

from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4369 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 482—URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO DESIGNATE HIZBALLAH IN ITS ENTIRETY AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION AND TO INCREASE PRESSURE ON THE ORGANIZATION AND ITS MEMBERS TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. COONS, and Mr. KIRK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 482

Whereas in July 2012, a Hizballah terror attack in Bulgaria killed 5 Israeli tourists and 1 Bulgarian;

Whereas in March 2013, a Hizballah operative in Cyprus was convicted of planning terror attacks after admitting that he was a member of Hizballah, had been trained in the use of weapons, and used a dual Swedish-Lebanese passport to travel around Europe on missions as a courier and scout for Hizballah;

Whereas although that Hizballah operative was convicted on criminal-related charges, authorities had to drop terrorism charges against him because Hizballah was not listed as a terrorist organization;

Whereas in July 2013, the European Union (referred to in this Resolution as the "EU") designated Hizballah's so-called "military wing", but not the organization as a whole, as a terrorist organization;

Whereas the EU designation of Hizballah's military wing has enabled substantial and important cooperation between United States and European authorities aimed at uncovering and thwarting Hizballah's international criminal activities, such as drug trafficking and money laundering, the proceeds of which are used to purchase weapons and advance Hizballah's terrorist aims;

Whereas the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-102) was signed into law in December 2015, broadening financial sector sanctions against Hizballah to compel foreign financial institutions to refrain from supporting the terrorist group;

Whereas in February 2016, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and U.S. Customs and Border Protection partnered with counterparts in France, Germany, Italy, and Belgium to arrest top leaders of the European cell of Hizballah's External Security Organization Business Affairs Component, which engages in international money laundering and drug trafficking to support Hizballah's terror activities;

Whereas for many years, Iran and Syria have been the prime sponsors of Hizballah, by harboring, financing, training, and arming the terrorist group;

Whereas according to the Department of State's Country Reports on Terrorism, Iran has armed Hizballah, provided hundreds of millions of dollars in support of Hizballah, and trained thousands of its fighters;

Whereas Hizballah now has an arsenal of approximately 150,000 missiles and rockets, many of which can reach deep into Israel, at a time when Hizballah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah is threatening to invade Galilee or attack civilian Israeli chemical plants to generate mass destruction;

Whereas while the EU confronts the migrant crisis sparked by violence in Syria, 6,000 to 8,000 Hizballah fighters have been on the ground in Syria aiding the Assad regime in its slaughter of innocent Syrians;

Whereas the Lebanese Armed Forces, the legitimate security establishment of the country as set forth in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006), are struggling to control the flow of weapons and Hizballah fighters at its borders;

Whereas Hizballah trains and provides weapons for armed groups in Iraq and Yemen, further destabilizing the region and perpetuating violence in those countries;

Whereas in October 2012, Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Naim Qassem stated that Hizballah does not "have a military wing and a political one . . . Every element of Hizballah, from commanders to members as well as our various capabilities, are in the service of the resistance";

Whereas the United States, Canada, Israel, and the Netherlands have designated Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization, while Australia and New Zealand have applied the designation to the organization's military wing;

Whereas in March 2016, the Gulf Cooperation Council, composed of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, formally branded Hizballah, in its entirety, a terrorist organization, and the League of Arab States shortly thereafter adopted the same designation; and

Whereas in April 2016, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, denounced Hizballah's "terrorist acts" in the Middle East:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses appreciation to the EU for the progress made in countering Hizballah since the EU designated Hizballah's military wing as a terrorist organization;

(2) expresses support for the continued, increased cooperation between the United States and the EU in thwarting Hizballah's criminal and terrorist activities; and

(3) urges the EU to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and increase pressure on the group, including through—

(A) facilitating better cross-border cooperation between EU members in combating Hizballah;

(B) issuing arrest warrants against members and active supporters of Hizballah;

(C) freezing Hizballah's assets in Europe, including those masquerading as charities; and

(D) prohibiting fundraising activities in support of Hizballah.

SENATE RESOLUTION 483—DESIGNATING JUNE 20, 2016, AS "AMERICAN EAGLE DAY" AND CELEBRATING THE RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF THE BALD EAGLE, THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES

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

S. RES. 483

Whereas the bald eagle was chosen as the central image of the Great Seal of the United States on June 20, 1782, by the Founding Fathers at the Congress of the Confederation;

Whereas the bald eagle is widely known as the living national symbol of the United States and for many generations has represented values such as—

- (1) freedom;
- (2) democracy;
- (3) courage;
- (4) strength;
- (5) spirit;
- (6) independence;
- (7) justice; and
- (8) excellence;

Whereas the bald eagle is unique only to North America and cannot be found naturally in any other part of the world, which was one of the primary reasons the Founding Fathers selected the bald eagle to symbolize the Government of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle is the central image used in the official logos of many branches and departments of the Federal Government, including—

- (1) the Office of the President;
- (2) Congress;
- (3) the Supreme Court;
- (4) the Department of Defense;
- (5) the Department of the Treasury;
- (6) the Department of Justice;
- (7) the Department of State;
- (8) the Department of Commerce;
- (9) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (10) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (11) the Department of Labor;
- (12) the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (13) the Department of Energy;
- (14) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (15) the Central Intelligence Agency; and
- (16) the United States Postal Service;

Whereas the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of the spirit of freedom and the sovereignty of the United States;

Whereas the image and symbolism of the bald eagle has played a significant role in art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, and culture in the United States, and on United States stamps, currency, and coinage;

Whereas the bald eagle was once endangered and facing possible extinction in the lower 48 States, but has made a gradual and encouraging comeback to the lands, waterways, and skies of the United States;

Whereas the dramatic recovery of the national bird of the United States is an endangered species success story and an inspirational example to other environmental, natural resource, and wildlife conservation efforts worldwide;

Whereas, in 1940, noting that the species was "threatened with extinction", Congress passed the Bald Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.), which prohibited killing, selling, or possessing the species, and a 1962 amendment expanded protection to the golden eagle, thereby establishing the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act;

Whereas, by 1963, there were only an estimated 417 nesting pairs of bald eagles remaining in the lower 48 States, with loss of habitat, poaching, and the use of pesticides and other environmental contaminants contributing to the near demise of the national bird of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle was officially declared an endangered species in 1967 under the Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-669; 80 Stat. 926) in all areas of the United States south of the 40th parallel due to the dramatic decline in the population of the bald eagle in the lower 48 States;