business on the first regular business day in January.”; and

(5) in subsection (h)(2)(C)(iii) of section 220541 of title 36, United States Code, as added by section 8(a)(1)(E) of the Act, insert “and the Committee on the Judiciary” after “the Committee on Energy and Commerce”.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47—RECOGNIZING THAT THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT RENEWED LEADERSHIP BY THE UNITED STATES IS NEEDED TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS, AND RECOGNIZING THE NEED OF THE UNITED STATES TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL, COMPREHENSIVE, AND SCIENCE-BASED CLIMATE RECOVERY PLAN TO PHASE OUT FOSSIL FUEL EMISSIONS, PROTECT AND ENHANCE NATURAL SEQUESTRATION, AND PUT THE UNITED STATES ON A PATH TOWARD STABILIZING THE CLIMATE SYSTEM

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. CON. RES. 47

Whereas a stable climate system at the founding of the United States allowed human life and human civilization to flourish;

Whereas the United States was founded on the deeply rooted principle of securing “the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity”;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States protects the fundamental rights to life, liberty, property, and equal protection of the laws;

Whereas a climate system capable of sustaining human life—

(1) is fundamental to a free and ordered society; and

(2) is preservative of fundamental rights, including the rights to life, liberty, property, personal security, family autonomy, bodily integrity, and the ability to learn, practice, and transmit cultural and religious traditions;

Whereas the Federal Government sets the energy policy of the United States, which has resulted in a national energy system in which approximately 80 percent of the energy in the United States comes from fossil fuels;

Whereas the national fossil fuel-based energy system has led to carbon dioxide emissions from the United States constituting more than ¼ of cumulative global carbon dioxide emissions;

Whereas the United States is the largest producer of oil and gas in the world, due in substantial part to the Federal Government—

(1) opening up Federal public land and water for fossil fuel extraction; and

(2) actively supporting fossil fuel energy;

Whereas there is an overwhelming scientific consensus that—

(1) human-caused climate change is occurring; and

(2) the rate of global heating and ocean acidification as of September 2020 is a result of the buildup of atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions, primarily carbon dioxide emissions, largely from the combustion of fossil fuels;

Whereas atmospheric carbon dioxide levels of over 400 parts per million as of September 2020 have caused a dangerous planetary en-

ergy imbalance, equivalent to the quantity of energy of exploding more than 400,000 atomic bombs of the kind dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, per day, 365 days per year, across the planet;

Whereas the latest climate science and real-world observations of that energy imbalance demonstrate that the approximately 1 degree Celsius of warming that has already occurred as a result of human-caused climate change is already dangerous and negatively affecting all aspects of society and the economy of the United States;

Whereas the last time that atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide were over 400 parts per million—

(1) the seas were 70 to 90 feet higher;

(2) Greenland had no ice; and

(3) coral reefs suffered a major extinction;

Whereas similar conditions will result if the United States does not drastically reduce carbon dioxide emissions and naturally sequester excess concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide during the 21st century;

Whereas climate change is a threat to national security, as climate change contributes to and exacerbates global instability and conflict;

Whereas the generation of today’s children was born into a climate system made hazardous to their health and well-being because of human-caused climate change;

Whereas children are uniquely vulnerable to human-caused climate change because of their developing bodies, higher exposure to air, food, and water per unit of body weight, unique behavior patterns, dependence on caregivers, and longevity on the planet;

Whereas human-caused climate change is a public health emergency that is adversely impacting the physical and mental health of children through—

(1) extreme weather events;

(2) rising temperatures and increased heat exposure;

(3) decreased air quality;

(4) altered infectious disease patterns;

(5) food and water insecurity; and

(6) other effects;

Whereas infant mortality increases 25 percent on extremely hot days, with the first 7 days of life representing a period of critical vulnerability;

Whereas heat illness is a leading cause of death and illness in high school athletes, with nearly 10,000 episodes of heat illness occurring annually;

Whereas 8.4 percent of children suffer from allergic rhinitis, and the ragweed pollen season in North America has grown 13 to 27 days longer since 1995 due to higher temperatures and greater atmospheric carbon dioxide levels;

Whereas children exposed to wildfires suffer substantial—

(1) eye symptoms; and

(2) upper and lower respiratory symptoms that lead to increased rates of asthma-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits;

Whereas extreme weather events can negatively impact the mental health of children due to—

(1) family loss or separation;

(2) school interruption;

(3) scarcities of food, water, and shelter; and

(4) public service outages;

Whereas, without immediate steps to address human-caused climate change, the health effects of climate change on children will—

(1) increase in severity and in terms of the number of children impacted; and

(2) cost the United States billions of dollars per year by the end of the 21st century;

Whereas children will largely shoulder the costs of human-caused climate change;