

house, or a residence hall that is not adequately protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system, an automatic fire alarm system, or an adequate smoke alarm;

Whereas, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, college students are taking more courses online and spending more time indoors, thus increasing the need for fire safety and prevention education;

Whereas fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and the resulting loss of life and property damage;

Whereas college students do not routinely receive effective fire safety education while in college;

Whereas educating young individuals in the United States about the importance of fire safety is vital to help ensure that young individuals engage in fire-safe behavior during college and after college; and

Whereas developing a generation of adults who practice fire safety may significantly reduce future loss of life: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2020 as “Campus Fire Safety Month”; and

(2) encourages administrators of institutions of higher education and municipalities across the United States—

(A) to provide educational programs about fire safety to all students of institutions of higher education in September and throughout the school year;

(B) to evaluate the level of fire safety provided in both on-campus and off-campus student housing; and

(C) to ensure fire-safe living environments through—

(i) fire safety education;

(ii) the installation of fire suppression and detection systems and smoke alarms; and

(iii) the development and enforcement of applicable codes relating to fire safety.

SENATE RESOLUTION 724—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE PRACTICE OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED IMPRISONMENT OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD AND CALLING ON GOVERNMENTS FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF WOMEN WHO ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 724

Whereas Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights guarantees the right to liberty and security of person, Article 9 protects against arbitrary arrest or detention, and Article 18 guarantees the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion;

Whereas women across the world face enormous risks to advance human rights and pursue progress for their communities, including—

(1) discriminatory policies and attitudes;

(2) repressive governments;

(3) abusive authorities; and

(4) critical threats to their health, especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas women activists across the world are being unjustly detained in order to silence their voices and end their activism;

Whereas women journalists are being unjustly detained for speaking truth to power and exposing corruption and abuses by governments and other authorities;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic presents a severe threat to women who are detained unjustly and who are often housed in overcrowded prisons with limited access to medical care, which can convert unjust prison sentences into death sentences for vulnerable detained women;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has waged a brutal campaign to suppress political dissent and vibrant ethnic minority communities;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has suppressed and detained human rights legal professionals, including Li Yuhan, who has been severely mistreated in detention and who went on a hunger strike in 2018;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has subjected Uyghurs in Xinjiang to mass surveillance, forced labor, forced birth control, forced sterilization, and extrajudicial internment, including—

(1) Rahile Dawut, a professor of traditional Uyghur culture;

(2) Gulmira Imin, a former website administrator and government employee; and

(3) Nigare Abdushukur, who was sentenced to 19 years imprisonment after inquiring about her mother’s detention;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has targeted Tibetans for celebrating their heritage, including—

(1) Bonkho Kyi, who was detained for organizing a picnic celebration for His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 80th birthday; and

(2) Yeshe Choedron, who was sentenced in 2008 to 15 years imprisonment after participating in protests;

Whereas in Iran, human rights defenders have been steadfast in their advocacy despite repeated abuse and arrest by authorities, including currently detained human rights activists—

(1) Nasrin Sotoudeh, who spoke out against the death penalty and laws forcing women to wear hijabs and who is currently on a hunger strike and is in critical condition;

(2) Atena Daemi, a human rights activist who is serving an additional 2 years in prison and facing 74 lashes for participating in a peaceful sit-in protest in Evin prison; and

(3) Narges Mohammadi, vice president of the Centre for Human Rights Defenders, who has experienced severe health conditions and lung disease while in prison and has suffered from worsening COVID-19 symptoms since June 29, 2020;

Whereas Iranian authorities have also recently arrested and imprisoned environmentalists working for the Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation, including Sepideh Kashami and McGill University graduate Niloufar Bayani, who previously worked for the United Nations Environment Programme;

Whereas Turkey is the world’s second worst jailer of journalists, with 47 journalists imprisoned in 2019, including—

(1) Hatice Duman, owner and editor at Atilim, which published editorials condemning President Erdogan’s policies; and

(2) Aysenur Parildak and Hanim Büsra Erdal, journalists for Zaman, which authorities claim has ties to Fethullah Gülen;

Whereas in Egypt, President Sisi has attempted to quash dissent by jailing and abusing human rights defenders, including—

(1) Mahienour el-Masry, a human rights lawyer accused of spreading “false news”;

(2) Esraa Abdel Fattah, a human rights activist and reporter who was reportedly beaten, hung from handcuffs, and choked with her clothes by authorities; and

(3) Sanaa Seif, who was detained while filing a complaint at the Public Prosecutor’s office regarding her assault outside Cairo’s Tora prison, which houses her brother, who is a political activist;

Whereas Burundian authorities arrested and convicted 4 journalists at Iwacu, Burun-

di’s last remaining independent newspaper, including Christine Kamikazi and Agnès Ndirubusa, after a flawed trial, for allegedly attempting to undermine state security;

Whereas Saudi Arabian women’s rights and human rights activists Loujain al-Hathloul, Nassima al-Sada, Samar Badawi, Nouf Abdulaziz, and Maya’a al-Zahrani all remain wrongfully imprisoned;

Whereas in the Philippines, Senator Leila de Lima remains unjustly imprisoned for her vocal criticism of extrajudicial killings carried out during President Duterte’s “war on drugs”;

Whereas in Eritrea, political dissident Aster Fissehatsion has been held incommunicado without charge or trial since 2001: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports women who are being unjustly detained around the world;

(2) affirms that a government should never detain its citizens for exercising the rights of freedom of assembly, association, and speech;

(3) calls on governments that are unjustly detaining women for exercising their fundamental rights to immediately and unconditionally release these political prisoners; and

(4) urges the United States Government, in all its interactions with foreign governments—

(A) to raise individual cases of women political prisoners; and

(B) press for their immediate release.

SENATE RESOLUTION 725—ESTABLISHING THE SENATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. JONES, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 725

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

(a) COMMISSION ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Senate the Senate Human Rights Commission (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(2) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

(A) serve as a forum for bipartisan discussion of international human rights issues and promotion of internationally recognized human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(B) raise awareness of international human rights violations through regular briefings and hearings; and

(C) collaborate with congressional committees and other congressional entities, the executive branch, human rights entities, and nongovernmental organizations to promote human rights initiatives within the Senate.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—The Commission shall not—

(A) have legislative jurisdiction;

(B) have authority to take legislative action on any bill or resolution; or

(C) encroach upon the jurisdiction of any standing, select, or special committee of the Senate.

(4) MEMBERSHIP.—Any Senator may become a member of the Commission by submitting a written statement to that effect to the Commission.

(5) CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Two members of the Commission shall be appointed to serve as co-chairpersons of the Commission, as follows:

(i) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the majority leader of the Senate.

(ii) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the minority leader of the Senate.

(B) TERM.—The term of a member as a co-chairperson of the Commission shall end on the last day of the Congress during which the member is appointed as a co-chairperson, unless the member ceases being a member of the Senate, leaves the Commission, resigns from the position of co-chairperson, or is removed.

(C) PUBLICATION.—Appointments under this paragraph shall be printed in the Congressional Record.

(D) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the position of co-chairperson of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(b) COMMISSION STAFF.—

(1) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission is authorized, from funds made available under subsection (c), to—

(i) employ such staff in the manner and at a rate not to exceed that allowed for employees of a committee of the Senate under section 105(e)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1968 (2 U.S.C. 4575(e)(3)); and

(ii) incur such expenses as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out its duties and functions.

(B) EXPENSES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Payments made under this subsection for receptions, meals, and food-related expenses shall be authorized only for actual expenses incurred by the Commission in the course of conducting its official duties and functions.

(ii) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—Amounts received as reimbursement for expenses described in clause (i) shall not be reported as income, and the expenses so reimbursed shall not be allowed as a deduction under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) DESIGNATION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each co-chairperson of the Commission may designate 1 professional staff member.

(B) COMPENSATION OF SENATE EMPLOYEES.—In the case of the compensation of any professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) who is an employee of a Member of the Senate or of a committee of the Senate and who has been designated to perform services for the Commission, the professional staff member shall continue to be paid by the Member or committee, as the case may be, but the account from which the professional staff member is paid shall be reimbursed for the services of the professional staff member (including agency contributions when appropriate) out of funds made available under subsection (c).

(C) DUTIES.—Each professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) serve all members of the Commission; and

(ii) carry out such other functions as the co-chairperson designating the professional staff member may specify.

(c) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The expenses of the Commission shall be paid from the Contingent Fund of the Senate, out of the account of Miscellaneous Items, upon vouchers approved jointly by the co-chairpersons (except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries of employees who are paid at an annual rate of pay).

(2) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.—For any fiscal year, not more than \$200,000 shall be expended for employees and expenses.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2660. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2661. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2662. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2663. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8337, supra.

SA 2664. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2663 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 8337, supra.

SA 2665. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2666. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2667. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2668. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2669. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2693, to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2660. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in Division A, insert the following:

SEC. 1. In addition to amounts provided in section 101, for "Department of Homeland Security—Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery—Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund" there is appropriated \$86,600,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the amount provided herein is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

SA 2661. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

(c) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON REDUCTIONS IN AMTRAK OPERATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (commonly known as "Amtrak") may not institute any service cuts or furlough or terminate the employment of any employee (without cause) during the period beginning on October 1,

2020, and ending on the date specified in section 106.

SA 2662. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. ____ No recipient, direct or indirect, of funds appropriated under this Act may use the funds to conduct, or enter into a contract for, a management or employee training program or other initiative that—

(1) segregates participants on the basis of race, sex, religion, or any other class enumerated under section 703 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e-2);

(2) does not permit or encourage participants to challenge particular claims made in the course of such initiative; or

(3) advocates or promotes any or all of the following claims that are sometimes considered a part of "Critical Race Theory":

(A) One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex.

(B) The United States is fundamentally racist or sexist.

(C) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.

(D) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex.

(E) Members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex.

(F) An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex.

(G) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex.

(H) Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of the individual's race or sex.

(I) Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race to oppress another race.

(J) Character traits, values, moral and ethical codes, privileges, status, or beliefs may be ascribed to a race or sex, or to an individual because of the individual's race or sex.

(K) Fault, blame, or bias may be attributed to a race or sex, or to members of a race or sex because of their race or sex.

(L) Consciously or unconsciously, and by virtue of their race or sex, members of any race are inherently racist or are inherently inclined to oppress others, or members of any sex are inherently sexist or are inherently inclined to oppress others.

SA 2663. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following.

"This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment."

SA 2664. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2663 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; as follows: