

SENATE RESOLUTION 201—AMENDING THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO ENABLE THE PARTICIPATION OF ABSENT SENATORS DURING A NATIONAL CRISIS

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KING, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 201

Resolved,

SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION OF ABSENT SENATORS DURING A NATIONAL CRISIS.

Rule XII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by adding at the end the following:

“5. Senators may use technology that has been approved by the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate as reliable and secure to cast their votes from outside of the Senate Chamber if the majority leader or his or her designee and the minority leader or his or her designee jointly determine that an extraordinary crisis of national extent exists in which it would be infeasible for Senators to cast their votes in person. If such a crisis is determined to exist, Senators may cast votes under this paragraph during the 30-day period beginning on the date on which such determination is made, unless such period is extended for one or more additional 30-day periods by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn. During such period, Senators participating remotely and using approved technology to cast their votes under this paragraph shall be deemed present for purposes of establishing the presence of a quorum. The determination made under this paragraph shall not rely on any decision of any other branch of the United States Government. The majority leader or his or her designee and the minority leader or his or her designee shall submit at the beginning of the first session of each Congress an order for designees of each caucus in the case of such a crisis.”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 202—DESIGNATING MAY 7, 2021, AS “UNITED STATES FOREIGN SERVICE DAY” IN RECOGNITION OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED, OR ARE PRESENTLY SERVING, IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 202

Whereas the Foreign Service of the United States (referred to in this preamble as the “Foreign Service”) was established through the enactment of the Act entitled “An Act for the reorganization and improvement of the Foreign Service of the United States, and for other purposes.”, approved May 24, 1924 (43 Stat. 140, chapter 182) (commonly known as the “Rogers Act of 1924”), and is now celebrating its 97th anniversary;

Whereas the Rogers Act of 1924 established a career organization based on competitive examination and merit promotion;

Whereas, in 2021, just less than 16,000 men and women of the Foreign Service are serving at home and abroad;

Whereas Foreign Service personnel are supported by more than 60,000 locally engaged staff in nearly 300 embassies and consulates, who provide unique expertise and crucial links to host countries;

Whereas Foreign Service personnel comprise employees from the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the United States Agency for Global Media;

Whereas the diplomatic, consular, communications, trade, development, security, public diplomacy, and numerous other functions that Foreign Service personnel perform constitute the first and most cost-effective instrument of the United States to protect and promote United States interests abroad;

Whereas the men and women of the Foreign Service and their families are increasingly exposed to risks and danger, even in times of peace, and many have died in the service of the United States;

Whereas employees of the Foreign Service work daily—

- (1) to ensure the national security of the United States;
- (2) to provide assistance to United States citizens overseas;
- (3) to preserve peace, freedom, and economic prosperity around the world;
- (4) to promote the ideals and values of the United States, internationally recognized human rights, freedom, equal opportunities for women and girls, rule of law, and democracy;
- (5) to promote transparency, provide accurate information, and combat disinformation;
- (6) to cultivate new markets for United States products and services and develop new investment opportunities that create jobs in the United States and promote prosperity;
- (7) to promote economic development, reduce poverty, end hunger and malnutrition, fight disease, combat international crime and illegal drugs, and address environmental degradation; and
- (8) to provide emergency and humanitarian assistance to respond to crises around the world;

Whereas, in response to the unprecedented global COVID-19 pandemic, all of the foreign affairs agencies of the United States have worked tirelessly to support the people of the United States, often placing their own safety and well-being at risk;

Whereas the foreign affairs agencies and the American Foreign Service Association have observed Foreign Service Day in May for many years; and

Whereas it is both appropriate and just for the United States as a whole to recognize the dedication of the men and women of the Foreign Service and to honor the members of the Foreign Service who have given their lives in the loyal pursuit of their duties and responsibilities representing the interests of the United States and of its citizens: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) honors the men and women who have served, or are presently serving, in the Foreign Service of the United States for their dedicated and important service to the United States;
- (2) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service and sacrifice of past, present, and future employees of the Foreign Service of the United States, wherever they

serve, with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(3) designates May 7, 2021, as “United States Foreign Service Day” to commemorate the 97th anniversary of the Foreign Service of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 203—CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC ATTACK IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ON APRIL 15, 2021, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ALL OF THOSE IMPACTED BY THAT TRAGEDY

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 203

Whereas, on April 15, 2021, a mass shooting took place in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the FedEx Ground Plainfield Operations Center;

Whereas the people of the United States mourn the 8 innocent lives lost in that unthinkable tragedy: Matthew Alexander, Samaria Blackwell, Amarjeet Kaur Johal, Jasvinder Kaur, Amarjit Sekhon, Jaswinder Singh, Karli Smith, and John Weisert;

Whereas the people of the United States express gratitude for the heroic actions of the men and women of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, who courageously responded to the attack and saved countless lives;

Whereas the people of the United States express appreciation and gratitude for all of the first responders who quickly responded to the attack and the professionals and volunteers who cared for the injured;

Whereas the people of the United States continue to pray for the individuals who were wounded in the attack and continue to recover;

Whereas the entire Indianapolis community—and all Hoosiers—united in support of the victims and their families; and

Whereas the people of the United States will always remember the victims of this attack and stand in solidarity with those affected by this senseless tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) condemns the senseless attack that led to the tragic loss of 8 lives in Indianapolis, Indiana, on Thursday, April 15, 2021;
- (2) honors the memory of the victims who were killed;
- (3) expresses hope for a full and speedy recovery and pledges continued support for the individuals injured in the attack;
- (4) offers heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the Indianapolis community and the families, friends, and loved ones affected by the tragedy; and
- (5) honors the selfless and dedicated service of—
 - (A) the medical professionals and other individuals who cared for the victims in the community of Marion County, Indiana;
 - (B) the emergency response teams and law enforcement officials who responded to the call of duty; and
 - (C) the law enforcement officials who continue to investigate the attack.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 9—SUPPORTING THE LOCAL RADIO FREEDOM ACT

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following