

(Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1729, a bill to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services and 988 services in order to provide information and referral to all residents and visitors in the United States for mental health emergencies, homelessness needs, other social and human services needs, and for other purposes.

S. 1976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1976, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify congressional intent and preserve patient access to home infusion therapy under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 2966

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2966, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to encourage programs to address college athlete mental health.

S. 3192

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3192, a bill to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes.

S. 3323

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3323, a bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsman for Immigrant Children in Immigration Custody, and for other purposes.

S. 3367

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3367, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate tax loopholes that allow billionaires to defer tax indefinitely through planning strategies such as “buy, borrow, die”, to modify over 30 tax provisions so that billionaires are required to pay taxes annually, and for other purposes.

S. 3549

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3549, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to extend the consumer credit protections provided to members of the Armed Forces and their depend-

ents under title 10, United States Code, to all consumers.

S. 3558

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3558, a bill to prohibit contracting with certain biotechnology providers, and for other purposes.

S. 3627

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 3627, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to require a certain efficiency level for certain distribution transformers, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 3673. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on the purchase of single-family homes by certain large investors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. REED. Madam President, today, I am introducing the Affordable Housing and Homeownership Protection Act with Senators SMITH, GILLIBRAND, BLUMENTHAL, KLOBUCHAR, FETTERMAN, and BALDWIN. Our bill would provide up to \$50 billion to help build and preserve approximately 3 million units of affordable housing and would be fully paid for through a transfer tax on investors who acquire and hold more than 15 single-family homes.

Driven by a shortage of as many as 6.8 million homes nationwide, home prices have surged 39 percent and rents 31 percent over the last 4 years, according to the National Association of Realtors and Zillow. Higher rents and fewer opportunities for home ownership are devastating for millions of families. As housing costs skyrocket, more households are priced out of home ownership, while renters have less to spend on food, clothing, and other everyday necessities.

Low-income Americans are particularly strained. The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates that 73 percent of extremely low-income households spend more than half their income on housing. Unsurprisingly, homelessness has risen in line with housing prices and is up 15 percent since 2019.

Unfortunately, Federal investments in low-income housing are insufficient to solve this affordability crisis. Indeed, researchers at Harvard University found that the three largest Federal housing programs serve nearly 300,000 fewer households today than they did 20 years ago, while approximately 25 percent more households are eligible but can't get aid.

At the same time, investors are buying a greater share of single-family homes sold each year—many of which they hold as rentals—preventing more families from reaching home ownership and often driving up rents. Most households cannot compete with the largest investors, who are typically private equity and other institutional investors. That is because large investors can use their financial might to make all-cash offers, waive, contingencies, and provide other concessions that individual buyers simply cannot match. Through last October, more than one out of every four single-family homes sold in 2023 were bought by investors, not hard-working households—a 69-percent increase from investors' prepandemic share of home purchases.

Our Affordable Housing and Homeownership Protection Act would tackle both our affordable housing crisis and institutional investors who crowd out families in the housing market. It would raise \$50 billion by taxing investors who purchase large numbers of single-family homes, with higher tax rates for the largest investors. Revenue would be split between the Housing Trust Fund, HTF, and Capital Magnet Fund, CMF, to help build and rehab over 300,000 rental units for extremely low-income Americans through HTF grants and help finance 2.7 million homes for low-income families via CMF, which leverages private investments.

In other words, our bill would help build and rehabilitate millions of homes for American families and boost households competing to buy homes with deep-pocketed investors, all without raising the deficit. This is a commonsense, fair proposal that tackles perhaps our Nation's biggest challenge.

I thank the bill's endorsers—the National Low Income Housing Coalition, National Housing Law Project, National Consumer Law Center on behalf of its low-income clients, National Housing Resource Center, Americans for Financial Reform, and Consumer Action—and urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 532—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MEDICOLEGAL DEATH INVESTIGATION PROFESSIONALS WEEK

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

S. RES. 532

Whereas the Senate is committed to the use of highly trained medicolegal death investigation professionals to ensure that the suspicious, violent, unattended, unexplained, and unexpected deaths that occur throughout the United States are investigated;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals are an indispensable component of the public health and public safety systems in the United States as they speak for those who can no longer speak for themselves;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals partner with—

(1) local and national agencies to build and maintain public health databases relating to injury, illness, disease; and

(2) Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure public safety;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals aim to complete the highest quality medicolegal death investigations through national standards; and

Whereas the week of January 21, 2024, through January 27, 2024, is recognized as “National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week; and

