

make sure they have the flexibility and the ability to provide this short-term, low-interest loans to small businesses to be able to weather this health care Zika storm.

I don't know for the life of me why anybody would be against this. I don't know what possible way you could try to politicize it. I am not sure why anybody would object to it. My hope is, we can move quickly on this. It is important.

I know there is a lot of jurisdictional pride around here and committees will say: Well, you have to come through us first because we are the chairmen and this is our committee. I hope you can make an exception on this issue because these businesses are hurting. They are hurting badly because of what has happened, and it is only going to get worse for them as these reports come out.

I hope we can get that passed. Here is another thing people don't know. Our service men and women are deployed all over the world. Unlike people who travel, they don't have a choice. When the U.S. military tells you and your dependents you must now go to Honduras, you are now going to be stationed at a base in Guantanamo Bay or you are going to be stateside, but you are going to be in Puerto Rico—when they deploy you, you can't say: Well, I am not going because there is Zika there. You have to go. We need to make sure we are protecting our men and women.

According to the Pentagon, as of today, there are 81 servicemembers and 19 dependents who have tested positive for the Zika virus. Three of them, by the way, are pregnant. So I have filed a second bill to protect our servicemembers from Zika. It is called the Servicemembers' Zika Protection Act. It provides U.S. troops with additional protections from the Zika virus by authorizing the Secretary of Defense to transfer funds within the existing Department of Defense medical and health research accounts in order to combat the Zika virus.

I am hopeful we can unite behind that as well. With over 100 members of our military and their families already infected with Zika, we need to take specific precautions to help them and to help our foreign partners who host Americans on military bases in regions that are affected by Zika. So I am also hopeful Congress will ultimately arrive at an agreement this month to fund our Nation's response to Zika, but also that we ensure that those being deployed on our behalf receive every protection we can provide.

So these, in addition to the broader argument about Zika, these are two commonsense approaches giving the Department of Defense flexibility to move existing money around, to provide additional protections for our service men and women and their dependents who are being deployed and impacted by Zika. This is not a theory. We have over 100 people now, including

81 in uniform, who have been impacted by it, and 19 of their dependents, 3 of them who are pregnant.

Second, the small business relief. Please put yourself in the position of a family-owned business on South Beach or in Wynwood. They are being hurt. Instead of having 50 people coming in a day, they have 5 or 10. They need help. If they had lost power or been hit by a hurricane or a tornado, this would not be an issue, but they have been hit by a tornado of a different kind, one they did not cause and they could not predict and they could not insure against; that is, Zika.

Let's make sure the SBA has the flexibility to provide them their loans. So in addition to funding this—we have to get the Zika thing done, it cannot continue to languish—we have to get the SBA flexibility built into our law so these small businesses can be provided the resources they need to stay open and not close down as a result of a travel advisory because of a disease being spread by mosquitoes.

I think we would all agree we have to make sure we are doing everything we can to protect our men and women in uniform who are not going by choice. They are being deployed to these places where Zika is prevalent. They are being infected. There is no excuse for us to not help them as well. So these are the three things I hope we will do before Congress adjourns at the end of this month: Fund Zika fully, give flexibility for our small businesses that have been impacted by Zika to get SBA loans, and do everything we can by passing a law that gives the Department of Defense the flexibility they need to use existing money to protect our men and women in uniform and their families from being infected by Zika when deployed.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 3302. A bill establishing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Response Fund for the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide assistance for a public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I have introduced legislation that will ensure that when there is a public health emergency or the threat of a public health emergency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention can respond immediately to prevent it from becoming a national or global crisis.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 549—EX-PRESSING A COMMITMENT BY THE SENATE TO NEVER FORGET THE SERVICE OF AVIATION'S FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and

Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 549

Whereas the events of September 11, 2001, forever changed the United States as the people of the United States faced unspeakable destruction and grief that touched millions of lives;

Whereas 4 commercial aircraft were turned into weapons of mass destruction, killing nearly 3,000 innocent people at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania;

Whereas the crewmembers of United Flight 175, American Flight 11, American Flight 77, and United Flight 93 acted as first responders, providing the first information about the unfolding attacks and selflessly protecting the United States and the lives of countless others;

Whereas ever since 9/11, pilots and flight attendants in the United States report to work with heightened responsibilities as first responders and as the last line of defense in aviation security; and

Whereas the bravery of the crewmembers 15 years ago and our crewmember heroes are prominent in the hearts and minds of the people of the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) forever memorializes the service of aviation's first responders on that fateful day; and

(2) will always seek to honor the sacrifice of aviation's first responders, who continue to keep the United States safe today.

SENATE RESOLUTION 550—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9, 2016, AS "RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN AT THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY WEEK"

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. McCASKILL, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 550

Whereas, in 1975, Congress authorized women to attend military service academies;

Whereas, on July 6, 1976, 81 women midshipmen were inducted into the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1976, an African-American woman became the first African-American woman to attend the United States Naval Academy, and graduated in 1980;

Whereas, in 1980, 55 women became the first women to graduate from the United States Naval Academy, 47 percent of whom later became career officers;

Whereas, in 1980, a woman became the first woman to be a distinguished graduate and Trident Scholar of the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, on May 24, 1984, a woman became the first woman to graduate first in class from the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1988, an African-American woman became the first African-American woman to be commissioned as a Naval Flight Officer from the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1991, a woman midshipman became the first woman Brigade Commander at the United States Naval Academy;