

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of May 2016 as “Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month”;

(2) congratulates the community of individuals who care for patients with cystic fibrosis for their unrelenting dedication to those patients;

(3) recognizes that the care delivery system for cystic fibrosis can be a model for building better care coordination in the larger healthcare system;

(4) acknowledges the tremendous investments and scientific achievements that have significantly improved the lives of individuals with cystic fibrosis; and

(5) urges researchers, developers, patients, and providers to work together closely to find a cure for this deadly disease.

SENATE RESOLUTION 477—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2016, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKAN NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, LATINO AMERICANS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 477

Whereas the origin of the National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2016 is “Accelerating Health Equity for the Nation”;

Whereas, through the “National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity” and the “HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities”, the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to advance the safety, health, and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas a study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, entitled “The Economic Burden of Health Inequalities in the United States”, concludes that, between 2003 and 2006, the combined cost of “health inequalities and premature death in the United States” was \$1,240,000,000,000;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified 6 main categories in which racial and ethnic minorities experience the most disparate access to health care and health outcomes, including infant mortality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and immunizations;

Whereas, in 2012, African American women were 10 percent less likely to have been diagnosed with, yet were almost 42 percent more likely to die from, breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American women are twice as likely to lose their lives to cervical cancer as non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African Americans are 50 percent more likely to die from a stroke than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2013, Hispanics were 1.4 times more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to die of diabetes;

Whereas Latino men are 3 times more likely to have either HIV infections or AIDS than non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Latina women are 4 times more likely to have AIDS than non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas, in 2014, although African Americans represented only 13 percent of the population of the United States, they accounted for 43 percent of HIV infections in that year;

Whereas, in 2010, African American youth accounted for an estimated 57 percent of all new HIV infections among youth in the United States, followed by 20 percent of Latino youth;

Whereas Asian American women are 18.2 percent more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas Native Hawaiians living in Hawaii are 5.7 times more likely to die of diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites living in Hawaii;

Whereas, although the prevalence of obesity is high among all population groups in the United States, 48 percent of African Americans, 31.8 percent of Hispanics, and 11 percent of Asian Americans are obese;

Whereas, in 2012, Asian Americans were 1.6 times more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to contract Hepatitis A;

Whereas among all ethnic groups in 2012, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders had the highest incidence of Hepatitis A;

Whereas Asian American women are 1.5 times more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to die from viral hepatitis;

Whereas Asian Americans are 5.5 times more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to develop chronic Hepatitis B;

Whereas, in 2013, 80 percent of children born infected with HIV belonged to minority groups;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes as some of the leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaskan Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaskan Natives die from diabetes, alcoholism, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide at higher rates than other people in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaskan Natives have a life expectancy that is 4.4 years shorter than the life expectancy of the overall population of the United States;

Whereas African American babies are almost twice as likely as non-Hispanic White or Latino babies to be born at low birth weight;

Whereas American Indian and Alaskan Native babies are twice as likely as non-Hispanic White babies to die from sudden infant death syndrome;

Whereas American Indian and Alaskan Natives have 1.5 times the infant mortality rate as that of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas American Indian and Alaskan Native babies are 50 percent more likely to die before their first birthday than babies of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas marked differences in the social determinants of health, described by the World Health Organization as “the high burden of illness responsible for appalling premature loss of life [that] arises in large part because of the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age”, lead to poor health outcomes and declines in longevity;

Whereas the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 119) provides specific protections and rights for American Indians and Alaskan Natives, 23 percent of whom lack health insurance;

Whereas, despite the substantial improvements in health insurance coverage among women overall, women of color are more likely to be uninsured;

Whereas, in 2013, 15.9 percent of African Americans were uninsured, as compared to 9.8 percent of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas African American women are more likely to be uninsured or underinsured, at a rate of 19 percent;

Whereas ¼ of Latinas live in poverty and Latinas have the greatest percentage of uninsured women in any racial group at a rate of 31 percent; and

Whereas community-based health care initiatives, such as prevention-focused programs, present a unique opportunity to use innovative approaches to improve health practices across the United States and to sharply reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month, which include bringing attention to the severe health disparities faced by minority populations in the United States, such as American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Latino Americans, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 478—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 2, 2016, AS “NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY” AND JUNE 2016 AS “NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 478

Whereas, each year, more than—

(1) 32,000 people in the United States are killed and 80,000 are injured by gunfire;

(2) 11,000 people in the United States are killed in homicides involving firearms;

(3) 21,000 people in the United States commit suicide by using firearms; and

(4) 500 people in the United States are killed in accidental shootings;

Whereas, since 1968, more people of the United States have died from guns in the United States than on the battlefields of all the wars in the history of the United States;

Whereas, by 1 count in 2015 in the United States, there were—

(1) 372 mass shooting incidents in which not fewer than 4 people were killed or wounded by gunfire; and

(2) 64 incidents in which a gun was fired in a school;

Whereas gun violence typically escalates during the summer months;

Whereas, every 70 minutes, 1 person in the United States under 25 years of age dies because of gun violence, and more than 6,300 such individuals die annually, including Hadiya Pendleton, who, in 2013, was killed at 15 years of age while standing in a Chicago park; and

Whereas, on June 2, 2016, on what would have been Hadiya Pendleton’s 19th birthday, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya and