

S. RES. 506

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 506, a resolution commemorating the 80th anniversary of the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

**SENATE RESOLUTION 511—REINFORCING THE UNITED STATES-SENEGAL RELATIONSHIP AND URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL TO CONDUCT FREE, FAIR, TRANSPARENT, AND INCLUSIVE ELECTIONS ON FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 511

Whereas Senegal has been one of the most stable democracies in Africa, having peaceful, democratic transfers of power in 2000 and 2012, and never suffering a military coup d'état;

Whereas Senegal is a regional leader and advocate for democracy in West Africa, having made important contributions to a democratic transition in The Gambia and pressing military juntas in Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger to restore democracy and yield power to civilian elected authorities;

Whereas Senegal is one of the United States' closest partners in Africa;

Whereas the United States allocated \$144,000,000 in bilateral assistance to Senegal in fiscal year 2022 focused primarily on health, agriculture, basic education, and good governance;

Whereas Senegal completed a \$540,000,000 United States Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compact in 2015 focused on increasing agricultural productivity and is now implementing a second, five-year \$550,000,000 MCC compact focused on increasing access to electricity and has pledged \$50,000,000 of its own resources toward this project;

Whereas Senegalese security forces have long benefitted from United States security assistance and cooperation designed to increase professionalism, support United Nations peacekeeping deployments, and enhance Senegal's ability to conduct maritime security, counter violent extremism, and combat narcotics trafficking;

Whereas President Macky Sall was elected to a second and final term in office in 2019 in elections that were generally regarded as free and fair, despite the disqualification of two prominent opposition party leaders due to prior corruption convictions;

Whereas, in July 2023, President Sall announced that he would retire in 2024, after insinuating that he would pursue a third term, in accordance with the Senegalese constitution which limits presidents to two terms in office, thereby becoming the first president in Senegalese history to respect constitutionally mandated term limits and setting in important precedent for future presidents of Senegal;

Whereas the February 2024 election will be the first presidential election in Senegalese history without an incumbent president on the ballot;

Whereas, according to Afrobarometer public opinion polling, the Senegalese people prefer democracy to any alternative (84 percent), believe the president should be limited to two terms in office (79 percent), and reject the concept of military rule (71 percent);

Whereas, according to the same polling, the Senegalese people say their country is either not a democracy or a democracy with major problems (53 percent, an 8 percent increase since 2021), and are not satisfied with the way democracy is working in Senegal (51 percent);

Whereas Freedom House lowered Senegal's rating from "Free" to "Partly Free" in 2020 due to the "politically motivated prosecutions of opposition leaders" and electoral law changes that "reduced the competitiveness of the opposition";

Whereas Reporters Without Borders warned of an increasingly threatening press environment in advance of the 2022 legislative elections and the government arrested and jailed journalists under a new 2021 law for allegedly disseminating "fake news" to "discredit public institutions" or "prejudice public decency";

Whereas state security forces in Senegal responded with excessive force and took steps to restrict freedom of assembly in 2021, 2022 and 2023 in response to public protests;

Whereas three people were killed and as many as 200 arrested, including opposition party leaders, during protests in advance of the 2022 legislative elections after the government disqualified several opposition party candidates;

Whereas the Government of Senegal blocked access to several social media networks for two days and mobile internet for four days in June 2023 seemingly in an effort to disrupt opposition party protests;

Whereas as many as 16 people were killed and hundreds arrested following opposition party protests in 2023; and

Whereas the Government of Senegal continues to impose restrictions on public protests and the exercise of freedom of assembly that are inconsistent with democratic norms: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reiterates the commitment of the United States to democracy and democratic governance in Senegal and the conduct of free, fair, inclusive, and peaceful elections, and calls on—

(A) the Secretary of State to make clear that those who perpetrate or incite violence or otherwise undermine the democratic process and the 2024 elections in Senegal will face consequences, including visa restrictions and other accountability measures; and

(B) the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to continue to support domestic election observation, electoral dispute resolution mechanisms, participation of women and youth in the electoral process, respect for freedom of assembly, expression, and association, government transparency, conflict resolution, and civil society organizations focused on good governance, anti-corruption, and accountability for government institutions;

(2) applauds the work of Senegalese civil society organizations dedicated to electoral reform, voter education, election observation, accountability for security force abuses, and respect for freedom of assembly, expression, and association;

(3) encourages all people of Senegal to exercise their right to vote and to refrain from acts of violence, voter malfeasance, inflammatory speech and disinformation, or any other actions that violate democratic norms or otherwise undermine the electoral process in Senegal;

(4) calls on the Government of Senegal to—

(A) release all those arbitrarily arrested or detained for exercising their right to freedom of assembly or freedom of expression;

(B) respect the non-partisan nature of the Autonomous National Electoral Commission (CENA) and its efforts to ensure a transparent and accessible electoral process;

(C) lift restrictions on the right to peaceful protest and commit to respect the freedom of expression, including for the press, and freedom of assembly;

(D) ensure that Senegalese citizens can vote freely and safely in elections without fear of intimidation or use of excessive force by government security forces; and

(E) refrain from using restrictions on access to the internet or social media as a method for disrupting citizens' ability to assemble, exercise their freedom of expression, communicate freely, or obtain information; and

(5) urges political parties and political leaders in Senegal to—

(A) publicly commit to abide by electoral norms and reject violence;

(B) refrain from any statements, inflammatory rhetoric, or actions that incite violence or otherwise undermine the electoral process; and

(C) commit to channel any and all electoral related disputes through appropriate legal channels.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 512—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2023 AS "NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF LUNG CANCER**

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 512

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death among individuals in the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined;

Whereas, in 2023, an estimated 238,340 individuals in the United States will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and 127,070 individuals (approximately 350 individuals per day) will die from the disease;

Whereas 1 in 16 men and 1 in 17 women in the United States will develop lung cancer during their lifetimes;

Whereas the rate of lung cancer death in women in the United States has increased by 92 percent over the 50-year span from 1971 to 2021;

Whereas, each year, more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer and ovarian cancer combined;

Whereas, in 2023, 20,500 people will die from lung cancer unrelated to smoking, which would be the eighth leading cause of cancer death if classified as a separate disease;

Whereas 18 percent of lung cancers are unrelated to smoking, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in individuals who have never smoked is increasing in the United States;

Whereas, in 2023, approximately 103,000 of the 127,070 lung cancer deaths (81 percent) will be caused by cigarette smoking directly, with an additional 3,560 lung cancer deaths caused by second-hand smoke;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is 63 percent, yet a majority of lung cancers are diagnosed at a distant stage, for which the 5-year survival rate is 8 percent;