

Whereas September 30, 2020, is an appropriate day to designate as “National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of September 30, 2020, as “National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 738—RECOGNIZING SUICIDE AS A SERIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER AS “NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH”

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 738

Whereas suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between 10 and 34 years of age;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the “CDC”), 1 individual in the United States dies by suicide every 11 minutes, resulting in around 48,000 deaths each year in the United States;

Whereas, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 20 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are not on active duty, or veterans die by suicide each day, resulting in more than 7,000 deaths each year;

Whereas, between 1999 and 2018, the suicide rate in the United States increased by 35 percent from 10.5 suicides for every 100,000 individuals to 14.2 suicides for every 100,000 individuals;

Whereas it is estimated that there are approximately 1,400,000 suicide attempts each year in the United States;

Whereas more than half of individuals who die by suicide did not have a known mental health condition;

Whereas, according to the CDC, many factors contribute to suicide among individuals with and without known mental health conditions, including challenges related to relationships, substance use, physical health, and stress regarding work, money, legal problems, or housing;

Whereas, according to the CDC, suicide results in an estimated \$70,000,000,000 each year in combined medical and work-loss costs in the United States;

Whereas the stigma associated with mental health conditions and suicidality hinders suicide prevention by discouraging at-risk individuals from seeking life-saving help and can further traumatize survivors of suicide loss and individuals with lived experience of suicide;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has caused many individuals to experience emotional distress and anxiety;

Whereas, according to the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report of the CDC, risk factors for suicide, such as anxiety and depression, have increased considerably since the onset of restrictions to help slow the spread of COVID-19; and

Whereas September is an appropriate month to designate as “National Suicide Prevention Month” because September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day, a day recognized internationally and supported by the World Health Organization: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes suicide as a serious and preventable public health problem of the United States and each State;

(2) supports the designation of September as “National Suicide Prevention Month”;

(3) declares suicide prevention as a priority;

(4) acknowledges that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities;

(5) promotes awareness that there is no single cause of suicide; and

(6) supports strategies to increase access to high-quality mental health and suicide prevention services and substance-use disorder treatments.

SENATE RESOLUTION 739—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25, 2020, AS “NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICE LEARNING WEEK”

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. REED, Mr. RUBIO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 739

Whereas family service learning is a method under which children and families learn and solve problems together in a multi-generational approach with active participation in thoughtfully organized service that—

(1) is conducted in, and meets the needs of, their communities;

(2) is focused on children and families solving community issues together;

(3) requires the application of college and career readiness skills by children and relevant workforce training skills by adults; and

(4) is coordinated between the community and an elementary school, a secondary school, an institution of higher education, or a family community service program;

Whereas family service learning—

(1) is multi-generational learning that involves parents, children, caregivers, and extended family members in shared learning experiences in physical and digital environments;

(2) is integrated into and enhances the academic achievement of children or the educational components of a family service program in which families may be enrolled; and

(3) promotes skills (such as investigation, planning, and preparation), action, reflection, the demonstration of results, and sustainability;

Whereas family service learning has been shown to have positive 2-generational effects and encourages families to invest in their communities to improve economic and societal well-being;

Whereas, through family service learning, children and families have the opportunity to solve community issues and learn together, thereby enabling the development of life and career skills, such as flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural skills, productivity and accountability, and leadership and responsibility;

Whereas family service learning activities provide opportunities for families to improve essential skills, such as organization, research, planning, reading and writing, technological literacy, teamwork, and sharing;

Whereas families participating together in service are afforded quality time learning about their communities;

Whereas adults engaged in family service learning serve as positive role models for their children;

Whereas family service learning projects enable families to build substantive connections with their communities, develop a stronger sense of self-worth, experience a reduction in social isolation, and improve parenting skills;

Whereas family service learning has added benefits for English language learners by helping individuals and families to—

(1) feel more connected with their communities; and

(2) practice language skills;

Whereas family service learning is particularly important for at-risk families because family service learning—

(1) provides opportunities for leadership and civic engagement; and

(2) helps build the capacity to advocate for the needs of children and families;

Whereas family service learning programs are equipped to face the unique challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic through community engagement via video conferencing or in a socially distanced manner;

Whereas family service learning will remain relevant throughout the pandemic as communities face new challenges such as navigating remote learning, technological literacy, and building and maintaining new relationships within communities; and

Whereas the value that parents place on civic engagement and relationships within the community has been shown to transfer to children who, in turn, replicate important values, such as responsibility, empathy, and caring for others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of September 21 through September 25, 2020, as “National Family Service Learning Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of family service learning, family literacy, community service, and 2-generational learning experiences;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support family service learning and community development programs;

(3) recognizes the importance that family service learning plays in cultivating family literacy, civic engagement, and community investment; and

(4) calls upon public, private, and nonprofit entities to support family service learning opportunities to aid in the advancement of families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 740—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 7, 2020, AS “ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY” IN CELEBRATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY PRIVATE SECTOR INNOVATION AND FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COONS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 740

Whereas October has been designated as “National Energy Awareness Month”;