(2) recognizes that National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week provides a special opportunity for—

(A) medicolegal death investigation professionals to—

(i) acknowledge the contributions of medicolegal death investigation professionals working throughout the jurisdictions of the United States;

(ii) organize community events to encourage a better understanding of medicolegal death investigations;

(iii) provide tours to Federal, State, and local policymakers to assist those individuals in gaining better insight into the current capabilities of medicolegal death investigation professionals and the future demands that medicolegal death investigation professionals will face; and

(iv) contact and invite local media outlets to cover events hosted during National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week;

(B) local policymakers to—

(i) recognize, through formal commendation or resolution, the contributions of local medicolegal death investigation professionals to the communities of those policymakers;

(ii) formally declare the week of January 21, 2024, through January 27, 2024, to be “National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week”;

(iii) visit local medicolegal death investigation professionals in their jurisdictions to gain an understanding of the capabilities and needs of those jurisdictions; and

(iv) discuss the operational needs of State and local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(C) individuals in the United States, including members of the media, to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(ii) take tours of local medical examiner and coroner offices; and

(iii) ask local medical examiner and coroner offices about the operational and legislative needs of those jurisdictions;

(D) members of the media to highlight local news stories that focus on the work of local medicolegal death investigation professionals in the communities they serve; and

(E) public safety officers, law enforcement officers, and court officers to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(ii) take tours of local medical examiner and coroner offices;

(iii) discuss the operational needs of State and local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions; and

(iv) engage with local medicolegal death investigation professionals about working together more effectively.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JANUARY 21 THROUGH 27, 2024, AS “NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS WEEK”

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KING, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 533

Whereas National Board Certification is based on rigorous standards developed by teachers for teachers to demonstrate the ability of teachers to advance student learning and achievement;

Whereas research shows that students taught by National Board Certified Teachers learn more, especially in the case of low-income students;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers often positively amplify their expertise by serving in leadership roles as teacher mentors, principals, administrators, and district leaders;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers rank National Board Certification as their most important ongoing formal education, above graduate-level coursework and other training programs;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers are among the thousands of educators around the United States who play a critical role in addressing the learning loss incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas 29 States provide salary incentives for National Board Certified Teachers, including 13 States that prioritize incentives in high-needs schools;

Whereas 44 percent of National Board Certified Teachers serve students in schools receiving support under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.);

Whereas, in 2023, 3,527 teachers earned their National Board Certification for the first time and 6,697 teachers successfully maintained their certification, benefitting thousands of students across the country; and

Whereas, as of January 2024, there are a total of 137,015 teachers who have achieved National Board Certification: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of January 21 through 27, 2024, as “National Board Certified Teacher Week”;

(2) recognizes the importance and contributions of National Board Certified Teachers to student learning and achievement; and

(3) encourages educators, administrators, school districts, and States—

(A) to promote the growth of new National Board Certified Teachers; and

(B) to provide the necessary incentives and support to candidates for National Board Certification.

SENATE RESOLUTION 534—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF JANUARY AS “MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF MUSLIM AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 534

Whereas the Senate is proud to recognize and commemorate “Muslim-American Heritage Month”, an observance that celebrates the contributions of Muslim Americans;

Whereas, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, the Senate recognizes and pays tribute to those who foster cultural pride and enhance the profile of diverse communities across the United States;

Whereas immigration of Muslims to the American colonies began with the arrival of indentured workers;

Whereas, during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, a significant number of slaves of Muslim heritage were brought to the United States;

Whereas, in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, successive waves of immigration brought additional Muslims to the United States, who sought to pursue economic and social opportunity, as well as freedom of religion, and enriched the fabric of the society of the United States as business owners, entrepreneurs, health care professionals, humanitarians, scientists, and students;

Whereas Muslim Americans contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people from all faiths in the United States and around the world by providing medical assistance, family services, and scholastic supplies, running before- and after-school programs, feeding the hungry, and providing recuperation efforts following natural disasters;

Whereas Muslim Americans have contributed to every part of the society of the United States by making advancements in architecture, arts, business, culture, government, law, medicine, the military, religion, and sports;

Whereas Bangladeshi-American Fazlur Rahman Khan left his mark on the cityscapes of the United States by pioneering a new structural system of frame tubes used to construct iconic buildings like the World Trade Center in New York City, New York, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Willis “Sears” Tower in Chicago, Illinois;

Whereas many Muslim Americans pursue the American dream and contribute to the