

EC-2317. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nomenclature Change; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. AMS-LRRS-23-0014) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2318. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Task Force Activities"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2319. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Best Practices for Community Engagement in Hawaii"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2320. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of additional time required to complete a comprehensive plan to supplement existing training curricula related to software acquisitions and cybersecurity software and hardware acquisitions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2321. A communication from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2022-008, Update to ASSIST Database References" (RIN9000-A045) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Armed Services.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-69. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish the "Agent Orange Veterans Service Medal" to commemorate the service and sacrifice of veterans who were exposed to the Agent Orange herbicide during the Vietnam War from 1961 to 1971; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12

Whereas, for generations, millions of Americans have answered the call to serve and taken the sacred oath to defend and preserve our nation's ideals of liberty and democracy; and

Whereas, such valiant men and women sacrifice their personal safety and time with their families to protect the individual and collective freedom guaranteed to all Americans; and

Whereas, more than eight million citizens of this country honorably served during the Vietnam War, during which time Agent Orange was widely used in Vietnam by the United States Armed Forces as part of the herbicidal warfare program Operation Ranch Hand from 1961 until 1971; and

Whereas, nearly twenty million gallons of the orange powder were sprayed over the land from helicopters or low-flying aircraft, destroying vegetation and crops in order to deprive enemy guerrillas of food and cover for their activities and exposing more than two million American soldiers to the herbicide and defoliant chemical; and

Whereas, Agent Orange is a dioxin and cancer-causing chemical that enters the body

through physical contact or ingestion and moves into the human cell nucleus, where it attacks the genes and causes a number of serious illnesses, including leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, ischemic heart disease, soft tissue sarcoma, amyloidosis, diabetes, and cancers of the throat, prostate, lung, and colon; and

Whereas, Agent Orange also causes genetic damage, and in some cases, the children and grandchildren of veterans exposed to Agent Orange have been born with spina bifida and other abnormalities; and

Whereas, today, only eight hundred thousand Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange are alive, and approximately three hundred deaths occur among them every day; and

Whereas, while fallen comrades are memorialized at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., those veterans who are victims of Agent Orange are not recognized as fatalities of the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, it is most appropriate that we should honor these veterans to the full extent of our ability, as they have made untold and innumerable sacrifices to preserve the liberties we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for generations to come. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish a commemorative military service medal to be known as the "Agent Orange Veterans Service Medal" to honor and recognize the victims of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War for their courageous service to our Nation as some of America's most heroic citizens; and be it further,

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-70. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma making an application to the United States Congress, as provided by Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a Member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms a person may be elected as a Member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1032

Section 1. The Oklahoma Legislature of Oklahoma hereby makes an application to Congress, as provided by Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a Member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a Member of the United States Senate.

Section 2. The Secretary of State is hereby directed to transmit copies of this application to the President and Secretary of the Senate of the United States and to the Speaker, Clerk and Judiciary Committee Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and copies to the members of the said Senate and House of Representatives from this State; also to transmit copies hereof to the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several States, requesting their cooperation.

Section 3. This application shall be considered as covering the same subject matter as the applications from other States to Congress to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and the Senate of the United States; and this application shall be aggregated with same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on this subject, but shall not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject.

Section 4. This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

POM-71. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma making an application to the United States Congress, as provided by Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a Member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms a person may be elected as a Member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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Section 4. This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

POM-72. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Colorado urging and requesting the United States government to take action to preserve and enhance American leadership in space; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23-007

Whereas, Our nation significantly benefited from technological and scientific advancements resulting from space exploration and aerospace activities; and

Whereas, Colorado ranks first in the nation for aerospace employment concentration; and

Whereas, There are over 34,000 Coloradans who are directly employed in aerospace, with the aerospace cluster supporting over 240,000 jobs; and

Whereas, Colorado is home to the nation's top aerospace companies, including Ball Aerospace, Boeing, L3Harris, Lockheed Martin Space, Maxar Technologies, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, Sierra Space, and United Launch Alliance, and close to 500 additional companies that support the aerospace sector by providing services and developing products, including spacecraft, launch vehicles, satellites, command and control software, sensors, and navigation operations; and

