

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Recognizing the 20th anniversary of AmeriCorps.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 20th anniversary of AmeriCorps.

Whereas every day in communities across the United States, AmeriCorps members are making a powerful and positive impact on the most critical issues facing our Nation;

Whereas on September 12, 2014, AmeriCorps will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a simultaneous, nationwide swearing-in of a new class of AmeriCorps members and recognition events saluting AmeriCorps members and alumni for their dedication and impact;

Whereas AmeriCorps has proven to be a highly effective way to engage the people of the United States in solving problems, strengthening communities, bolstering the volunteer sector, renewing the ethic of service, and expanding economic and educational opportunities for those who serve;

Whereas since 1994, more than 900,000 individuals of all ages and backgrounds have joined AmeriCorps, serving more than 1,000,000,000 hours and improving the lives of countless people in the United States;

Whereas the work done by AmeriCorps members addresses the most pressing challenges facing the United States by providing students with skills necessary for 21st century jobs, responding to the needs of military families and a new generation of veterans returning from war, helping communities rebuild after natural disasters, promoting health and well-being, and preserving the parks and public lands of the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps expands economic opportunity by creating more sustainable, resilient communities and providing experience, career skills, and more than \$2,700,000,000 in college scholarships to those who serve;

Whereas in 2013, AmeriCorps members mobilized more than 4,000,000 community volunteers, helping the organizations they serve significantly increase their reach and impact;

Whereas AmeriCorps members serve in more than 25,000 locations nationwide, bolstering civic, neighborhood, and faith-based organizations that are vital to the well-being of the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps is a model public-private partnership that generates hundreds of millions of dollars in non-governmental resources each year to enhance the community impact of Federal grant programs and increase the return on taxpayer dollars;

Whereas AmeriCorps, working hand-in-hand with its network of Governor-appointed State Service Commissions, has developed an efficient and effective structure for engaging individuals in results-driven service that is poised for further growth and success in the future;

Whereas in response to the strong demand from nonprofit organizations and from individuals who want to serve, AmeriCorps has developed innovative and cost-effective partnerships with other Federal agencies and the private sector that meet critical national needs and expand opportunities for individuals to serve the United States; and

Whereas AmeriCorps members demonstrate commitment, dedication, and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, and, after their terms of service as AmeriCorps members, remain engaged in our communities as volunteers, public servants, and civic leaders in disproportionately high levels: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) encourages all people of the United States
3 to join in a national salute to AmeriCorps members
4 and alumni for 20 years of service to the United
5 States on September 12, 2014;

6 (2) acknowledges the significant impact and
7 value of AmeriCorps members, alumni, and commu-
8 nity partners over the past 20 years; and

9 (3) encourages individuals of all ages to find
10 ways to give back to their communities and the
11 United States through AmeriCorps and other pro-
12 grams.