SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 421, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 421) supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 421) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

MORNING BUSINESS

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, growing up in East St. Louis, both my mom and dad worked for the railroads. We weren't wealthy, but we had a comfortable life. I have come to learn how connected that was to our being a union family. I believe that more than any other force in American history, the American labor movement has created middle-class opportunity in America. Unions have won victories that have allowed American workers to buy homes, send their kids to college, and save for retirement. I know firsthand that none of this would be possible if workers did not have the freedom to advocate for fair working conditions for themselves and their families.

That is why I am proud to say that Chicago is the hometown of the American Labor Movement, the site of the Haymarket Affair, the Pullman railroad strike, and the Republic Steel Strike. Today, Chicago's union members continue to be students of history and recognize the struggles of those who fought for fairness, justice, and equality at work. Throughout its 125–year history, the Chicago Federation of Labor—CFL—has consistently fought for fair treatment of workers in Chicago, Cook County, and beyond. Though the people, challenges, and times may have changed, the CFL's mission has remained firm. Throughout its history, the CFL has organized workers across industries regardless of race, ethnicity, or nationality. Today, we celebrate the great work of the Chicago Federation of Labor and congratulate its staff and supporters on its 125th anniversary.

The Chicago Federation of Labor was chartered in 1896 by the American Federation of Labor. Formed, in part, as an attempt to end corruption in Chicago's labor unions, the CFL focused its early efforts on strengthening a unified voice for the city's labor movements, upholding the labor rights of its union members, and mediating contract disputes on behalf of local unions. In 1906, Irish immigrant John Fitzpatrick was elected president of the CFL. An organizer and committed unionist, his innovation ushered in an era of stability and reform to the union community. During his 40-year tenure as president, Fitzpatrick created accessible news publications and established the labor party.

Upon Fitzpatrick's death, William Lee, president of Bakery Drivers Union Local 734 and vice president of the CFL, was elected president and would go on to serve for nearly 40 years. Lee continued Fitzpatrick's commitment to racial and social justice, as the CFL and other labor organizations supported Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in organizing his visits to and rallies in Chicago. In 1964, then-CFL President Lee celebrated the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the front page of the Federation News, writing, ''[W]e have come closer to the ideal of the Declaration of independence with the Civil Rights Law.''

In its fight for justice for all workers, the CFL has welcomed freedom fighters and labor leaders from around the world to Chicago, including Cesar Chavez, Lech Walesa, and Nelson Mandela. In 1994, under the leadership of President Don Turner, the CFL launched its Workers' Assistance Committee, now the CFL Workforce and Community Initiative, which provides job seekers, including veterans and low-income workers, with training and job search resources. In recent years, the CFL has worked to pass increases to the minimum wage, paid sick leave, protections to retirement security, and a host of other policies to protect workers.

While in Congress, I have had the pleasure of working with the CFL on a variety of issues. Just this year, I was honored to work with current CFL President Bob Reiter on the inclusion of a 100 percent coverage for COBRA health insurance premiums as part of the American Rescue Plan Act, helping millions of struggling workers to remain on their employer health plans.

The blueprint created 125 years ago has evolved, but the mission of the CFL has remained constant. Today, with nearly 300 affiliates and 500,000 union members in Chicago and Cook County, the CFL continues to embody the ethos of practical idealism and unrelenting determination for working people.

Congratulations to the Chicago Federation of Labor on 125 years of great work, giving workers a support network to advocate for their rights.

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

MISSED VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, due to a mechanical issue on my scheduled flight, I will miss today's vote.●

51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Mr. WICKER, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 51st anniversary of the Emergency Nurses Association. Made up of 51,000 members from all across the globe, the Emergency Nurses Association, or ENA, is the only professional organization dedicated to advancing excellence in emergency nursing and is the world's premier organization for emergency nurses.

Founded in 1970, ENA has worked successfully to raise awareness and improve outcomes for the Nation's trauma patients. Traumatic injuries, including car crashes, falls, head injuries, burns, and firearm injuries, are currently the leading cause of death for Americans aged 44 or younger. Working to improve outcomes for those who have suffered a traumatic injury, ENA offers courses for emergency nurses that provide them with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on training needed to deliver high-quality trauma care. Since 1986, ENA's trauma nursing core course has been taken by more than 2 million emergency nurses and is now considered the gold standard for the education of nurses in lifesaving trauma care techniques. Alongside their outstanding educational courses, ENA has been a fearless advocate at all levels of government for safer work environments in medical facilities and has pushed for stronger criminal laws that hold those accountable for violence against medical employees.

Especially in times of crisis, ENA has been on the frontlines of our medical profession. During the COVID–19 pandemic, when emergency rooms have been turned into battle zones against this virus, ENA has worked time and time again to ensure that nurses across this country were prepared and equipped to deal with this unprecedented crisis. Their tireless dedication to protecting and saving lives, while risking their own, should be recognized and commended by this body.

On the occasion of the Emergency Nurses Association's 51st anniversary, we ask our colleagues to join us in extending our deepest gratitude to the ENA and all its members for their commitment to improving the quality of emergency care that has continued to save the lives of millions of Americans across our country.