Whereas, Colorado is a strategic location for national space and cyber activity, with five key military commands: North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), the United States Northern Command, the United States Strategic Command's Joint Functional Component Command for Space Missile Warning Center, the United States Space Command, and the United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, as well as three space-related United States Space Force bases: Buckley, Peterson, and Schriever; and

Whereas, The United States Air Force Academy, along with Colorado's colleges and universities, including the University of Colorado Boulder, University of Colorado Colorado Springs, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Denver, Colorado Mesa University, and Fort Lewis College, provides access to world-class aerospace-related degrees and offers aerospace companies one of the country's most educated workforces; and

Whereas, Various organizations are key to Colorado's prominence in aerospace, such as the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the world's largest aerospace technical society; the Colorado Space Coalition, a group of industry stakeholders working to grow and promote Colorado as a center of excellence for aerospace; the Colorado chapter of Citizens for Space Exploration, housed within the Colorado Business Roundtable, whose mission is to promote better understanding of aerospace and its importance in our economy and daily lives, as well as promoting the importance of human space exploration; and the Colorado Space Business Roundtable, an organization that works to convene stakeholders from industry, government, and academia to advance aerospace business and workforce opportunities throughout the state. Together these organizations form the Colorado chapter of the Aerospace States Association, a nonpartisan organization of lieutenant governors and associate members from aerospace organizations and academia who represent states' interests in federal aerospace and aviation policy development led by Colorado Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera; and

Whereas, In addition, the Colorado Air and Space Port, located east of the Denver International Airport, seeks to serve as America's hub for commercial space transportation, research, and development; this horizontal launch facility will have the potential to become the foundation for a global suborbital transportation network connecting Colorado globally. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein: That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

(1) Strongly urge and request the government of the United States of America to take action to preserve and enhance American leadership in space, spur innovation, and ensure our continued national and economic security by supporting space exploration and activities, including sending United States astronauts (including the first female and first person of color who will walk on the Moon) under NASA's Artemis program, which launched its successful uncrewed test flight on November 16, 2022. Hundreds of Colorado companies worked to make Artemis I a success, including Boeing, which built the Space Launch System rocket; United Launch Alliance, which built the Interim Cryogenic Propulsion system, the second stage that propelled Orion into orbit around the Moon; and Lockheed Martin Space, which designed and built the Orion spacecraft for NASA in Colorado, which traveled 1.4 million miles beyond the Moon and back;

(2) Recognize and appreciate Colorado's space and aerospace companies and organizations, especially the growing membership and activities of the Colorado chapter of Citizens for Space Exploration, in partnership with the Colorado Business Roundtable, whose activities to promote space exploration are helping to increase public understanding and enthusiasm for exploration funding;

(3) Recognize and appreciate the exciting new innovations coming this year with the inaugural flight of the United Launch Alliance Vulcan Centaur rocket; Boeing's CST-100 Starliner crew test flight to the International Space Station; and the Sierra Space Dream Chaser, the world's only winged commercial spaceplane, which will also travel to the International Space Station. Both the Starliner and Dream Chaser will launch atop a United Launch Alliance rocket;

(4) Express our most sincere and deepest appreciation to the men and women working in our military installations in Colorado; and

(5) Hereby declare March 13, 2023, to be "Colorado Aerospace Day".

Be it Further *Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to President Joseph Biden, Jr.; Vice President Kamala Harris; Speaker of the House of Representatives Kevin McCarthy; House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries; Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer; Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell; Senator John Hickenlooper; Senator Michael Bennet; Congresswoman Diana DeGette; Congressman Joe Neguse; Congresswoman Lauren Boebert; Congressman Ken Buck; Congressman Doug Lamborn; Congressman Jason Crow; Congresswoman Brittney Pettersen; Congresswoman Yadira Caraveo; Bill Nelson, NASA Administrator; Billy Nolen, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; Governor Jared Polis; Lieutenant Governor and Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition, Dianne Primavera; Brigadier General Laura Clellan, Adjutant General of Colorado; General James Dickinson, Commander, U.S. Space Command; Colonel Marcus Jackson, Buckley Garrison Commander, Buckley Space Force Base; Dr. Christopher Scolese, Director, National Reconnaissance Office; Ross B. Garelick Bell, Executive Director, Aerospace States Association; Thomas E. Zelibor, Chief Executive Officer, Space Foundation; Alexandra Dukes, Section Chair, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Rocky Mountain Section; Dr. Ronald M. Sega, Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition; Michael

Gass, Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition; Bob Cone, Chair, Colorado Space Business Roundtable; Christie Lee and Stacey DeFore, Co-Chairs, Colorado Citizens for Space Exploration; Jeff Kloska, Director, Colorado Air and Space Port; and Debbie Brown, President, Colorado Space Business Roundtable.

POM-73. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California respectfully calling upon the President of the United States and the United States Congress to formally and consistently reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people constituted genocide; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 28

Whereas, Armenians have resided in Asia Minor and the Caucasus for approximately four millennia and have a long and rich history in the region, including the establishment of many kingdoms. Despite Armenians' historic presence, stewardship, and autonomy in the region, Turkish rulers of the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey subjected Armenians to severe and unjust persecution and brutality; and

Whereas, Ottoman Turkish political leaders, succeeded by the leaders of the Young Turk Revolution of 1908, promoted a pan-Turkic agenda to unite the Turkic populations of the Ottoman Empire and the Russian Empire by annihilating the non-Turkic Armenian, Greek, and Assyrian minorities in the region, an agenda that continues to this day; and

Whereas, The Armenian population was a victim of a series of massacres, namely the Hamidian massacres between 1894 and 1896 and the Adana massacre of 1909, at the hands of Ottoman Turkey; and

Whereas, The Armenian nation was subjected to a systematic and premeditated genocide at the hands of the Young Turk government of the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1919. The genocide officially began on April 24, 1915, and continued at the hands of the Kemalist Movement of Turkey from 1920 to 1923; and

Whereas, Over 1,500,000 Armenian men, women, and children were slaughtered or marched to their deaths in an effort to annihilate the Armenian nation in the first genocide of modern times, thousands of surviving Armenian women and children were forcibly converted and Islamized, and hundreds of thousands more were subjected to ethnic cleansing during the period of the modern Republic of Turkey from 1924 to 1937; and

Whereas, During the genocides of the Christians living in the Ottoman Empire and surrounding regions, in addition to the 1,500,000 men, women, and children of Armenian descent, hundreds of thousands of Assyrians, Greeks, and other Christians lost their lives at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish Empire and the Republic of Turkey, thereby constituting one of the most atrocious violations of human rights and crimes against humanity in the history of the world; and

Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan also carried out massacres in Shushi, Baku, Ghaibalishen, Jamilli, Karkijahan, and Pahlul between 1918 and 1920; and

Whereas, These crimes against humanity also had the consequence of permanently removing all traces of the Armenians and other targeted people from their historic homelands of more than four millennia and enriching the perpetrators with the lands and other property of the victims of these crimes, including through the usurpation of several thousand churches and cultural institutions; and

Whereas, In response to the genocide and at the behest of President Woodrow Wilson and the United States State Department, the Near East Relief organization was founded and became the first congressionally sanctioned American philanthropic effort created exclusively to provide humanitarian assistance to, and to rescue from annihilation, the Armenian nation and other Christian minorities. Those who were rescued went on to survive and thrive outside of their ancestral homeland all over the world and specifically in this state; and

Whereas, Near-East Relief succeeded, with the active participation of the citizens from this state, in delivering \$117,000,000 in assistance and in saving more than 1,000,000 refugees, including 132,000 orphans, between 1915 and 1930, by delivering food, clothing, and materials for shelter and by setting up refugee camps, clinics, hospitals, and orphanages; and

Whereas, The Armenian nation survived the genocide despite the attempt by the Ottoman Empire to exterminate it; and

Whereas, In 1923, Soviet leader Josef Stalin, utilizing a strategy to divide and conquer ethnic minorities in the former Russian Empire, proclaimed the ancient Armenian region of Artsakh, populated almost entirely by ethnic Armenians, as the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijani Soviet Socialist Republic; and

Whereas, In 1924, Soviet leader Josef Stalin, in furtherance of the same strategy, created an Azerbaijani exclave on the ancient Armenian lands of Nakhichevan, which was subsequently ethnically cleansed of all Armenians and rendered devoid of Armenian cultural presence through the deliberate destruction of thousands of Armenian antiquities, cross-stones, and artifacts; and

Whereas, Adolf Hitler, in, persuading his army commanders that the merciless persecution and killing of Jews, Poles, and other people would bring no retribution, declared, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"; and

Whereas, On November 4, 1918, immediately after the collapse of the Young Turk regime and before the founding of the Republic of Turkey by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in 1923, the Ottoman Parliament considered a motion on the crimes committed by the Committee of Union and Progress (CUP) stating: "A population of one million people guilty of nothing except belonging to the Armenian nation were massacred and exterminated, including even women and children." The Minister of Interior at the time, Fethi Bey, responded by telling the Parliament: "It is the intention of the government to cure every single injustice done up until now, as far as the means allow, to make possible the return to their homes of those sent into exile, and to compensate for their material loss as far as possible"; and

Whereas, The Parliamentary Investigative Committee proceeded to collect relevant documents describing the actions of those responsible for the Armenian mass killings and turned them over to the Turkish Military Tribunal. CUP's leading figures were found guilty of massacring Armenians and hanged or given lengthy prison sentences. The Turkish Military Tribunal requested that Germany extradite to Turkey the masterminds of the massacres who had fled the country. After German refusal, they were tried in absentia and sentenced to death; and

Whereas, On August 1, 1926, in an interview published in the Los Angeles Examiner, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk admitted: "These left-overs from the former Young Turk Party, who should have been made to account for the lives of millions of our Christian subjects who were ruthlessly driven en masse from their homes and massacred, have

been restive under the Republican rule. They have hitherto lived on plunder, robbery and bribery and become inimical to any idea or suggestion to enlist in useful labor and earn their living by the honest sweat of their brow"; and

Whereas, From 1988 to 1990, the Armenian population in Soviet Azerbaijan was also the target of racially motivated pogroms in the Cities of Sumgait (February 27 to 29, 1988), Kirovabad (November 21 to 27, 1988) and Baku (January 13 to 19, 1990); and

Whereas, Eighty-nine medieval churches, 5,840 ornate cross-stones (khachkars), and 22,000 tombstones in the formerly Armenian region of Nakhichevan were systematically and covertly eradicated by the Azerbaijani government from 1997 to 2006 in order to erase the region's indigenous Armenian trace; and

Whereas, Having suffered racial and economic discrimination under the Soviet Azerbaijani occupation, the citizens of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region declared their independence from the USSR in 1991 and established the free, independent, and democratic Republic of Artsakh through a referendum held in accordance with the constitution and laws of the Soviet Union, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and

Whereas, Unlike other people and governments that have admitted and denounced the abuses and crimes of predecessor regimes, and despite the Turkish government's earlier admissions and the overwhelming proof of genocidal intent, the Republic of Turkey inexplicably and adamantly has denied the occurrence of the crimes against humanity committed by the Ottoman and Young Turk rulers for many years, and continues to do so more than a century since the first crimes constituting genocide occurred; and

Whereas, The Republic of Turkey continues its genocidal policy by showing no remorse for the crime and engages in the final stage of genocide by denying the veracity of the crimes perpetrated against the Armenian, Greek, and Assyrian nations; and

Whereas, Those denials compound the grief of the few remaining survivors and deprive the surviving Armenian nation of its individual and collective ancestral lands, property, cultural heritage, financial assets, and population growth; and

Whereas, The Republic of Turkey has escalated its international campaign of Armenian Genocide denial, maintained its blockade of Armenia, and increased its pressure on the small but growing movement in Turkey acknowledging the Armenian Genocide and seeking justice for this systematic campaign of destruction of millions of Armenians, Greeks, Assyrians, and other Christians upon their homelands; and

Whereas, Those citizens of Turkey, both Armenian and non-Armenian, who continue to speak the truth about the Armenian Genocide, such as human rights activist and journalist Hrant Dink, continue to be silenced by violent means or imprisonment, in part due to a Turkish law that criminalizes any expression that is considered to be insulting to the Turkish identity; and

Whereas, There is continued concern about the welfare of Christians in the Republic of Turkey, their right to worship and practice freely, and the legal status and condition of thousands of ancient Armenian churches, monasteries, cemeteries, and other historical and cultural structures, sites, and antiquities in the Republic of Turkey; and

Whereas, The United States is on record as having officially recognized the Armenian Genocide in the United States government's

May 28, 1951, written statement to the International Court of Justice regarding the Reservations to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, through President Ronald Reagan's April 22, 1981, Proclamation No. 4838, and by congressional legislation, including House Joint Resolution 148 adopted on April 9, 1975, and House Joint Resolution 247 adopted on September 12, 1984; and

Whereas, Prior to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the United States had a record of seeking just and constructive means to address the consequences of the Ottoman Empire's intentional destruction of the Armenian people, including through United States Senate Concurrent Resolution 12 adopted on February 9, 1916, United States Senate Resolution 359 adopted on May 11, 1920, and President Woodrow Wilson's November 22, 1920, decision titled, "The Frontier between Armenia and Turkey," which was issued as a legally binding arbitral award, but has not been enforced to this date; and

Whereas, The Republics of Armenia and Artsakh are bastions of freedom, liberty, and democracy in the region; and

Whereas, Artsakh, also known as Nagorno-Karabakh, has never been a part of the independent Republic of Azerbaijan in that it proclaimed its independence before the fall of the Soviet Union and before Azerbaijan did the same; and

Whereas, The Republics of Turkey and Azerbaijan proclaim each other as "one nation, two states"; and

Whereas, The Republic of Turkey, has long served as a destabilizing force in the region by illegally blockading the Republic of Armenia, targeting minority groups in Turkey, and invading and occupying the sovereign territories of the Syrian Arab Republic, among other gross violations of international law; and

Whereas, The Republic of Turkey directly supported Azerbaijan during the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh War through the recruitment and deployment of mercenary terrorists and the supply of military equipment and senior military personnel used by Azerbaijan to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity against the Armenians of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, including ISIS-style beheadings of Armenian senior citizens; and

Whereas, These international crimes against humanity still need to be prosecuted under the jurisdiction of international legal institutions; and

Whereas, Azerbaijan has continuously invaded and occupied the sovereign territories of the Republic of Armenia since May 2021, harmed or killed civilians, and destroyed critical infrastructure; and

Whereas, Azerbaijan began, on December 12, 2022, an illegal blockade of the Lachin corridor, the road of life connecting Artsakh to the world through Armenia, that has deprived 120,000 Armenians of food, medicine, gas, electricity, and in internet connectivity; and

Whereas, California is home to the largest Armenian American population in the United States, and Armenians living in California have enriched our state through their leadership and contribution in business, agriculture, academia, government, and the arts. Many of them have family members who experienced firsthand the horror and evil of the Armenian Genocide and its ongoing denial; and

Whereas, Every person should be made aware and educated about the Armenian Genocide and other crimes against humanity; and

Whereas, The State of California has been at the forefront of encouraging and promoting a curriculum relating to human

rights and genocide in order to empower future generations to prevent the recurrence of genocide; and

Whereas, April 24, 1915, is globally observed and recognized as the commencement of the, Armenian Genocide; and

Whereas, The Armenian Genocide has been officially recognized by the United States Congress in 2019 with the adoption of House Resolution 296 and Senate Resolution 150, officially reaffirming the United States' record on the Armenian Genocide; and

Whereas, Both resolutions set, as a matter of United States policy, to (1) commemorate the Armenian Genocide through official recognition and remembrance; (2) reject efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise associate the United States government with denial of the Armenian Genocide or any other genocide; and (3) encourage education and public understanding of the facts of the Armenian Genocide, including the United States' role in the humanitarian relief effort and the relevance of the Armenian Genocide to modern-day crimes against humanity; and

Whereas, President Joseph Biden affirmed the United States' record on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 2021, and in doing so noted that recognition is a step "to ensure that what happened is never repeated"; and

Whereas, The Senate encourages the United States government to halt all military assistance to Azerbaijan while it continues Turkey's annihilation of ethnic Armenians in both Nagorno-Karabakh, which is also known as Artsakh, and Armenia; and

Whereas, We must encourage education and public understanding of the facts of the Armenian Genocide, including the United States' role in the humanitarian relief effort, and the relevance of the Armenian Genocide to modern-day crimes against humanity; and

Whereas, Armenians in California and throughout the world have not been provided with justice for the crimes perpetrated against the Armenian nation despite the fact that over a century has passed since the crimes were first committed; and

Whereas, The Armenian people in California and throughout the world remain resolved and their spirit continues to thrive more than a century after their near annihilation; and

Whereas, By recognizing and consistently remembering the Armenian Genocide and other genocides, we help protect cultural and historic memory and ensure that similar atrocities do not occur again; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate hereby designates the year of 2023 as "State of California Year of Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923" and in doing so, intends, through the enactment of legislation, that the Armenian Genocide is properly commemorated and taught to its citizens and visitors through statewide educational and cultural events; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate hereby designates the month of April 2023 as "State of California Month of Commemoration of the 108th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923"; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate commends its conscientious educators who teach about human rights and genocide, and intends for them, through the enactment of legislation, to continue to enhance their efforts to educate students at all levels about the experience of the Armenians and other crimes against humanity; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate hereby commends the extraordinary service that was delivered by Near East Relief to the survivors

of the Armenian Genocide and the Assyrian Genocide, including thousands of direct beneficiaries of American philanthropy who are the parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents of many Californian Armenians and Assyrians, and pledges its intent, through the enactment of legislation, to working with community groups, nonprofit organizations, citizens, state personnel, and the community at large to host statewide educational and cultural events; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate deplors the persistent, ongoing efforts by any person, in this country or abroad, to deny the historical fact of the Armenian Genocide; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate respectfully calls upon the President and the Congress of the United States to formally and consistently reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people constituted genocide; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate calls on the President of the United States to work award equitable, constructive, stable, and durable Armenian-Turkish relations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate calls on the President and the Congress of the United States, in all official contacts with Turkish and other world leaders and officials, to emphasize that Turkey should:

(1) End all forms of religious discrimination and persecution;

(2) Allow the rightful historical church and lay owners of Christian and other church properties, without hindrance or restriction, to organize and administer prayer services, religious education, clerical training, appointments, and succession, religious community gatherings, social services, including ministry to the needs of the poor and infirm, and other religious activities;

(3) Return to their rightful owners all historical Christian and other churches and other places of worship, monasteries, schools, hospitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and other religious properties, including movable properties, such as artwork, manuscripts, vestments, vessels, and other artifacts;

(4) Allow the rightful Christian and other church and lay owners of church properties, without hindrance or restriction, to preserve, reconstruct, and repair, as they see fit, all churches and other places of worship, monasteries, schools, hospitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and other religious properties within Turkey; and be it further

Resolved, That in light of the impending ethnic cleansing and genocide of the Armenians in Artsakh, the Senate calls upon the President of the United States to ensure the rights of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh to extraterritorial self-determination (independence) in accordance with the principle of remedial succession and the global commitment to Responsibility to Protect (R2P); and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, to the Governor of California, to every Member of the California State Legislature, and to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

POM-74. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of South Carolina applying to the United States Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution limited to proposing amend-

ments that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3205

Whereas, the founders of our constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against future abuses of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, the federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, the federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, the federal government has ceased to live under a proper interpretation of the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of our people—particularly for the generations to come—by proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States through a convention of the states under Article V for the purpose of restraining these and related abuses of power. Now, therefore, be it

Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

APPLICATION FOR CALLING A CONVENTION OF THE STATES

Section 1. The General Assembly of South Carolina, by this joint resolution, hereby applies to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress.

DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES

Section 2. The Clerks of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the South Carolina Senate shall transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation, and the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, attesting to the enactment of this joint resolution by the South Carolina General Assembly and requesting cooperation.

JOINT RESOLUTION CONSTITUTES A CONTINUING APPLICATION

Section 3. This joint resolution constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

TIME EFFECTIVE

Section 4. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor House.

POM-75. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to improve the mental health of military veterans by supporting exposure to nature with the designation of "Get Outside Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to improve the mental health of military veterans by supporting exposure to nature with the designation of "Get Outside Day".

Whereas, mental health is a top priority both at the federal and state government level; and

Whereas, mental health issues affect different groups, in particular, our vulnerable military veterans; and

Whereas, countless military veterans return home suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, anxiety, and depression; and

Whereas, the onset of certain mental health conditions have increased substance abuse and decreased social interaction; and

Whereas, military veterans have disproportionately high rates of suicide; and

Whereas, studies show that exposure to nature has a positive and therapeutic impact on mental health and the psychological conditions that are related to suicides; and

Whereas, the enjoyment of a single day outside can lead to increased mobility and renewed therapy for psychological impediments and correspond to a decrease in suicides; and

Whereas, the Louisiana Naval War Memorial Commission in conjunction with the Military Veterans Advocacy agree to sponsor "Get Outside Day" at the USS Kidd Veterans Museum. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to designate the second Saturday in June as "Get Outside Day" at the federal government level; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BROWN, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with amendments:

S. 2860. A bill to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to State-sanctioned marijuana businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Richard E.N. Federico, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Joshua Paul Kolar, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Jeffrey M. Bryan, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

Deborah Robinson, of New Jersey, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VANCE:

S. 2962. A bill to repeal tax incentives relating to electric vehicles, and to establish a tax credit to promote automobile manufacturing in the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2963. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for investment in Community Development Financial Institutions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2964. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2965. A bill to establish a critical mineral environmental processing and mining cleanup program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2966. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to encourage programs to address college athlete mental health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2967. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the treatment of moving expenses to employees and new appointees in the intelligence community who move pursuant to a change in assignment that requires relocation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2968. A bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 2969. A bill to ensure that United States diplomats and officials of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission are able to advance efforts seeking compliance by the United Mexican States with the 1944 Treaty on Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2970. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to designate Indigenous Peoples' Day as a legal public holiday, to replace the term "Columbus Day" with the term "Indigenous Peoples' Day", and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2971. A bill to remove barriers to the ability of unboxed individuals to register to vote and vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 2972. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to repay States for amounts expended by States to operate units of the National Park System during a Government

shutdown; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2973. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to establish requirements relating to pharmacy benefit managers under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2974. A bill to require public institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 2975. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve payment and processing of payments or allowances for beneficiary travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 2976. A bill to ensure that expenses relating to the acquisition or use of devices for use in the detection of fentanyl, xylazine, and other emerging adulterant substances, including test strips are allowable expenses under certain grant programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2977. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Comptroller General of the United States to study the feasibility of Historically Black Colleges and Universities achieving a certain classification; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 2978. A bill to authorize funding for the establishment and implementation of infant mortality pilot programs in standard metropolitan statistical areas with high rates of infant mortality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 2979. A bill to increase the rate of duty on shrimp originating from India, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2980. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement for cost-benefit analyses in the establishment of minimum safety standards for pipeline transportation and pipeline facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 2981. A bill to require review of tax regulatory actions by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. LEE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 2982. A bill to require a GAO study on the sale of illicit drugs online, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2983. A bill to prohibit the use of the facilities of a public elementary school, a public secondary school, or an institution of higher education receiving funding from the Department of Education to provide shelter for aliens who have not been admitted into the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.